

Executive Committee Minutes
July 26, 2021
via Zoom, 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Present: McKee (Chair), Curry, Del Casino, Hart, Faas, Mathur, Papazian, White, Sasikumar, Sullivan-Green, Wong(Lau)

Absent: Massey, Day, Kaur

Guest: Konya

1. Update from the President:

We are preparing to bring staff back on August 2, 2021 and are continuing to follow Santa Clara County closely in terms of the Delta variant. We are not sure where the mask mandate is going. However, the transmission numbers in Santa Clara County are very low. The transmission rate is 1.1%. Our team is watching this carefully. I do suspect that we will see some adjustments over the next couple of weeks and we will need to have some flexibility as we move forward. We are looking at testing and what that will look like at SJSU. The Chancellor is having meet-and-confer meetings with the unions about it. We are looking at things like who gets tested—vaccinated vs. unvaccinated, how much testing we do, whether it is random, etc. Hopefully the Chancellor will have a proposal for us in the next couple of days.

It would be on a case-by-case basis. Faculty affected should reach out to University Personnel. This would be an accommodation. I think it is also wrapped up in the discussion around boosters. We are watching that as well.

Q: Can the university provide lavalier microphones for faculty?

A: [Provost] We may need to buy more.

Q: With the changes with the Delta variant, are there any changes in travel guidelines?

A: [President] We haven't gotten anything on that yet. We are paying attention to that, especially at the international level. We aren't encouraging travel, but we recognize there are certain things that need to be done in person. More may open up in the fall depending on where we go with the Delta variant. I think we will have a pretty good handle on that. We will have a pretty good handle on the vaccination level on campus.

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Q: What if a student comes to class and doesn't want to wear a mask? Do we turn them away? My instinct would be to not turn them away.

A: If we go back to requiring masks indoors, then you would have to turn them away. If people are vaccinated and wear a mask, then we should all be pretty well protected. If Santa Clara County orders masks, so will we.

C: [Provost] We received about 25% of surveys from students reporting their vaccination status. Of that 25%, about 96% reported being vaccinated. We are working on procedures where if a student is not vaccinated, it becomes an accommodation, and that would be listed for faculty. You are not allowed to ask why they aren't vaccinated. They are also working on a code of conduct. However, the Delta variant is changing things. We need to send out clear messaging as soon as we know more.

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C: One of the best presentations the Senate ever had was about concussions. It was very informative. I would like to hear more about women's sports and gender equity issues as well as hearing about social justice issues and how the students are involved.

C: [President] Gender equity is a big topic in the NCAA right now. I anticipate that we will get the first round of reports on gender equity from external consultants relatively soon. It is going to be instructive. The impact on women and their participation in athletics is profound in terms of the type of leaders it produces. It is something we need to pay attention to.

C: [Konya] This will be another benefit to using social media. We will be putting the stories of our athletes out there in a number of platforms to the campus.

C: We have a long history of shared governance and policy-making on this campus. You may find that the policies can help guide your work. [Note: All university policies are housed on the Academic Senate website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/university-policies/current-policies-chronological-order.php>]. If you see a policy that needs review or updating, bring it to the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee and Chair McKee.

C: [Provost] A deeper integration of all advising support is critical. We should also look at the major numbers. One of the biggest emerging issues is graduate transfers. We have 12 entering graduate student athlete transfers this fall. They are in all sports. The NCAA is a messy, ugly beast that contradicts itself constantly. The graduate college is working very hard with graduate transfers.

C: [Konya] With the elimination of penalties for transfer from institution-to-institution, I think SJSU is going to be a really preferred destination in the collegiate athletic market. I also think the graduate transfer numbers are only going to increase moving forward.

3. The Executive Committee approved the agenda of July 26, 2021 (11-0-0).
4. Updates from the Policy Committees:
 - a. Professional Standards Committee (PS):
The PS Committee is still looking for a chair.
 - b. Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R):
The C&R Committee had two policy referrals from last year and I believe we will have some referrals from Graduate Studies as well. We will also be working on GE. It will be a busy fall.
 - c. Organization and Government Committee (O&G):
The O&G Chair, Tabitha Hart, is working with last year's Chair of O&G, Karthika Sasikumar, on transitioning in as the new chair.
 - d. Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA):
The I&SA Committee will be working on two student absence referrals. I&SA also has a referral on an equity policy we have. The Chair of I&SA will be meeting with the CDO to discuss that referral. There is another referral on inappropriate sexual behavior. I&SA will need to make sure our policy is up to date with Title IX. I&SA will also work on any policies regarding advising that come from President Papazian and Provost Del Casino.
5. Updates from the University:

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look at it from an overall institution perspective. This is what I'm hoping to get to as part of the process, but it will be hard.

Q: Could we come back to the topic of balancing demands for good service (research vs. teaching) again in the future?

A: [Chair McKee] I will bookmark that for a future meeting of the Executive Committee as well as the Academic Senate.

6. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

These minutes were taken by the Senate Administrator, Eva Joice, on July 26, 2021 and transcribed on August 4, 2021. minutes were by Jmemcattly