

2023-2024 Academic Senate Minutes
April 15, 2024

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice Chair Hart confirmed the quorum, and the meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m., and 44 Senators were present.

Ex Officio: Present: Curry, Multani, Sasikumar, Van Selst, Rodan, McKee Absent: McKee	HHS Representatives: Present: Baur, Chang, Sen Absent: None
Administrative Representatives: Present: Del Casino, Faas, Fuentes-Martin, Dukes Absent: Teniente-Matson, Faas	COB Representatives: Present: Chen, Vogel Absent: None
Deans / AVPs: Present: d'Alarcao, Kaufman, Meth, Shillington Absent: Kaufman, Shillington	EDUC Representatives: Present: Mathur, Munoz-Munoz Absent: None
Students: Present: Brown, Doshi, Guzman, Gambarin, Lacson, Swaminathan Absent: Guzman	ENGR Representatives: Present: Sullivan-Green, Wong Absent: Kao
Alumni Representative: Absent: Vacant	H&A Representatives: Present: Han, Sabalius, Frazier, Kataoka Absent: Lee, Riley
Emeritus Representative: Present: Jochim Absent: None	SCI Representatives: Present: French, Heindl, Shaffer, Muller Absent: None
Honorary Representative: Present: Peter Absent: Buzanski, Lessow-Hurley	SOS Representatives: Present: Hart, Raman, Pinnell, Meniketti Absent: Haverfield
General Unit Representatives: Present: Johnson, Masegian, Pendyala Absent: Flandez, Velarde	

II. Land Acknowledgement:

Senator Chen read the land acknowledgment.

III. Communications and Questions

A. From the Chair of the Senate:

- Please nominate a colleague and/or self-nominate to serve on the Provost’s Review Committee. Include the name of the nominated person, the title, and the college with the nomination. If self-nominating, include a statement reflecting your interest and

qualifications for serving on the review committee. Nominations must be submitted to sjsupres@sjsu.edu by Friday, April 19, 2024.

- Please self-nominate to serve as a Senate officer. To run for any of these offices, please email a short statement of interest to senate@sjsu.edu by the end of the day on Monday, April 29th.
- Senators should fill out the committee preference form, or a committee will be assigned to them. Senators will be notified on April 29th.
- The Chair wished good luck to all the student senators running for AS office.
- Congratulations to Senator Hiu Yung Wong for being awarded SJSU's Industry-Supported Research Award.
- SJSU's Legacy of Poetry will be celebrated the week of April 22.

B. From the President:

President Teniente-Matson's written report will be shared via the Senate listserv.

IV. Executive Committee Report:

A. Minutes of the Executive Committee:

EC Minutes of March 11, 2024—no questions.

EC Minutes of March 25, 2024

Q: Has the naming committee formed to rename CPGE already completed its work?

A (Provost): No, the committee will present its report and recommendations to the Senate Executive Committee on April 22nd.

B. Senate Calendar of 2024-25

C: AS President offered input on times for Senate meetings and what times to avoid so as not to conflict with regular committee meetings.

The motion to approve the calendar passed 37-0-0.

C. Executive Committee Action Items: None

V. Unfinished Business: None

VI. Policy Committee and University Library Board Action Items (In rotation)

A. Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R):

Senator Shaffer presented **AS 1867, Amendment B to University Policy S14-6, Policy and Assurance for Humane Care and Use of Animals at San José State University (Final Reading).**

Questions

Q: Is the chair of this committee having an appointment time of 12 months?

A: Yes

The policy was moved to a vote and approved by acclamation.

B. Organization and Government Committee (O&G): No report

C. Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA):

Senator Sullivan-Green presented **AS 1872, Amendment A to S17-1, University Policy, Culminating Activities and Final Examinations Policy (First Reading)**

Senator Sullivan-Green commented that this policy is a significant amendment to S17-1 which does not give culminating activities and final examinations equal consideration. This amendment clarifies what a culminating activity is, and the standards it needs to meet. Final examinations are to be changed from two hours and fifteen minutes to two hours. Additionally, no examinations will be held before 8:30 since research students are not at their best that early.

