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**M E M O R A N D U M**

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TO: ACADEMIC SENATORS  
FROM: Ana Medic, Academic Senate Secretary  
SUBJ: **ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES**  
DATE: Thursday February 23, 2023, 2:30 p.m.  
Zoom: <https://csuchico.zoom.us/j/81231074627?pwd=ZWFzZVpKVENOY2pEb0drdC8vaE43dz09>  
Meeting ID: 812 3107 4627 Passcode: 761594

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Please note: to access linked files, users must be logged in with their Chico State credentials.

Present: Adamian, Boyd, Brundage, Bruns, Burk, Cline, Coons, Ferrari, Ford (Bailey), Gray, Hutchinson, Jollimore, Kaiser, Kralj, Lee, Magnus, McBride-Pretorius, Medic, Munro (Teague Miller), Moss, Musvosvi, Newell (Hidalgo), Nickols, O’Conner, Paiva (Chair), Peterson, Sendze, Sherman, N., Sistrunk, Smith, Son, Trailer, Traver, Walter, Yeager-Struthers, and Zeichick (Gibson).

Absent: Alvarez, Boura, Draper, Sherman, A., and Wagner.

Chair Paiva called a meeting to order at 2:33 pm.

Reminded senators senate rules and motions can be made for action items today.

1. Approve Minutes of December 16, 2022 and February 9, 2023

Postponed for next Academic Senate meeting.

2. Approve Agenda

The time certain for item 13 is 3:30 pm instead of 3 pm. This was corrected.

Motion made to postpone item 11 proposed changes to FPPP 9.1.2 and 10.2.5 until the next meeting to allow the subcommittee more time to finalize work, discuss EDI aspects before presenting it to the senate. Second.

Concern is shared about postponement and hope shared this is truly presented at the next senate meeting. Disappointment shared for not including EDI language and consequently not counting faculty’s EDI work.

Senate voted: 21 yes, five no. Motion passed, item 11 will be postponed to the next senate meeting.

Agenda approved as amended.

3. Announcements

No announcements.

4. University Reports – Hutchinson/Boura/Brundage/Perez/Sendze/Sherman

President Hutchinson:

- a. An incident occurred at the library with an individual being present with a knife. Students called the police and everything was resolved.

- b. The storm caused a 100 feet tall tree to fall. There was an immediate response with no casualties.
- c. Enrollment is still a problem. Improvements are seen, but not near expected numbers. The focus is on providing high quality to students.
- d. A firing freeze was issued. Only emergency hires will be approved by the president.

Interim Provost Perez:

- a. Deans and chairs are working on schedules.
- b. Academic Affairs are expecting a \$20 million budget shortfall in the next three years, which is 20% less than the campus's overall budget, resembling a 22% reduction in enrollment.
- c. Expecting consolidation, and a hiring freeze to help with these efforts.

VP Brundage:

- a. The enrollment continuum team is working on actions after the forum.
- b. Today, campus had a resource forum for students. The video will be posted on the campus safety page.
- c. The week care initiative started on campus for students, faculty, and staff. Next will be held on March 7 and April 4.

VP Sendze:

- a. No report today.

5. [Associated Students Report](#) – Alvarez  
Associated Students report attached.

6. [Staff Council](#) - Peterson

Senator Peterson introduced Staff Council report:

- a. Report attached. Awards are open for nominations for Employee of the Year, customer service, Wildcat spirit, making a difference and the safety award.

