THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE (AS-03)

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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Office of the Academic Senate

(559) 278-2743

October 10, 2022

Members excused: M. Jackson, J. Mullooly, R. Raya-Fernandez, P. Turnbull, J. Wakabayashi

Members absent: D. Cady, M. Calahorra-Jimenez, K. Coy, H. Kim, J. Miele, S. Peterson, F. Sidow

In-person attendance: 30 Zoom attendance: 17

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Hall at 4:00 p.m. in Library room 2206 and via Zoom video conferencing.

1. Approval of the Agenda.

*Motion to approve*

*Seconded*

***Senator Moreman*** *made a motion to move APM 232 up on the agenda to become the first agenda item after new business.* He explained that this item has been on the agenda since last academic year and it is unclear why it is so low on the agenda. This item is important because it concerns how veteran students are being considered on our campus.

**Chair Hall** explained that items are placed on the agenda in the order that they are received.

**Senator Bryant** mentioned that this item should be presented by the committee that submitted it.

**Chair Hall** added that this always has to be arranged beforehand, and no one from that committee, AP&P, is in attendance today.

*Motion seconded*

*Vote on motion to move APM 232 up on the agenda: motion failed*

*Vote on approval of agenda: approved*

**Chair Hall** paused to request a minute of silence for Dr. Adela Santana-Mullooly, a lecturer in COSS and spouse of colleague senator Professor Mullooly, who passed away last week in a cycling accident. He extended his sincerest condolences to her husband and family. A minute of silence was observed.

1. Approval of the Minutes of 9/26/22.

The Vice-Chair received a correction from Senator DeJordy regarding the discussion under item 5, which was accepted as a friendly amendment and corrected:

Instead of *‘****Senator DeJordy*** *wanted to know whether some of the changes were made in order to comply with the new CBA, which could imply urgency to make the changes’,* the minutes now read *‘****Senator DeJordy*** *mentioned that some of the changes were made in order to comply with the new CBA, and asked if there was any urgency to update the policy as a result’.*

**Senator Moreman** asked to double check whether, at the start of the conversation on APM 301, Dr. Low mentioned that pronouns were replaced with gender-neutral pronouns. He remembered that this was not mentioned until he himself brought it up later in the discussion.

**Vice Chair Van Camp** had noted that Dr. Low mentioned this already in his explanation of the changes made to the APM at the start of the conversation.

*Motion to approve the minutes*

*Motion seconded*

*Vote on approval of the minutes: approved*

Senate membership photo taken (4:15PM)

1. Communications and Announcements.

[President Jiménez-Sandoval was unable to attend]

[No communications from Provost Fu]

Communications from Chair Hall – AB 928 feedback

## [Information about CAL-GETC and ensuing proposed changes included in the email with feedback form (subject: ‘Request for feedback: GE Pathways and AB 928’) sent out on Sept 28 by Chair Hall to the senators.]

**Chair Hall** reminded the Senate that we are requested to offer feedback on CAL-GETC, the single pathway for transfers from community colleges to the CSU and UC proposed by ICAS in response to a requirement from the legislator. It reduces the number of units required for transfer students to come in. The CSU is represented on the ICAS committee. ASCSU wants final consultation with all CSU campuses. They requested feedback, and offered three feedback options: support, recommend changes, or unable to come to a consensus. The timeline is very brief but is being imposed on us by the ASCSU.

More guidance is expected from the Chancellor’s Office about whether or not the same GE pattern for transfers must apply to first year students, but that is not the question we are deciding on now. We are now only looking at the transfer pathway.

**Chair Hall** added that he understood from the Chair of the ASCSU, who has been part of these negotiations for over two years, that if all campuses choose option b out of the three feedback options, it is unlikely that this will produce new negotiations with the Community Colleges and UC in the given time frame. A new plan will not be very different from CAL-GETC because of the time frame. If we cannot come to an agreement, administration will make the final decision.

**Senator Noël Smith** shared that this new pathway is concerning for the department of Liberal Studies. Their students go straight into a credentialing program and have a set of prerequisites that transfer students do not have. The department of Liberal Studies will be affected by the changes proposed in CAL-GETC given their requirement for area E.

**Senator Polegato** also expressed concerns from the department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, which will also be hit hard by this proposal in light of losing three units for area C. This will affect all non-English language programs. In the Fresno area and in California 40 per cent of people speak another language at home. We need to foster the diverse population among our students. Our students should be able to take foreign languages and we risk losing these languages. He added that other campuses have rejected the proposal. We can only accept the proposal if we keep languages in the Fresno State campus requirement. The UC is taking measures to keep languages in their curriculum and we should do the same.

**Chair Hall** suggested to senator Polegato to also reach out about this to the Undergraduate Curriculum committee and GE committee.