Questions

Q: If there are no more 7:15 examinations, does that add an extra day of the examination period, making the student go home a day later?

A: No, since the time changed from two hours and fifteen minutes to two hours.

C: I want to clarify if this applies to online classes, and finals need to be two hours as well.

A: Yes; however, this is different for an asynchronous class.

Q: Some students stay the whole time. Is there any outreach to ask faculty if they need two hours and fifteen minutes?

A: We can consider this; however, we want to get this passed so it can be implemented in the fall of 2024.

Q: What about considerations of accessibility?

A: The time will still be proportional to the time needed for those with accommodations.

C: I think this will help our commuter students who already have to wake up so early to get here and find parking. This helps to break down those barriers for them.

Q: What about those professors who make their finals worth zero percent of the grade?

A: It would be hard to put in policy what a final examination is. This amendment requires you to have one when it is, and how long it should be. The committee can consider this issue, though.

Q: What about portfolios that are done over a period of time?

A: This ensures that nothing that is supposed to count for the final examination can be due before the time assigned.

Senator Sullivan-Green presented ***AS 1873, University Policy, Student Advising and Holistic Student Support Services Policy (First Reading)***

Senator Sullivan-Green commented that this would replace the 1989 policy since it is not up to date, and the updated version was vetoed by the then President in 2021. This is based on the NACADA reports of 2019 and 2023 to clearly delineate the responsibility and training for advising. We have discussed this with the Provost.

Questions

Q: Will this require more training and a bigger workload? Faculty are already facing diminishing assigned time. Is this additional training and work going to be worth it?

A: The training/workload will be proportional.

Q: This might cause an issue with lecturers' contracts since they are not paid for this extra work.

Q: What do we mean by holistic student support? We don't want students to think it relates to mental health support, which is what advising is trained in.

A: No, advising does not have the same responsibilities as mental health counselors. This language is on trend with the NACADA report.

D. Professional Standards Committee (PS):

Senator French presented ***AS 1870, Modification to S94-5/F95-1 Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility (First Reading)***

Senator French commented that they kept none of the original policy, so it can be a full new policy and easier to find on the Senate website. This modification streamlines the policy and moves the procedural language to the index. Instead of listing what the board cannot do, it lists what it can do.

Questions

Q: Why does it restrict members of the board to only full-tenure faculty?

A: The fraught nature of the board's work could make members vulnerable, and the rank of full professor will protect the members who serve. Also, the work of the committee aligns with the role of a full professor.

C: There are no explicit provisions on appeals.

A: We will address this.

C: I am worried that it can make the board unapproachable, non empathetic, and more elitist. Can other voices be brought in, or training on empathy? Tenured faculty are less likely to face bullying compared to lecturers.

A: Full professors are not immune to bullying others, or being bullied.

C: More information on the boundaries of the board's responsibilities could be helpful. How is it separate from/different from the personnel and/or adjudication processes that happen elsewhere (UP, Title IX, ODEI, etc.)?

C: The members of the board are all volunteers.

C: If decisions on the committee are made by votes, then it could be helpful to bring in other members who are not full Professors, perhaps as non-voting members. This would provide additional input and perspectives but reduce vulnerability (because they are non-voting).

C: The names of board members are public, which is a consideration of vulnerability.

E. University Library Board (ULB):

Nada Attar and Edgar Bering presented ***AS 1869, Amendment E to University Policy S15-10, Revisions to SJSU Library Policy (Final Reading)***