7. Statewide Academic Senate [Report](#) – Boyd/Ford [CSU Academic Senate](#)

- ASCSU [Agendas](#), [Minutes](#), [Resolutions](#), & [Summaries](#)

Statewide Senators Boyd and Ford introduced the Statewide Academic Senate report:

- a. Stated that Jennifer Underwood was elected as statewide senator last week. Congratulations shared.
- b. Report attached. Summary of reports are included.
- c. One of these is related to excess gas and oil profit that will feed in support of higher public education.
- d. AB 130 is about the coursework and correspondence to subject matter domains for teaching. This was a budget trailer bill that included how we deal with subject matter competencies.
- e. Asking to provide feedback on these. Other resolutions include capping executive raises, childhood education credential specialists, and examining Title IX practices.
- f. Stated that aside from Chico State, a couple of other CSUs will conduct presidential search.
- g. Today it was announced that Sonya Christian is the newly appointed Community College Chancellor.

- h. ASCSU stated the opposition to a new baccalaureate in ecosystem restoration and applied fire management offered by Feather River as it competes directly with a CSU degree program at Cal Poly and Humboldt.

Discussion and questions:

- a. Stated support for the last resolution. Asking to support Chico State programs on fire management and managing ecosystems in sustainable ways.
- b. Commented that CSU provides about 48% of teacher preparation for the State of California. Most conversation on that board is about censorship. Asking for curriculum to be open for CRT and EDI.
- c. Concern is alarming with the number of bills received in state legislation across the country.

Question: Is there a conversation about this issue at the statewide level? Indication of a resolution and position? Answer: ASCSU did pass a resolution condemning censorship of the curriculum.

- d. Commented that currently California has 20+ states on a banned states to travel list. Suggested to be ambassadors, diplomats, progressives, social justice activists in these other states and talk about these issues. However, stopped due to a travel ban.

Question: Will statewide have a position on this? Answer: The travel ban is a legislatively state mandated and was suggested for admin and Union to jointly collaborate on taking action at the statewide level.

- e. Suggested that FGA and JEDI – new group formed within ASCSU Justice Equity Diversity & Inclusivity groups can work together on censorship issues.
- f. Suggested to collaborate with Humboldt.
- g. Support shared for the resolution on the excess profit fee from gas and oil industries going into higher education especially for science, environment, climate change, social justice.
- h. One report mentioned Cozen O’Conner’s report on Title IX investigations.

Question: when will that report be available? And will it be available as a public document or only to a particular group? Answer: ASCSU suggested opening a repository of reports and making them available to ASCSU. Cozen O’Conner group was supportive of this idea. However, the group did not assess the time needed to complete this task and that is a reason for the delay in their response. Individual reports will be high level reports and should be received by campus presidents.

## 8. Standing Committees Reports

- Educational Policies and Programs Committee (EPPC) - Kralj
- [Faculty and Student Policies Committee \(FASP\)](#) - Sistrunk
- [Executive Committee](#) – Medic

EPPC report will be resented and reshared.

FASP report attached.

EC has met twice since the last Academic Senate meeting.

Reports attached. No questions.

## 9. Report: Senate Resolution Updates – Hutchinson – 3:00 pm

President Hutchinson provided updates on the Senate Resolution passed on December 16, 2022:

- a. The resolution called for an independent investigation of the campus response to Title IX and threats of violence.
- b. The Board of Trustees contracted Cozen O’Connor, an institutional response group, and launched in June 2022 an assessment of the system Title IX and discrimination, harassment, and

retaliation policies. The finding of these assessments will provide recommendations and suggested resources to advance the CSU mission around Title IX.

