

**Faculty Senate Meeting Summary Notes**  
**11am, Manderino Room 408**  
**9/5/19**

**Present:** Jayna Bonfini, Borra Vamsi, Andrea Cencich, Joshua Chicarelli, Clover Wright, Jeffery Giovannucci, Marnie Hall, Peter Heh, Jimmy Hoover, Cassandra Kuba, Mark Lennon, Robert Mehalik, Tom Mueller, Louise Nicholson, Michael Perrotti, Loring Prest, Candice Riley, Carrie Elkin, Paul Sible, Ryan Sittler, Mathilda Spencer, JP Staszal, Kim Vanderlaan, Carolyn Wass, Robin Weaver, Ellen West, Brenton Wilburn, April Wright, Kausar Yasmin, Tami Sealy

**Call to Order**

1. Review/Approval of 9.5.19 Summary Notes

**Old Business:** After new business completed, returned to old business agenda items.

2. **Faculty Senate Administration Evaluations Subcommittee** - (Members: Loring Prest, Ryan Sittler, Mario Majcen, Jennifer Ramsey, & Robin Weaver) – Update Deferred
3. **Shared Governance Evaluation (Middle States, Standard VII)** – Update Deferred

**New Business**

4. Nominations and Election of Officer (2019-2020)
  - A. President- Nominated Robert Mehalik
  - B. Vice President- Nominate Loring Prest
  - C. Secretary- Nominated Robin Weaver

All candidates were nominated unopposed. Ryan Sittler made a motion to approve the candidate slate requiring no official ballot completion as all positions were unopposed. Tom Mueller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all unanimously.

5. Guest Speaker: Vice President David Garcia (Vice President for Enrollment Management). VP Garcia thanked faculty for the care they demonstrate in regard to all student enrolled at CalU. Stated there is no reason why CalU shouldn't be successful in spite of looming enrollment challenges. Discussed various initiatives by the Admission's Office under VP Garcia's guidance:
  - Responsibility for the welcome weekend was moved to the Student Affairs office rather than the admissions office so that admissions can concentrate efforts on recruitment and processing enrollments.

- CalU freshmen enrollment reflects a stronger academic profile this year, reporting GPA for student in freshmen class is higher this year than last year 3.17 AY 18/19 & 3.27 AY 19/20
- The literature reflects that stronger academic profiles result in increased student success.
- Though there are fewer new freshmen (N=948) 652 new freshmen have a GPA of 3.0 to 3.49 and 365 new freshmen have a GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Admissions putting more emphasis on HS student performance in classwork and GPA and less emphasis on SAT or other standardized tests as this is believed to be more reflective of student capacity.
- Out of state admissions are up 38%, Retention of freshmen to sophomore is up from 71.2% to 73.6%
- Admission overall are down 6%, mostly at the undergraduate level
- Graduate admissions are down slightly but this is reflective of the accelerated nature of many graduate level programs and the need to replace those students who have completed programs.
- Customer service is essential, staff in the admissions office was cut from 6 to 3 person but VP Garcia was successful in adding one position back to the office. These individuals are needed to support recruitment efforts.
- SLATE system has been implemented to improve communication and better track graduate admissions. More work is needed for the system to be fully available for undergraduate admissions.
- Changed \$200.00 non-refundable deposit for housing to be applicable to 1<sup>st</sup> payment upon starting at CalU. May be decreasing this amount to \$100.00 deposit.
- Moved to another platform for obtaining names of potential admissions. Will be purchasing GMAT and GRE scores
- Working on improving communication process for all applicants

**Opened to questions:** Questions such as reciprocity with W. VA; Possibility of offering more scholarships; Request for VP Garcia to reach out to more faculty for ideas; Request for more transparency in all of administration; interest in moving away from old fashion manually tracking of students to an automated system; Discussed use of Starfish for high risk students; need a comprehensive platform for admissions across all student bodies graduate and undergraduate; Faculty need better tools for advising students.

More comments/questions:

- Baby Boomer generation has passed, numbers for admissions will likely be lower for all schools over the next several years.
- Need to target graduate programs and adult learners
- 5-year strategic enrollment plan being developed, focus more on quality rather than just numbers
- Chancellor has allowed institutions to set their own tuition rate, caution needed when devising plans

- Can't lose market share in own backyard
- An Alumnae Volunteer program has been developed to provide greater representation nationwide
- There is a weakness in the graduate student orientation, this needs to be addressed
- Non-traditional students need different support
- Faculty need more professional development, request to make the "no out of state travel" initiative more of a radius-based determination rather than state line. There is a committee in process of addressing this concern.

A suggestion was made to form a Senate Subcommittee to address advisement tools. VP Garcia would be interested in meeting with this subcommittee on a regular basis.

**6. Next meetings: October 3, 2019**

**Announcements:** There is an election for a new UWCC committee member and a faculty member to serve on a shared governance committee.

**Adjournment 12:00**

**R. Weaver, Recorder**

## **Article II. PURPOSE**

### **Section 1. Vision Statement**

The Faculty Senate will promote intellectual life at the California University of Pennsylvania and contribute to the academic excellence, service, and leadership of the University

### **Section 2. Mission Statement**

The mission of the Faculty Senate is to be a deliberative, representative body of the faculty that considers all topics of concern to the faculty, and participates in shared governance by communicating recommendations to the University administration.

### **Section 3. Scope of the Faculty Senate**

It is in the finest tradition of the academy that the faculty gathers together in a formal and democratic fashion to articulate, promote, and defend the ideals of a university. Those chosen to represent their colleagues shall be known as Senators and the body to which they belong shall be called the Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate shall be concerned with all issues of importance to the University, including academic freedom, scholarship, self-governance, curriculum, and academic and professional standards.

Because the Senate is an independent body, it is free to pursue, without restraint, all issues of importance to the University. The Senate, when exploring these important university issues, may seek counsel from persons and entities both within and without the University. In its advocacy role, the Senate may sponsor forums, hold debates, and create committees to deliberate these important issues. Conclusions arrived at through these deliberations may result in recommendations to the University Community.

Nothing within these Senate bylaws shall be construed as usurping the rights, prerogatives, or scope of influence granted the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties (APSCUF), the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for faculty members at California University, as expressed in the operative Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

Approved 4/4/19