Edgar Bering commented that they want to thank the Senate for considering their amendment and that they share the core values of creating a place of diversity. Attar and Bering shared a presentation to discuss collaborative collection development, serendipity, faculty-librarian relationships, and interdisciplinarity. They pointed out they heard the concerns that faculty involvement in the deselection process was greatly reduced in the new policy. They assured the body that is not the case. Additionally, they reminded the faculty that the librarian-faculty relationship is not a one-way street. Our librarians work hard to maintain close ties with their departments and faculty members. When it comes to deselection, librarians use subject knowledge, including expertise in relevant and seminal literature, circulation statistics, and an understanding of the collections in other CSU libraries, as well as the consultation process with you outlined in the policy to create a compelling picture of what items can be deselected. This is a process that is done thoughtfully, deliberately, and collaboratively. Your input is always valuable and welcomed. They added "faculty" to any mention of the department in the deselection process. Finally, there was a concern expressed about the lack of measures for managing deselection in regards to interdisciplinarity. Collection management has always been interdisciplinary. The consultative process described between librarians and faculty, when paired with statistical data, should bring interdisciplinary issues to the fore.

Questions

Q: Since space seems to be one of the problems, has there been a discussion about turning hard copies into PDFs?

A (Meth): Space is not the only issue; it is about our collection becoming unusable and sharpening our collection.

Q: I can understand that some books in the library need to be removed; however, are they being replaced with more books, or will that space be repurposed?

A (Meth): There are no current plans or money to repurpose areas. Once we can go through the deselection process, we can analyze since shelves should be, on average, at 70% capacity, and we have some at 100%. We do not discard any book we know is not going to be available in another way. If it happens that we get rid of a book and you come and say you really need it, then we can work to repurchase it.

Q: In line 287, relating to student members serving more than one term, did you ask AS how this procedure would be? Academic eligibility and such have to be checked for them to continue to serve.

A: No, we did not ask AS about this; however, we can.

Senator Van Selst proposed an amendment to lines 285-287

An amendment was made to Lines 285-287: "The other student members will serve one-year terms, provided they remain students in good standing. Student members may serve more than one term." to "The other student members will serve one-year terms, provided they remain students in good standing and may be appointed for an additional term or terms. Student members may serve more than one term." The amendment passed.

Senator Kataoka proposed an amendment to Senator Van Selst's amendment, which failed.

The final amended policy was moved to a vote and was approved by acclamation.

VII. Special Committee Reports:

Yinghua Huang, chair of the Athletics Board (AB), Travis Boyce, Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), and Jeff Konya, Director of Athletics, gave their yearly report to the Senate. Time Certain: 2:30 p.m.

Travis Boyce described the FAR and his daily tasks. The FAR is a liaison between the university and athletics. They monitor the institution's academic integrity and protect student-athletes. On a daily basis, Boyce signs off on eligibility grids. So far, Boyce is seeing a disconnect with faculty understanding of travel letters for student athletics. He is planning on meeting with the department chairs and faculty members to discuss this issue. Boyce touched on different events he has represented SJSU at, and some accomplishments while also acknowledging others who work with him to get these things accomplished.

Yinghua Huang commented that the Athletic Board met with the President. They were tasked with reviewing FirstTeam Sports Consulting, LLC's third-party report and submitted a letter of recommendation to the President. In addition, the AB also interviewed candidates for the Academic Coach of the Year Award and selected two recipients. They learned about the special admits process for student athletics from Deanna Gonzales, Director of Undergraduate Admissions. Reviewed FAR Responsibilities and Goals for the 23-24 AY. Reviewed and discussed athletics-related budgetary issues with Dr. Tabitha Hart, Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee. Reviewed the current Academic Policy F07-2 and proposed modifications to the policy.

The Director of Athletics, Jeff Konya, showed a video to give a sense of SJSU athletics. Konya expressed excitement over the SJSU Oregon State Football game, which was the most-watched Mountain West game. SJSU was also voted the best Silicon Valley football team for the third time by the Mercury News. Konya also mentioned the AB's charge to determine if SJSU is in the correct NCA classification. If they are in the proper conference, do we have the right mix of sports? The AB has submitted recommendations; however, there has not been any discussion on them yet. He then summarized the athletics program relating to the budget cut by reducing administrators, capping rosters, and reducing scholarships and starting salaries.

Questions:

Q: What is the athletic department doing to monitor head injuries to prevent CTE? Has the number of head injuries gone down? Years prior, the AB has shared reports on the numbers of concussions and such.