- c. On December 21, campus sent an all announcement with the Interim Chancellor's letter and a link to a survey. Another email about the systemwide assessment survey was sent on January 25. The survey closed on February 15.
- d. In March, expecting Cozen O'Connor's report and recommendations for each campus.
- e. The president will then convene an implementation team, which is directed by the Chancellor, and will include student, staff, and faculty members to begin work on implementing recommendations.
- f. The resolution called for an external review and examination of decisions regarding biology personnel matters. Vice President of HR Freeman is contracting an outside firm to conduct this review, which will begin this spring.
- g. The resolution called for pursuit of criminal charges and a gun violence restraining order. The campus worked with the State Attorney General's Office and the Department of Justice. Stachura remains on leave, is not teaching courses, not conducting research, and is prohibited from accessing the campus.
- h. A petition for a workplace violence restraining order was filed on February 8. On the same date, the court issued a temporary restraining order. A court date is pending.
- i. Chico State has received 12 collective grievances signed by 164 faculty members. Campus is working with the CFA. The CFA has agreed to consolidate 12 grievances into one grievance. The level one grievance meeting will be held on Friday, March 10 at 10am. The grievance is about all alleged violations of Article 37.1 health and safety of the CFA Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).
- j. A review of EM 19-23, which is the policy of faculty recognition and support committee, is ongoing. A review of EM 12-25 is underway, and an ad hoc committee is charged by the senate executive committee (EC) to review EM 12-25 and make recommendations for improvement.
- k. The University Police and Public Safety Advisory Committee (UPPSAC) will meet on February 27.
- l. Regarding safety measures, Holt Hall is having its keys changed to card swipes where this is applicable. Team met with fire marshal as many class doors are fire doors.
- m. Beginning on December 9, the president continued to provide updates on personnel matters and campus safety measures and forums, including the Chico State alert notification system whose process was updated.
- n. Working to develop a consistent digital messaging campaign to build awareness of campus safety resources, including a new web design.

Ashley Gibb from UCOMM provided updates on available safety resources:

- a. University communications worked on supporting action on the resolution regarding safety communications.
- b. Safety resources available on campus were shared as part of an ongoing education campaign. The campus safety webpage was shown during a meeting with all available resources, among which were the Chico State alert system, SafePlace, Counseling Center, the Health Center, the EAP, basic needs, the CARE team, Student Conduct, and the EDI office.
- c. The What to do website includes all scenarios and what to do list in different emergency situations e.g., shelter in place, active shooter, building evacuation. Alert messages will include the type of emergency, link to this webpage and steps of what to do to protect themselves.

Discussion and questions:

- a. Appreciation shared for progress made and work done.

Question: When will Stachura leave end? When can campus expect a firm decision about his employment? Answer: A notice about leave was made on February 7 and is ending in 60 days, until April 7. It can be extended while the investigation continues as this is a personnel matter issue.

Question: Resolution asked for a specific gun violence restraining order, which is a very specific restraining order that would bar Stachura from having access to guns. Was this type of order filed on February 7? How are the Attorney General and the DOJ involved in this case now? Answer: This was a workplace violence restraining order, which prohibits the owning of firearms, or arm parts and ammunition. In addition, the order prohibits Stachura from coming within 300 yards of a protected person, that being workplace. The Attorney General's Office and the Department of California Department of Justice are the legal counsel for the workplace violence restraining order and are doing all the legal work.

Question: Can language used to get the restraining order be shared? Answer: This is a public document available from the Butte County Superior Court.

- b. Appreciation shared for all the updates.

#### 10. Ask the Administrator

- a. Stated that Chair Paiva can collect questions and pass them onto the administrators.
- b. Question for Interim Provost Perez: in some departments, faculty were asked to raise course caps. What message was shared with deans and chairs? Are they directed to do this?
- c. Faculty are asking why are we being asked to raise caps when there is no indication in what direction enrollment is going? What are the ways in which caps can be lowered? What justification is there for this action?

#### 11. Proposed revision to [FPPP Range Elevation Process](#) – FASP Action Item

Chair Paiva introduced item 11:

- a. At the last meeting, the senate was discussing a motion. Discussion on the same motion will continue.
- b. This is an action item and proposals and amendments can be made.
- c. The motion on the table was to add under the 12.2.2a “or sooner if they qualify for a new contract (during years 1-3 of a 3-year contract)”.

