

1997-98 FACULTY SENATE
OF
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO

Minutes
April 30, 1998

Issue #17

ROLL CALL

Present: Amata, Barakatt, Barrena, Bossert, Chambers, de Haas, Dillon (Parliamentarian), Dokimos, Dworkin, Gelus, Hornback, Huff, A. Jensen, C. Jensen, Jew, Kostyrko, Krabacher, Lan, Leezer, Lund, Martin, Newsome, Palmer, Parrott, Raingruber, Reardon, Seid, Turrill, Valtierra, G. Wheeler, V. Wheeler, Wilcox

Absent: Ahmadi, Alexander, Allen, Alvayay, Banks, Cajucom, Cameron Wedding, Canton, Corley, DeBow, Dundon, Gardner, Jacobs, Kando, Lascher, Lee-Sammons, Mackey, McKee, Mogull, Nystrom, Partovi, Phillips, Pickett, Pittman, Ritchey, Rodriguez, Scott, Serrano, Shook, Stabinsky, Verdone

INFORMATION

1. Spring Senate meeting dates (tentative):
May 7 [1998-99 Senate elections, 3:00-3:30; 1997-98 Senate, 3:30-5:00, 14 [Senate 3:00-4:00; Outstanding Teacher Reception, 4:00-5:00], 21
2. Susan McGowan, Associate Dean, Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, and Jean Torcom, Liberal Studies Director, presented a summary of the development of an evening/weekend schedule for the Liberal Studies Program.
3. Senate Home Page (<http://www.csus.edu/acse/> or CSUS Home Page *then* Departments *then* Faculty Senate)

ACTION ITEMS

FS 98-34/GEP/GRC Ex. GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE,
ESTABLISHMENT OF A STANDING

The Faculty Senate establishes a standing General Education Course Review Subcommittee of the General Education Policies/Graduation Requirements Committee (GEP/GRC) as follows:

- Membership (voting members shall serve three-year staggered terms):
 - 14 voting members: drawn from the Schools (two from each School):
 - 1 member elected from, or appointed by, each School's Curriculum Committee
 - 1 member nominated by School faculty and elected at-large within each School
 - 1 non-voting member appointed by/from the GEP/GRC
 - 1 non-voting member; the General Education administrator
- Structure:
 - 3 working groups:
 - Areas A, Advanced Study, and Race and Ethnicity
 - Areas B and D
 - Areas C and E
 - Subcommittee and working groups initially convened by administrator responsible for GE
 - Subcommittee chair elected annually by and from voting members
 - Working group convenor elected annually by and from membership of working group
 - Membership of working groups to be determined by the subcommittee
- Procedures:
 - Working groups review and recommend course proposals for inclusion in GE pattern and send recommendations to Subcommittee for approval
 - GEP/GRC acts as body of appeal
 - Working groups develop definitions and evaluation standards pertaining to area criteria and submit to Subcommittee and GEP/GRC for approval
 - Working groups undertake periodic reviews (every 2 years) of area and subarea criteria, definitions, and standards as required by current University policy
 - Working groups undertake periodic (every 2 years) reviews of course compliance with area criteria as required by current University policy.

Carried.

*FS 98-35/Flr. PROPOSITION 227 (ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS),
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO

**California State University, Sacramento Faculty Senate
Resolution on Proposition 227 (English Language in Public Schools)**

Rationale:

There are over 1.4 million students in grades K-12 in California from non-English language backgrounds who are limited in English. These English learners represent 25% of the total student population. For these students, the development of a high level of English proficiency is one of the crucial prerequisites to success in this society. The development of English proficiency for these students must also be accompanied by instruction that allows them to develop a high level of competence in academic content to meet the future demands of a

technologically advanced world. The lack of such academic preparation reduces their ability to benefit from further training and education that enhance their potential for success.

California must provide its children and youth with the educational opportunities to excel in English and academic content as well as to acquire proficiency in other world languages to compete effectively with the rest of the world. Programs to develop English proficiency for students who are speakers of other languages must not come at the expense of the development of academic content and, equally as important, should not be implemented in a manner that diminishes a student's respect for his/her home language or his/her motivation to maintain proficiency. Furthermore, quality education cannot be achieved without the respect and recognition that students are individuals who learn in different ways. Quality education in linguistically and culturally diverse California must respect learner differences and refrain from a monolithic instructional approach.

Proposition 227 (English Language in Public Schools) is such a monolithic approach. Proposition 227 would essentially subject all students who are English learners to one year of "Sheltered English Immersion", and would essentially prohibit the use of any other instructional methods for improving English Proficiency. Although Proposition 227 includes provision for parental exception (Article 3), circumstances under which a parent waiver may be granted are, in some instances unduly restrictive, and vague in other instances. Proposition 227 would impose, without any research evidence of its effectiveness, a single instructional model for the development of English proficiency in a single year without consideration of the English learners' age or level of academic development.

While it is widely recognized that reform in the education of English learners is needed, the development of appropriate models of instruction is better left to educators with expertise in the field, and complex educational policy ought not be decided through initiatives that propose simplistic solutions. In contrast to the initiative process, the Legislative process usually provides for informed educational policy development and subsequent development of implementation regulations by educators. Indeed, the introduction of SB 6 (Alpert) presents an opportunity to address reform of education of English learners in a more thoughtful and deliberate manner. Therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the CSU, Sacramento Faculty Senate strongly opposes Proposition 227; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the CSU, Sacramento Faculty Senate urges the California Legislature to continue in its efforts to develop sound educational policy to reform the education of English learners; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the CSU, Sacramento Faculty Senate urges the President of CSU, Sacramento, other campus Senates, the Statewide Academic Senate, the Chancellor of the CSU, and the CSU Board of Trustees to oppose Proposition 227 and support efforts of the Legislature to develop sound educational policy to reform the education of English learners; and be it further

- RESOLVED: That the CSU, Sacramento Faculty Senate directs its chair to forward the resolution, including the rationale provided, to the President of CSU, Sacramento, other campus Senates, the Statewide Academic Senate, the Chancellor of CSU, and the CSU Board of Trustees; and, be it further
- RESOLVED: That the CSU, Sacramento Faculty Senate directs its chair to inform the CSUS community of the Senate's position on Proposition 227 and the rationale for that position; and, be it further
- RESOLVED: That the CSU, Sacramento Faculty Senate directs its chair to forward this resolution, including the rationale provided to all local radio, print and television news media.

Carried.


The following item was postponed to the May 7, 1998, meeting:

FS 98-33/CPC,Ex. COMMUNITY SERVICE-LEARNING—DEFINITION AND GUIDELINES

Due to lack of a quorum, the following items were postponed to the May 7, 1998, meeting:

- FS 98-27A/Flr. REQUEST FOR A RESPONSE FROM THE PRESIDENT ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE AND THE ROLE OF THE FACULTY SENATE
- FS 98-27B/Flr. CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF REGULAR FACULTY SENATE BUSINESS PENDING A RESPONSE FROM THE PRESIDENT ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO UNIVERISTY GOVERNANCE AND THE ROLE OF THE FACULTY SENATE
- FS 98-27C/Flr. REFERENDUM, REFERRAL OF FS 98-27A (REQUEST FOR A RESPONSE FROM THE PRESIDENT ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE AND THE ROLE OF THE FACULTY SENATE) TO FACULTY

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.


Janice McPherson, Secretary

*Presidential approval requested.