A: We will provide objective results from sports medicine. The numbers have been down since last year; however, this could be due to many things.

Q: How has advising changed or improved for student athletics so they don't feel rushed into picking classes? Are the athletes getting enough nutrition breaks during training and class schedules?

A: There has been a new hire relating to advising, and student-athletes have expressed satisfaction. For nutrition, the NCAA has specific rules that are being followed.

Q: Regarding the survey on collegiate wagering and the social environment, what are your concerns and the NCAA's?

A: As social media grows, student-athletes can now market themselves in different ways. We want the athletes to be aware that there is now betting on non-revenue sports, which can put them in danger of online bullying and such.

Q: Can coaches be hired in unit 3, and what is the percentage of coaches in unit 3?

A: There are MPP coaches and unit 3 coaches, depending on whether they oversee people or not. 95% of coaches are in Unit 3.

Q: How much of the budget is for the next AY for the general unit coming out from the state?

A: 14.8 million from the state, which is being reduced. External funding is 13 million, which goes to scholarships.

Q: Does the AB also offer protections relating to Title IX, mental health, and bullying, or only academic integrity?

A: The AB is there to make policies relating to academics and athletics. If a student-athlete has another issue, they should go to the FAR.

Q: Will the students who no longer receive scholarships be notified and provided with support?

A: Students will be notified by a July deadline, as per regulations. However, this will more likely affect future recruitment and rosters. There are no students competing this year who will have scholarships removed for next year.

Q: Is there any new revenue the athletics department is anticipating?

A: We are looking into fixed terms for naming certain assets; however, we must check if this is possible. Specifically, we are naming assets in the building since only 50% of the building is currently named.

Motion to extend the meeting

A motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes was made, seconded, and passed by acclamation.

VIII. New Business:

AS President Multani presented **Sense of the Senate, AS 1871, Reaffirming Freedom of Speech and Expression, Promoting Respectful and Civil Dialogue in our Campus Community**

President Multani commented that he brought this sense of the Senate to the Senate meeting in response to the continued discussion of this topic in the Senate. This Sense of the Senate is to create dialogue on the issues instead of disagreeing and leaving it at that point. The country continues to see more divided topics, and we must consider how this affects us and the student body. Multani thanked the faculty who helped create this Sense of the Senate: senators Vogel, Guzman, Peter, and Masegian.

Senator Rodan proposed an amendment to remove lines 24-27." Whereas: On February 19, 2024, a serious incident arose in Sweeney Hall between an SJSU professor and Pro-Palestinian protestors, which led to heightened tensions amongst the student body, both for students who were and were not present in the building and"

C: This points to a specific incident where there is still a lack of clarity about what happened. This created a specific division on certain lines where there were strong opinions on both sides. We should not make reference to this incident.

A: I can understand; however, we cannot ignore this incident because it led to the creation of this Sense of the Senate. If we are not willing to discuss these incidents, then nothing will be done to combat the tensions. We can remove some language if need be, but the mention of the incident is important.

Senator Sabalius seconded Senator Rodan's amendment.

C: Mentioning the incident will diminish the universality of the Senate's resolution. If we remove it, it can stand the test of time and be stronger.

C: This event should not be put aside. History needs to be reported, and this incident led to this Sense of the Senate being created.

C: Previous sense of the senate resolutions have mentioned specific events. The Rodan amendment failed 10-15-1

A motion was made by Senator Mathur to amend lines 25-27:

"which led to heightened tensions amongst the student body, both for students within the campus community, both for students, faculty, and for staff who were and were not present in the building."

The amendment was deemed as friendly and accepted without further action.

Deliberation and debate of AS 1871 was suspended due to adjournment of the meeting.

IX. State of the University Announcements:

A. Chief Diversity Officer (CDO): Report moved to next meeting.

B. Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA): Report moved to next meeting.

C. Provost: Report moved to next meeting.

D. Vice President for Administration and Finance (VPAF):

Report moved to next meeting.

E. Associated Students President: Report moved to next meeting.

F. CSU Statewide Representative(s): Report moved to next meeting.

X. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.