Discussion and questions:

- a. The Chair Council suggested this language.
- b. Suggested this may not be an appropriate place within FPPP document.
- c. Stated that lecturers can obtain a range elevation in two ways: one is appointment at the time of their subsequential or new contract, and second is a formal range elevation process.
- d. This section of FPPP document is about the formal range elevation process and is referenced in CBA 12.18.
- e. Lecturers qualify for range elevation by reaching SSI max or are in their current range for five years. Lecturer faculty with six or more years of full-time adjusted service (FTAS) are eligible to apply for range elevation.
- f. Regular processes exist when deans and departments work with OAPL and identify eligible faculty that have 30 days to apply. If range elevation is denied, there is an appeal process.
- g. If deans find a candidate that meets standards for higher range, this process is described under section 5.2.5 and does not have a timeline. Lecturer faculty can be appointed to a different range at the start of a new semester contract.

h. Suggested that motion should be applied to 5.2.5 section rather than section 12.

Question: Is there a modification of this language that is acceptable? Answer: suggested moving this language to 5.2.5 as this will be presented at the next senate meeting.

i. Suggested to use a different language “the criteria above will be notified at least 30 days prior”. Senate voted on a motion, faculty only: 24 no, one yes. Motion does not pass.

Question: Are there any other OAPL concerns this body should be aware of? Answer: no.

The senate voted on item 11: 26 yes, no opposition. Item 11 was approved as an action item.

12. Proposed revision to [EM 19-033: Campus Sustainability Committee](#) – FASP Introduction Item – 3:30 pm  
FASP Chair Sistrunk introduced item 12:

- a. The committee was founded in 2011 and this is EM that talks about their work.
- b. Representatives from across campus worked on this policy and sustainable issues.
- c. Many different perspectives were shared, and discussions included experts in sustainability topics. Policy is broad and essential to campus work, supported by many.

Discussion and questions:

- a. A staff member appointed by the Staff Council has been removed. Part of shared governance document signed in 2017 and staff bylaws, this is how all staff members are appointed. Why was this removed? Concerns shared.
- b. Motion made to have a temporary postponement to solve the issue of not having a correct document. Second. Approved with no opposition. The senate had a 5-minute break.
- c. The senate obtained document previously passed by FASP on February 2. Discussion continued.
- d. Commented that membership regarding staff members is problematic and should be corrected.
- e. Commented that administration has the ability to determine final decisions on documents passed. Asking to be intentional when choosing who their designee may be and if membership is admin heavy, that this should be adjusted when faculty related decisions are made.
- f. Asked if this can be verified that this was indeed passed on February 2. FASP agenda shared and confirmed this item was on that agenda.
- g. Asked for this item to be returned to the committee due to a significant change in membership and new members being part of this committee. Another reason shared: there were 10 subcommittees working on this EM. Asking for the committee to identify ways to make work more efficient and not an obligation for some; extra workload stated as one of the reasons.
- h. Stated that finding time for many to meet and to have a quorum is a problem. Asking to involve people interested in this work.
- i. An official motion was made to send this item to a revision committee. Second. Clarified that specific roles and members can pertain to those who have expertise in these fields.
- j. Support shared. Asked to have actual experts rather than their designees.

Senate voted: 32 yes, no opposition. Item will be sent to the revision committee and then to FASP once revisions are done.

13. Proposed Name Change: [Chico Student Success Center](#) – EPPC Introduction Item  
EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 14:

- a. Currently, the group is known as the Chico Student Success Center.
- b. They would like to change it to REACH Student Success Center as it is more applicable to the 1<sup>st</sup> year program and tutoring.

Discussion:

- a. Asking to define acronym in a proposal.
- b. Stated that REACH was the original acronym but no longer used as such. It is used with the purpose to “reach” students.
- c. Asked why it is all capitalized. Rationale: it is part of all graphics and advertisements, expensive to change all.
- d. Asked to distinguish reasons for name change and its service.
- e. Clarified that REACH has been the name for the 1<sup>st</sup> year program within CSSC that serves low income and 1<sup>st</sup> gen students. The CSSC is an eligibility-based program and seems a more general type of group that can help all students for four years. Many have been turned down due to not being eligible. However, being a very successful group on campus, there is a need to change a name.

