Executive Committee Meeting
November 12, 2010

Present: Vasquez, Gasco, Norman, Kalayjian, Fawver, Verba, White, Brooks
Time Certain:
4:00 p.m. Provost’s Report-Ron Vogel

New Business
Vice Chair’s Report-Michael White-White reported that his charge was prepared and he passed it out for review. He said that he may not be able to be at the Academic Senate Meeting next week but to go ahead and present the charge.

The Red Balloon- Fawver said that messages from Jim Postma at ASCSU confirmed that the red balloon project – a project to “Re-Imagine Higher Education” was a campus-based initiative and does NOT come down from the Chancellor’s Office or the AASCU. There are seven CSU campuses that have signed on to get more information and participate in the discussion. At Fresno the Red Balloon initiative was held on 9/13/10.
http://www.csufresno.edu/academics/redballoon/

Title: The initiative is named the Red Balloon Project in honor of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), which sponsored a contest to find 10 red weather balloons randomly placed throughout the United States.

Definition: http://www.csufresno.edu/academics/redballoon/  AASCU Red Balloon: New Models for: Institutional Organization and Design (Academic Affairs - Student Affairs collaboration, new departmental, college structures) Enrollment Management (academic advising, tracking, early warning, predictive modeling) Faculty Workload (different kinds of faculty work, the use of part-time faculty) Curriculum (degrees limited to 120 hours, interdisciplinary programs, new designs for general education) Course Design (reduced seat time, student-centered learning, undergraduate research, project-based learning) Instructional Design (new forms of student engagement, use of technology in teaching, distance education)

Other CSU campuses: Chico and San Marcos are planning to host red balloon discussions. Provost Vogel’s response: Dominguez Hills displayed an interest but no commitment made. In September, 2010, president Garcia asked provost to investigate. Vogel turned it over to Mitch Maki who has not moved on it. Fawver asked if the Red Balloon initiative was is a way of actualizing goal #1 in the strategic plan and was told absolutely not.
FPC Report-Thomas Norman-FPC Report-Thomas Norman-There was a discussion about the RTP process. Kalayjian said that chairs are faculty not administrators. Fawver asked if this will address Vogel’s concerns or only one stage of it. Verba said that it won’t address problems but it is a real improvement. Right now faculty members have to worry about RTP in the summer instead of publishing. Norman said that some faculty members are being held to standards greater than department standards. Vasquez said that department guidelines should be in place when hired. Kalayjian noted that the level of review would be department/chair/dean under this proposal. Fawver said that the only protection for faculty would be the rebuttal. Verba said that this is an improvement over what we have and now we need to clarify and change the 1st and 4th paragraph. Vasquez said that we should share this information with as many of our colleagues as possible before our senate meeting.

Norman went over the new RTP resolution. Vogel said that it is more process than policy and we need to identify standards rather than definitions. Vasquez asked if Vogel’s website would be updated with the new information and Vogel said yes. Norman said that he would like to get from Vogel which ones he thinks are good examples of guidelines or standards rather than definitions.

Norman asked Vogel about clarification on his proposal for starting College level councils. The Faculty would elect members to the college level council. Faculty members don’t always trust the chairs so a college council would be another source of shared governance. The college councils are a faculty driven body for faculty and not driven by the administration.

Vogel said that he was uncomfortable with the lottery proposals and 1 time requests and he told the deans to go back to the faculty and to rate them. We need a hierarchy for the lottery dollars and the 1 time dollars. We will separate some money out. IT will be rolling out some new kind of computers. They are thin and less valuable to steal. They will be going into the student labs. Vogel said he is not committed to College Councils but that he believed it would promote more shared governance on campus.

EPC Report-Janine Gasco-Gasco’s committee is working on 2 resolutions that were not accepted by the provost/president. The first is on computer literacy and the second is on academic technology and distance learning. With regard to the Academic technology Cathy Jacobs said that it was intended to be guidelines. In EPC discussions about this, they noted that There are two elements to the issue, first providing guidelines to department curriculum committees and the university curriculum committee that can be used when evaluation new courses. A second element involves resources for faculty interested in developing a distance learning course. We are now seeking further information regarding guidelines from the system and what resources are available on campus.

The second resolution was on computer literacy which was intended to be made into policy. This involves a required assessment instrument students have to pass. The resolution called for
creation of a task force to create the exam. EPC is collecting information from campus offices about campus/system/WASC policies related to this.

Staff Schedule Survey - Vasquez said she is working with Tom Norman on a survey and will give a progress update soon. Gasco that we need to encourage our department to document the foot traffic and phone coverage Monday through Friday and keep a log for a few weeks. We will also put together a survey that Norman, Zhou and Kowalski will be working on.

Preparation of Senate Meeting Agenda:
EPC/FPC Report
Vice Chair Charge
Elections
Statewide Report
Shared Governance Resolution
Emeritus Status?

Provost’s Report - Ron Vogel - Vogel reported that the University Planning Committee had been closed down before he arrived. The president will re-activating the committee and they will be looking at the charge. Kalayjian said that some colleges elected their reps to the UPC with an annual term not knowing the committee was not in existence. Vogel said that they will be looking at the term length and UPC will rethink the charge.

Norman went over the new RTP resolution. Vogel said that it is more process than policy and we need to identify standards rather than definitions. Vasquez asked if Vogel’s website would be updated with the new information and Vogel said yes. Norman said that he would like to get from Vogel which ones he thinks are guidelines and not standards.

Norman asked Vogel about clarification on his proposal for starting College level committees. The Faculty determine the college level committee. Department chairs have that authority and faculty members don’t always trust the chairs in the RTP situation. It’s a faculty driven process for faculty and not driven by the administration.

Fawver said that she was confused. There is a relationship between the senate and the college level committees and the senate recommends policy to administration. The college committee is there to execute policy.

Gasco said that she does not see any problem with the way things are. Chairs are okay and department senators are okay. It should come from the bottom up and right now she has not been hearing anything no rumbling. Not always sure hearing a broad based concern or a personal issue. Vasquez suggested that workshops be held for faculty members writing chairs letters and college level letters.

Gasco said that a copy of the department guidelines should be included in the faculty members WPAF. Kalayjian said that RTP guidelines, criteria and standards are not the same. She is more
comfortable with guidelines and not standards which is an absolute measure. Vogel said that the communications department has a good model.

There was a discussion about chair’s councils and college councils. Vogel said that college councils all over the USA in all institutions and very much in favor of faculty governance and pretty much pro forma. Check out Fullerton and Long Beach they use them and the ideal is to share more governance.

White said that he is comfortable with guidelines and uncomfortable with standards and agrees that guidelines should be included in the RTP.

Vogel said that he was uncomfortable with the lottery proposals and 1 time requests and he told the deans to go back to the faculty and to rage them. We need a hierarchy for the lottery dollars and the 1 time dollars. We will separate some money out. IT will be rolling out some new kind of computers. They are thin and more difficult to steal. They will be going into the student labs. Vogel said he is not committed to College Councils but that he believed it would promote more shared governance on campus.

Vogel was asked about the red balloon project. He said that in September he received an email from the president and it said that it looked interesting. Vogel put Mitch Maki down as a contact person and sent Maki an email. We are not doing the red balloon but we would like to see the reports.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:30 p.m.