

Budget and Planning Committee Minutes

Academic Senate, CSU, Bakersfield

Thursday, January 26, 2023

10:00-11:30 AM

In-Person and ZOOM

I. Call to order – 10 AM by Chair Charles Lam

Present: Andrea Anderson, Vernon Harper (ex officio), Natasha Hayes (ex officio, for Thom Davis), Aaron Hegde (ex officio), Luis Hernandez, Jackie Kegley, Charles Lam (Chair), Ilaria Pesco, Tracey Salisbury, Adam Sawyer, Carson Vollmer, and Angela (substitute for Di Wu).

II. Approval of Minutes & Agenda

1. Minutes from November 17, 2022

Motion: J. Kegley. T. Salisbury second. Approved.

2. Agenda – approved.

III. New Business

1. Referral 21 – Academic Advising Recommendations

- C. Lam presented Senate Executive Committee decided to simply the resolution to focus just on the need for a Director of Academic Advising
- V. Harper wrote a letter to the Senate Executive Committee discussing the rationale for a Director of Academic Advising including:
 - A seat at the table to further the discussion of advising with the Provost – we are one of two campuses without this role
 - Problem solver and consultant – internal individual that we trust to lead the conversation on a more effective advising structure
 - Systemwide representative
 - Partner
 - This position will not increase the amount of MPP's; there is already a vacant line for the position
- T. Salisbury asked if it is still in the plan that faculty be involved with more mentoring of students rather than advising. V. Harper believes that this position will help guide us to these answers.
- J. Kegley mentioned that this has been a discussion in the WSCUC committee and she believes it is one of our biggest weaknesses and this position will show WSCUC that we are serious about changing advising.
- C. Vollmer stated that this resolution is a step in the right direction of showing the students that CSUB is trying to make changes and improve advising.
- I. Pesco stated this is the minimum we can do to show WSCUC that we are serious about making changes to advising
- Motion to approve Referral 21 by C. Lam second by J. Kegley – passed unanimously.

2. Referral 20 – RTP Review Calendar Timeline

- C. Lam presented the referral to adjust the RTP review calendar because it goes until the end of the academic year and doesn't allow the other entities enough time to review the files. For international faculty, their work visa is dependent on their RTP review.

With the process taking until the end of the academic year, it causes HR to have to use an expediated process which costs \$2500 in order to have that faculty member's work visa by the start of the Fall semester which is a huge financial burden for CSUB.

- BPC reviewed the University Handbook policy on RTP review and the current RTP calendar for 2 faculty year review and 3-6 faculty year review
- V. Harper told the group that he has a memo from the president delegating the completion of the RTP process to him. She can revoke that memo at any time.
- T. Salisbury brought up that Ethnic Studies doesn't have tenured faculty and are using tenured faculty in other departments who also have time pressures. The online process of submitting the RTP files is cumbersome, and faculty are stressed by the time it takes to create their file.
- C. Lam mentioned that from the URC perspective it would be great for files to be sent to URC before winter break.
- N. Hayes asked if there are contractual issues if faculty are reviewing RTP files during winter break.
- I. Pesco and J. Kegley both feel comfortable with suggestions made

IV. Old Business

1. Referral 01 – Time Blocks and Space Utilization

- C. Lam presented an option for time blocks including the request to eliminate the 1-hour time block on M/W/F. In looking at other CSU's, they all have kept the 1-hour time block in the morning. If we do not have classes on Friday, then we will have low classroom utilization which will affect our ability to get new buildings on campus.
- I. Pesco said that not having Friday classes would create a party culture in the residence halls and give students a 3-day weekend. Campuses across the country are working to add more Friday classes to avoid that.
- T. Salisbury stated we need to stop spreading that students won't come to classes on Friday. We need to hold students accountable for not coming to classes. Ethnic Studies will be having classes on M/W/F because we aren't able to get time blocks on T/Th.
- C. Vollmer said that students will go to classes on Fridays because they need the course. We need to also pay attention to how late classes are going to go.
- C. Lam showed some other changes in the proposal. M/W – 75-minute classes – they must pair up with a class of the similar size who is going to use Friday in order to have that class on M/W. Priority is given to those who can utilize the room over all days M/W/F.
- C. Lam forwarded this tentative plan to Faust Gorham and Tommy Holiwell for feedback.
- T. Salisbury spoke to the Ethnic Studies faculty and they liked the idea of 3-hour class one day a week.
- I. Pesco asked which plan would allow for the most utilization. C. Lam said that Friday is a big issue and faculty feel like students won't take classes on Friday. CSU calculates utilization by the minutes. This schedule builds in an extra 5-10 minutes for each class to increase utilization.
- C. Vollmer asked if anyone is looking at the classrooms after the drop date to make sure that classes are the appropriate size classroom for the students they have. V. Harper said that Dr. Dirkse used to do that and isn't sure if someone else is doing that.
- C. Lam reminded the group that our charge is to look at time blocks and Academic Operations will look at utilization.

- C. Vollmer shared the survey results from last semester where 254 responded and 55% prefer 50-minute classes, 36% preferred 75-minute classes, and only one student said they preferred 90-minute classes. There might be pushback from students on 3-hour long classes.
- T. Salisbury said that when you go to grad school you have 3-hour classes so it is standard practice and students will need to get on board so that we can be more of a competitive institution. BC has both 90-minute and 3-hour classes.
- I. Pesco mentioned that at her alma mater 3-hour classes were for upper division courses.
- J. Kegley asked why the time blocks ended at 1:50 pm. C. Lam said that is how it currently is and we can add additional time blocks.
- C. Lam asked for us to continue to review the proposed time blocks and asked that we be ready to discuss it again at our next meeting.

Motion to adjourn by C. Lam and seconded by T. Salisbury. Meeting adjourned at: 11:30 a.m.
Minutes submitted by Ilaria Pesco 1/26/23