Senate voted: 30 yes, no opposition. Item 13 passed as an introduction item.

14. Proposed EM: [Policy on GPA Honors at Graduation](#) – EPPC Introduction Item – 2:45 pm

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 14:

- a. This is a name change and proposed change in GPA honors at graduation and needs to be aligned with others in the CSU system.
- b. Students that will receive this honor will increase from 8% to 29%.

Discussion and questions:

Question: Why was this done this year? Answer: Many years of issues brought by students led to this be discussed at the EPPC and now at the senate.

Question: Considering variations in GPAs across the system (Pomona at 3.5; East Bay 3.65; another at 3.4), was there a discussion in EPPC about what GPA should be applied and why at Chico State?

Answer: EPPC did not have concern about variation but rather about potential grade inflation.

However, that should have been addressed separately.

- a. EPPC asked for relative distribution of the awards to be included.
- b. This is important to align Chico State with other CSUs.
- c. Praise and appreciation shared to the authors for a comprehensive work on this document.

Senate voted: 31 yes, no opposition. Item 14 passed as an introduction item.

15. Proposed [New Minor: Astronomy](#) – EPPC Introduction Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 16:

- a. This minor will have two new courses and all other existing courses.
- b. There is support from Chico observatory.
- c. A minor opens the sciences to students who may not have a mathematics background, who may not have the academic preparation, but would like to get into the sciences.

Discussion:

- a. Stated that this minor was almost not approved by the library as there were not enough resources to support this minor.
- b. Concern shared that as more programs and minors are going forward through EPPC and senate, there may be some that do not have enough library resources as required.
- c. Lack of investments in a collection will impact the library’s ability to support courses.

- d. Commented that the attached letter by professor Nichols included completion of CHEM 107 or CHEM 111, but in the course requirements for the minor it lists only CHEM 107.

Question: Asking for rationale on including one and not both courses. Answer: no answer provided. Stated example: in another proposal, a higher-level chemistry course was the kind not suitable for all students but would double count. Not clear if the same applied in this case. Confirmed CHEM 111 is more advanced than CHEM 107.

- e. Concern shared that this minor may have more courses via hidden prerequisites for EARTH203.
- f. Stated that the EARTH department has submitted a CPCR to update that course and remove the prerequisites in support of this minor.

Senate voted: 30 yes, no opposition. Item passed as an introduction item.

16. Proposed Discontinuation: [Professional Accounting Certificate](#) – EPPC Introduction Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 17:

- a. This passed as an uncontroversial item at the EPPC.
- b. The major has 120 units; the certificate has 30 units, which brings up to 150 units required for a CPA license.
- c. It is no longer a viable program and has reported lower enrollment.
- d. There are other ways for students to obtain a CPA license.
- e. Consultation done with faculty and students. Recommended discontinuation.

Senate voted: 30 yes, no opposition. Item passed as an introduction item.

17. Proposed [New Option: MS in Nutrition, Option in Dietetics](#) – EPPC Introduction Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 18:

- a. Within the Master of Science in Nutritional Science, there are two options: general nutrition and nutrition education.
- b. This proposal would include a third option in dietetics.
- c. This is a more clinically focused option for those choosing the path of the Registered Dietitian.
- d. All registered dietitians will have to have a master's degree in 2024.
- e. There is faculty support to add a third option. This is a graduate level 30-unit program.

Discussion and questions:

- a. Commented that proposal stated expected number of students to be six.

Question: Is there a limiting factor to having only six or can this option accommodate more? Answer: At this point, yes. The clinical sites that pose the limitation, working to expand this number in the future.

- b. Suggested for rationale to include this plan.
- c. Commented this is an estimated number and there is no expectation this would be a final number.
- d. Commented that on page 6 and ongoing table included mode of delivery “regular”. If this is “in person”, suggested to be changed when brought as an action item to provide more clarity.

