Minutes of the University Senate Meeting  
February 5, 2015

1.
The February meeting of the University Senate was held at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, February 5, 2015 in Room 113, Education. Chair Melissa Gjellstad presided.

2.
The following members of the Senate were present:

Anderson, Ernest  Henderson, Pam  Poohchigian, Donald
Anderson, Julie  Hill, Robert  Quinn, Andrew
Anderson, Suzanne  Hunter, Cheryl  Rand, Kathryn
Baker, Mary  Jendrysik, Mark  Reissig, Brad
Bibel, George  Johnson, Brett  Routon, Claudia
Bridewell, John  Jones, Nicholas  Rozelle-Stone, Rebecca
Burgess, Gaye  Kelley, Robert  Schwartz, Rhonda
Christopherson, Anne  Kenville, Kim  Smart, Kathy
Cowden, Kimberly  Kurtz, Sharley  Stofferahn, Curt
Delong, Loretta  Lawrence, David  Tanaka, Tomohiro
Ernst, Julia  Liang, Lewis  Walker, Anne
Fevig, Ron  Lim, Howe  Weaver-Hightower, Rebecca
Flanagan, Ken  Marasinghe, Kanishka  Weber, Bret
Franklin, Tanner  McHenry, Laurie  Williams, Margaret
Gedafa, Daba  Medina, Shannon  Wood, Robert
Geiger, Jonathan  Mikulak, Marcia  Young, Tim
Gjellstad, Melissa  Milavetz, Barry  Zerr, Jessica
Grant, Vincent  Munski, Doug  Zerr, Ryan
Harsell, Dana  Murphy, Eric

3.
The following members of the Senate were absent:

Badahdah, Abdallah  Frank, Daniel  Roux, Gayle
Beattie, Robert  Halgren, Cara  Schroeder, Janie
Bradley, April  Jeno, Sue  Schuster, Shane
Brekke, Alice  Johnson, Chase  Semke, William
Brown, Ryan  Martin, Will  Sheridan, William
Campbell, Katherine  Mitzel, John  Smith, Bruce
Cerkoney, Marissa  Mosher, Sarah  Storrs, Debbie
Di Lorenzo, Thomas  Onchari, Grace  Sum, Paul
Drewes, Mary  Petros, Tom  Swisher, Wayne
El-Reewini, Hesham  Popeh, Montana  Walton, Susan
Enright, Jeremiah  Reesor, Lori  Wynne, Joshua

4.
The following announcements were made:

a. Ms. Gjellstad made the following announcements:
   • A thank-you luncheon for Senate committee chairs will be held this month.
   • The senators were thanked for responding to the parking survey.
   • The Committee on Committees also thanked the senators for responding to the preference survey.
   • There will be a Budget 101 workshop held for faculty on the new budget process.
• There are legislative fact sheets available and a legislative bill tracker that is refreshed each Friday and populated by bills through auto-update.

b. Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, Chair of the Senate Legislative Affairs Committee, indicated that the Committee is responding to legislative requests. She described the matters to which they have responded. She also indicated that their responses are on behalf of students, faculty and staff. She asked the senators to supply their input on the bills.

c. Eric Murphy presented an update from the Council of College Faculties. He indicated that the search process for the Chancellor is underway and the position is now being advertised. He encouraged nominations for candidates for the position. The search committee will look at applications in March, so time is of the essence.

5.

Ms. Gjellstad called attention to the minutes of the January 15, 2015 meeting. There was a motion of approval by Mr. Munski. Ms. Smart seconded and the minutes were approved as distributed.

6.

The question period was opened at 4:19 p.m. There were no questions.

7.

Ms. Gjellstad called attention to the annual report from the Senate Academic Policies & Admissions Committee. Mr. Poochigian moved to accept and file the annual report. There was a second by Ms. Mikulak, and the motion was approved.

8.

The University Curriculum Committee report was reviewed. Ms. Gjellstad introduced Leslie Martin, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, and thanked her and the Committee for all their work to complete the process for the 2015-16 catalog production. Mr. Murphy asked a question about two English course deletions. Ms. Weaver-Hightower explained the deletions. Mr. Quinn moved to approve the report. Mr. Harsell seconded and the report was approved.

9.

The Faculty Senate Proposal was reviewed. Ms. Gjellstad reported on the responses to the Faculty Governance Survey. She asked the senators to share with their neighbors at the meeting the feedback they got from their constituents regarding a Faculty Senate. Discussion ensued. Ms. Gjellstad reviewed all the steps that will need to be taken for this proposal to become legal, including approvals and constitution changes. Senators reported what is being said by constituents and colleagues. Discussion ensued. Ms. Smart moved that the Senate Executive Committee conduct a survey of all benefited faculty regarding the formation of a faculty senate. Mr. Munski seconded. Mr. Harsell offered a friendly amendment for a referendum rather than a survey. The friendly amendment was accepted by Ms. Smart and Mr. Munski. There was discussion of whether the option of a caucus should be presented. The vote was called and the motion carried.

10.

Kim Kenville, Honorary Degrees Committee chair, shared the criterion for receiving an honorary degree. She presented three anonymous candidates as A, B, and C. Following the presentation, Ms. Kenville moved approval of all three candidates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Munski and approved. Ms.
Kenville requested that the senators keep the information confidential since the approval process was not complete.

11.

Deborah Worley, member of the Ad Hoc USAT Committee, presented a report from the Committee. She described the Committee’s process and called attention to both the executive summary and the link to the full report. She then described the analysis of the data that was conducted. The Committee’s conclusion was that a new form is needed. Ms. Worley described the recommendations regarding a Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET). Mr. Gedafa shared the next steps to be taken. It was moved by Mr. Gedafa to establish a new committee with membership from both the Senate Executive Committee and the Ad Hoc USAT Committee to conduct open forums, select a new form and conduct a pilot. There was a second by Mr. Quinn and the motion was approved.

12.

Mr. Murphy moved to extend the meeting to 5:45 p.m. Mr. Munski seconded and the motion was approved.

13.

There was a presentation by Sima Noghanian, vice-chair of the Senate Scholarly Activities Committee (SSAC), and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, member of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), on the Faculty Travel and Research Funding report. Ms. Weaver-Hightower described the activities that will occur with SSAC and SEC to gather information and the wish to conduct a survey regarding research funding support. She asked for questions. Ms. Mikulak expressed appreciation for what they are doing and there was applause. There was further discussion and Ms. Weaver-Hightower indicated that there will be more information to come.

14.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Suzanne Anderson, Secretary
University Senate