

Executive Committee Minutes
October 18, 2021
via Zoom, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Present: McKee (Chair), Curry, Hart, Kaur, Massey, Day, Faas,
Del Casino, Sasikumar, White, Mathur, Schultz-Krohn, Wong(Lau)
Absent: Papazian, Sullivan-Green

1. The Executive Committee discussed the Campus Fee Advisory Committee. Chair McKee recommended that the faculty member that serves in addition to the Chair of the Senate be the Vice Chair of the Senate. The motion was seconded. The committee voted and the Vice Chair was selected for the Campus Fee Advisory Committee (13-0-0).
2. The Executive Committee approved the Consent Agenda of October 18, 2021 [Executive Committee Agenda of October 18, 2021.]
3. AS President Kaur expressed concern that her update had been omitted from the day's agenda. Chair McKee apologized and announced that she would be first in the updates today.
4. SJSU's Relationship with Native American Communities:
The committee discussed the controversy over the handling of the Native American remains and what was being done to repair SJSU's relationship with indigenous tribes such as the Muwekma Ohlone.

A question was asked as to whether there are any staff at SJSU dedicated to relationships with our local indigenous tribes? The Provost announced that he would be the person acting in that capacity for SJSU. [Provost] After AB 275 was

C: [CDO] Should this body decide to take on policy issues there is an issue of trust from Native American faculty so I would not rush into anything without a lot of consultation. Also, it is critical to remember that most of the faculty on our campus are not from local tribes. They want to protect and represent, but they do not want to be the spokespersons for this region given that they are not from California or local tribes. They want to respect the local tribes and community.

C: I don't think the Senate should take on the issue of writing a policy, but if we get a referral from GAIN then we should take on the issue with deep, deep collaboration, not consultation, with all constituents and local tribes.

Q: I'm taking Advanced Human Anatomy and there is a strict no pictures policy. No one is allowed to take a picture without getting an "F" in the class. Is there something like this with Indigenous and Native American remains and is there an ethics committee that oversees this as a matter of procedure right now?

A: [Provost] If one looks at the syllabi of the classes that have done this work, you will probably find that language in it.

5. Update from the AS President:

Homecoming was a big success and Fire in the Fountain was a great event and we had great attendance.

We are searching for two positions right now. We are looking for a Community Garden Leader and for a Government Coordinator. If you know anyone that is interested please connect me with them. Lastly, we are recruiting for the Chief Elections Officer for our Student Elections Commission for 2022 elections.

Q: These are student positions, correct?

A: The Community Garden Leader and the Government Coordinator are both staff. The Elections Officer is a student position.

Q: Has the California State Student Association (CSSA) made any decisions about the key things they are going to endorse for this upcoming year? The reason I ask is that there was some discussion last week about AB 928 and how the ASCSU did not support it, but the students did and how there was a disconnect there. We need to have those kinds of discussions early between the faculty and students.

A: As far as I know there is no new legislation. The CSSA finished the legislation

We want to put out there that we are really interested, but networking has been very difficult. We could use any help you could give us as far as other avenues we could use. I will be reaching out.

A: Yes, please do so.

Q: Which department oversees the guards at the library in terms of inclusivity training? I've had a few complaints from students in the Sikh community?

A: [VPAF] All the security personnel on campus report to me. There is training that goes with all that. If there are specific concerns reach out to me and tell me what it is. The Sikh community is a great group of folks. [CDO] Yes, and VP Faas can reach out and work with my office as well.

Q: I will touch base after the meeting.

Q: We recently hired two new professors in my department. One faculty member is from Iran and one from Korea. Both of them are having difficulty finishing their paperwork, the green cards, and have voiced concerns to me as a senior faculty member about who they can talk to/ Hiring is just step one, but retention is when the hard work begins.

A: [CDO] We do have highly trained individuals on campus who are aware of all the changing paperwork requirements. You can certainly contact me and I will make sure they are contacted and there is follow-up.

Q: The very first Senate meeting I attended, I asked a question about whether we could have more differentiated data about more diverse candidates. In my personal experience (I am not a U.S. citizen), there is a definite perception that SJSU is not proactive in helping faculty get legal status. Relating to the question of retention, do we find that say over a 10-year period, people are leaving before going up for tenure because they or in some cases their families were not able to get legal status to work? I was looking at an ad from SJSU and I found a statement that could be offensive. It said that, "employment is contingent on proof of eligibility to work in the U.S." As a grad student would they see that as welcoming? What is usually meant by proof of eligibility to work? Is this a commonly understood phrase or could it be phrased better?

A: [CDO] I will bring that up to look at and examine whether we can provide a live link to go to our page. The only type of immigrant status information we've looked at in terms of differential treatment or outcomes, is looking at Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and undocumented status. We have not looked at whether people have an active Visa status or things like that. [Provost] We also have not done exit interviews for faculty.

[CDO] We are hoping to change that.

7. Update from the Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA):

Homecoming was a real success. I'd like to give a shout out to the Office of Student Involvement. They did a remarkable job. I'm also proud of all our intercollegiate student athletes that competed all week while dealing with midterms, etc.