Senate voted: 29 yes, no opposition. Item passed as an introduction item.

18. Proposed EM: [Blended Bachelor’s and Master’s](#) – EPPC Introduction Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 19:



- a. This is EM coming from CO and this is the campus's version.
- b. A policy was established by the Chancellor's Office allowing CSU to have blended programs between undergrad and graduate, up to 12 units of graduate coursework being counted in the undergraduate (double counted).
- c. This can be developed by individual departments or joined between multiple departments.
- d. Questions discussed were: how are the programs determined? Who makes the approvals? What is the difference between major and minor changes? What can be replaced versus double counted?
- e. Potential to bring cross-collaboration between colleges and allow students to finish degrees at lower costs.

Discussion:

- a. Concern shared to charge those students more money for classes.
- b. Clarified that while students are in pursuit of an undergraduate degree, they will be charged an undergraduate fee even if they are taking a graduate level course. Therefore, while taking 120 units, the costs would be for an undergraduate degree. By double counting 12 units, they would pay only for 18 units in their graduate level courses and consequently pay less to obtain both degrees.
- c. Commented that campus removed courses that were e.g., AGRI499/599 meant for both undergraduate and graduate level students with slightly different syllabus for each. Suggested to view this as an opportunity to bring these types of courses back and continue discussion about what this means for faculty workload.
- d. Stated that campus may need some extra policy guidance.
- e. These courses would not affect scheduling. CO confirmed this.
- f. Asked to reference the current CO policy based on which this is allowed.
- g. Stated that several faculty have had undergraduate and graduate students. However, funds supporting them were not adequately awarded.
- h. Asking to have policy reference this type of financial and workload compensation for faculty members offering previously mentioned courses.
- i. Commented that international students are under a specific immigration legal status that limits them to work only on campus during time they are students. This group of students are sometimes required to leave the country to obtain an appropriate visa when going from undergraduate to graduate studies. Concern shared that international students participating in the blended program may be financially and legally impacted and may have further negative consequences not discussed in this EM.
- j. Commented students on F-1 status may have less impact than those going from J-1 to F-1 and would be forced to leave the country to obtain different status to continue graduate studies.

Question: was there any discussion on what impact this may have on international students? Was there any consultation done with the international office, more specifically with Tasha Alexander and AVP Jen Gruber as they have authority to provide documents (I-20) to international students coming to Chico State? Answer: Consultation occurred with AVP Gruber. Hope is this will attract more international students rather than negatively impact them. Students may enter the OPT program after finishing a bachelor's degree and then reenter master's (graduate) degree on campus. This is part of the existing EM policy. The chancellor's office in developing this policy took that into consideration and language indicated protection for international student's status.

- k. Clarified that it is possible to have a break in between bachelor's and master's degree and the moment when a student may stay or leave the country; that was a specific concern. Concern

shared if a time between the bachelor's and master's degree is more than 60 days. This may have negative legal implications for international students.

- l. Stated that OPT stands for Optional Practical Training and is allowed work for international students after they graduate within the field of study. This is limited to one year unless the student is in the STEM field, where it may be extended for an additional 17 months.
- m. Support shared for blended programs and the potential to increase enrollment, especially for graduate enrollment.
- n. Suggested to include examples of what is considered a major versus minor change.
- o. Commented that interdisciplinary studies courses do have both students and although it is distinguished how students are paying fee, it is not clearly compensating faculty for work they do within these courses.

Question: Will students be able to select 12 units, or would that be an individual decision made by departments? Answer: The program determines which courses can be used as 12 units, not students.

- p. Stated that if students start blended program but do not complete master's degree, they can only take a bachelor's degree.

Senate voted: 27 yes, no opposition. Item passed as an introduction item.

19. Other

20. Adjourn at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ana Medic, Academic Senate Secretary

For a direct link to all agenda items in Box, click [here](#).