**Senator Polegato** added that his proposal isto move the block of languages to M/I.

**Dean Muscat** made a point of clarification: M/I is not GE so this should go to Undergraduate Curriculum, not GE Committee. M/I is a campus requirement so it would bypass GE.

**Senator Dyer** wanted to clarify that transfer students would come in with 6 fewer units than they have in the past, but they would not graduate with fewer units. They still need to take these 6 units on our campus.

**Senator Bryant** asked whether there is anything in the language of AB 928 that prevents us from moving those 6 units to upper division GE, for example. Can the units be moved out of the transfer process and kept in GE?

**Chair Hall** responded that lower and upper division GE courses have very different requirements, and this might not be a simple move.

**Dean Muscat** explained that adding 6 units to upper division GE might be problematic. Adding them to upper division GE may result in having to lose other units in upper division GE. She is currently working through a variety of questions related to AB 928. It has, for instance, not been resolved whether there would be two GE patterns, one for transfer students and one for first year students. There will be unit differentials, for instance. The university is waiting for further guidance.

**Chair Hall** added that one program on our campus already has a different GE pattern, *i.e.* Liberal Studies. So different patterns can exist on one campus.

**Senator Smith** conveyed concerns expressed in her department (Kinesiology) regarding area E. She emphasized that health and wellness promotion is necessary for our students. There is a concern that the proposal will hurt students who need this area the most.

**Senator Yang** wanted to know how students make up the 6 units lost in the transfer pathway. This could delay getting students into an internship program. The proposed pathway is also going to have an impact on minority students whose first language is not English, because they need to take more English courses before they can make it to Fresno State.

**Chair Hall** reminded senators that the feedback portal is still open.

**Chair Hall** also referred to the resolution by Cal Poly Humboldt, included in the senate documents.

**Chair Hall** proposed to the body that he could create a Google doc that can be edited by senators to potentially draft a resolution with tweaks to the proposal.

**Senator Polegato** referred to a resolution by Cal Maritime, which concerns a redraft of the proposal (feedback option b).

**Chair Hall** reminded the Senate that urgency was expressed by the Chair of the ASCSU to reach a consensus.

**Senator Noël Smith** explained that for the department of Liberal Studies area E on child development has to be taken as a requirement. She added that it costs students extra money to take these classes here. The amount they pay at a community college is less then here for our credentialing. In other words, this pathway could cost our students more.

**Chair Hall** suggested that senators keep talking with their department and to submit proposals. We have to be creative to solve this because this is likely to go through and there might be pressure to align our own GE pattern with this pathway.

**Senator Moreman** explained that his department has been talking about AB 928 since spring. He wanted to know whether there are senators who have been part of this conversation for a while as well.

**Chair Hall** responded that our statewide senators have been part of this conversation.

**Senator Moreman** further suggested to look at collective arguments made by communication professors at the CSU and community colleges last spring when area A1 (oral communication) was on the chopping block. More information on this can be found on the ICAS website [https://icas-ca.org/]. Senator Moreman urged faculty to get organized with community college professors because they are affected too. He added that we have always been legislated in our curriculum so that is not new. Our GE program came out of legislation.

**Senator Maldonado** expressed his frustration at the process and said that other alternatives to the current proposal were certainly possible but now would not even be considered.  Area E is so out of line with the UC that it was never going to be in the proposal but other alignments were possible like leaving out the Speech requirement and making it a CSUF graduation requirement.

**Chair Hall** referred to the resolution from Cal Poly Humboldt as an example of proposed changes.

**Chair Hall** reminded the Senate that we need to have a collective campus response by Oct 24.

**Senator Polegato** repeated his request to include a proposal regarding foreign languages and to locate them in M/I requirements.

**Chair Hall** suggested to collaborate on writing a resolution. He added that our campus has worked hard on area E. It shows our values, and it reflects who we are at Fresno State. Maybe we could consider a separate GE pattern for first year students. He repeated that we are not addressing changes to our own GE just yet, however.

**Senator DeJordy** mentioned that the impetus of AB 928 is to create a common pathway to feed either the UC or the CSU. Our students are different from UC students. Our requirements reflect our students. We need to think about what is important for our students and what needs to go into our GE. What is the time frame where we would need to think about, for instance, area E, and make it a campus requirement rather than a GE requirement?

**Chair Hall** responded that we need to start thinking about it now. Maybe we need to form a task force. But changes to our GE pattern are not part of the feedback we need to provide now in response to the CAL-GETC proposal, and this was only made clear by the Chancellor’s Office last week.

1. Installation of New Senators.

Welcoming (back):

Mandy Greaves - Counselor Education and Rehabilitation

David Lent - Biology

Steven Pao - Food Science and Nutrition

Ranjit Riar - Plant Science

Pei Xu - Agribusiness

*The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:15p.m.*

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The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be October 24, 2022.

Submitted by Approved by

Tinneke Van Camp Ray Hall

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate