



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

SDSU Senate Minutes

Dec 1, 2020

[Online via Zoom](#)

2:00 to 4:30 pm

Weston, Smigel, Juan, Lach, Csomay, Alkebulan, Gill, Record, Gibbons, Werry, Adams, Wheeler, MacKenzie, Marino, Vaughn, Samraj, Sabol, Lenoue, Reeder, Swanson, Attiq, Love, Atkins, Espinosa, Abel, Mills, Lindemann, Schulze, Hentschel, Mattingly, Abdel-Nour, Mladenov, Interlando, Chie, Manzanares, Tang, Corlett, Kraemer, Cappello, Bernerth, Krivogorsky, Canary, Goldberg, Bani, Younes, Shiver, Gontz, Kressler, Orosz, Marx, Wills, Tucker, Brazzel, Abusham, Stoskopf, Sharma, Ahsan, Kerianne, McDaniels-Davidson, Gates, Mahar, Laurie, Peraza, Brown, Balsdon, Holt, Madanat, O'Brien, Blomgren, Atterton, Wood, Gubellini, Barbone, Livers, Nedjat-Haiem, Szakmary, Sears, Duesbery, Bliss Ornatowski, Seshan, Mladenov, Brown, Alfaro, Preciado, Brooks,

Guests- Almost 800 participants were present at the zoom meeting. These included the senators listed above, senators that did not sign-in, and SDSU students and campus stakeholders interested in various items on the agenda.

Please note that the meeting was interrupted and that a zoom recording does not exist for the second part of the meeting that resumed after the brief pause to re-establish order.

1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement, and Principles of Shared Governance:

Land Acknowledgement: Chair Weston reads the Kumeyaay Land Acknowledgement.

We stand upon a land that carries the footsteps of millennia of Kumeyaay people. They are a people whose traditional lifeways intertwine with a worldview of earth and sky in a community of living beings. This land is part of a relationship that has nourished, healed, protected and embraced the Kumeyaay people to the present day. It is part of a world view founded in the harmony of the cycles of the sky and balance in the forces of life. For the Kumeyaay, red and black represent the balance of those forces that provide for harmony within our bodies as well as the world around us.

As students, faculty, staff and alumni of San Diego State University we acknowledge this legacy from the Kumeyaay. We promote this balance in life as we pursue our goals of knowledge and understanding. We find inspiration in the Kumeyaay spirit to open our minds and hearts. It is the legacy of the red and black. It is the land of the Kumeyaay.

Eyay e'Hunn My heart is good.

Michael Miskwish – Kumeyaay

Principles of Shared Governance: Chair Weston reads the principles statement.

Trust is recognized as a fundamental ingredient that is essential for effective shared governance. Without trust, the practices of partnership, inclusion, open communication, ownership, and accountability are likely to break down. SDSU community members have identified three key principles for shared governance at SDSU that all rely on the fundamental ingredient of TRUST: Respect, Communication, Responsibility.

2. Approval of Agenda (Preciado)

Chair Weston seeks a motion from Secretary Preciado to approve the agenda waiving the 4-day rule for the entire packet noting the requirement of a 2/3 vote for the waiver to be approved. The Thanksgiving break and the vacancy of the senate analyst position prevented the officers from posting the agenda in manner that meets our standard procedures. Preciado/Fuller move approval of the agenda for December 1, 2020 seeking a waiver of the 4-day rule for the entire agenda packet. Motion carried without objection.

3. Officers Report

3.1. Referrals Chart (Butler-Byrd).....3

Vice Chair Butler-Bryd indicated that there are 39 items on the tracking document. She thanked the Constitution and Bylaws, Academic Policy and Planning, and Faculty Affairs committees for their efforts with a number of recent referrals. The vice chair reminded senators that items on the tracking table remain listed until the Senate Office completes all needed actions for the specific item.

3.2. Senate Budget Update (Fuller)

Treasurer Fuller reported that a 2021-22 academic year budget has been submitted to PBAC. There are no major changes to the budget for the new fiscal year. Treasurer Fuller described new advocacy efforts by the officers to transition from the annual process to approve University Senate budget with one-time funding to a base-funding support model. The annual process to establish the budget is stressful and limits planning activities.

3.3. Senate Minutes Oct. 6th, 2020 (Preciado) [LINK to Minutes](#)

Preciado/Fuller moved approval of the October 6, Senate Meeting minutes. Motion carried without objection.

4. Academic Affairs Report

4.1. President (de la Torre)



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President De la Torre offered remarks in the following topics-

COVID-19 Pandemic- Conditions for State California continue deteriorate. The State is in the beginning of an expected 8-week surge that is increasing rates of infection, hospitalization and subsequent morbidity and mortality rates. The Governor has announced the implementation of additional measures at the State and county levels that will ensue to address the surge during holiday period and winter break.

Spring 21 Reopening- CSU Stanislaus has already announced that they will delay in-person classes for their campus until February 1 to allow for additional testing prior to anyone returning to campus. A CSU systemwide conversation is underway to determine additional actions though none have been announced as of today. This may include a delay in repopulation dates or in-person instruction activities, but not the actual start date of the semester.

Early Exit Program (EEP) - The impact of the EEP program is clearer now. The campus has realized 9.4 million in base budget savings which assumes and included a 20% backfill. This does not close our base budget deficit (of 35.5 million) but it helps significantly. 10% backfill funds are being released now to the divisions so that they can take action to fill critical needs created by the EEP vacancies. Aim is to address the most pressing staffing challenges to maintain campus operations.

Campus Budget Process- Divisions will submit budget requests for the 2021/22 fiscal year in February. During the months of March through May the COVP, PBAC and UR&P committees will be involved in campus budget deliberations. The Office of the President will host a townhall focused on the budget in February. President De la Torre will approve the budget in late May or early June. Spring PBAC emergency budget requests will be considered this month. The typical State budget cycle includes January Governor's budget message, the mid May Budget Revise and the adoption of the final CA Budget by June 15. The SDSU campus budget planning process cycle is informed and follows the three CA budget events.

CSU Budget and State of California- CSU Board of Trustees have submitted an ambitious budget request to the State that restores the base budget cut of \$299 million to the System in 2020/21; requests additional \$150 million in recurring funds for efforts including G-2025; requests additional resources to cover increased fixed cost such as healthcare, pension, minimum wage; and one-time capital costs. The CSU is also requesting, \$16.5 million to address the new Ethnic Studies mandate.

Final Prepared Remarks about Future- Moving forward the campus must continue to explore efficiencies in operations and a new “openness to generate new dollars”. “It is important that faculty both those that engage deeply in the senate process and those who are not ---to understand and engage in conversations about what choices they want to make for the future.” The Committee on University Resources and Planning should be a resource to the campus community to engage in such conversations.

Questions from the Senate:

ASCSU Senator Csomay seeks clarification in the process to change spring break. President De la Torre prefers to engage in a broader conversation as part the agenda Item 5.2. Senator Shackelford seeks to gain understanding regarding the campus investment of \$30 Million in Mission Valley from Academic Affairs, a fund that was built with consorted efforts over time to support and sustain the academic program. President De la Torre clarifies that the investment of 30 million is for two innovation districts (SDSU Mission Valley and SDSU Imperial Valley). Interim Vice President Manadat offers additional comments about the opportunity ahead for students and faculty researchers in the development of the two innovation districts.

4.2. Provost’s Report (Ochoa)

Provost Ochoa provided brief updates on summer session and faculty hiring. Summer Session planning is underway with all the colleges. The associate deans in each college are working to expand summer session offerings. Student surveys responses are being used to inform the expansion with the ultimate goals of supporting students in their progress to graduation. The faculty recruitment process is underway. The president authorized positions and the final efforts to consult with the deans and the University Senate Tenure-Track Planning Committee. This committee advises the provost and its members include the University Senate chair and committee chairs of AP&P, UR&P, Faculty Affairs, and DEI. The Provost indicated his satisfaction to include among the searches the African American cluster hire positions. These include position in political science, social work, mental health, and other areas. The Provost is reviewing the impacts of EEP program with deans and will be working on filling some critical needs positions. Academic Affairs had 67 faculty and staff participate in the EEP. In terms of the budget process for the new cycle, Provost Ochoa will host a retreat with deans, AVPs, senate officers, and representatives from Academic Affairs units that serve on UR&P. This retreat follows last year’s model where everyone can ask questions and help prioritize Academic Affairs budget requests.

4.3. Research and Innovation Update (Madanat)

Interim Vice President Madanat provided updates related to the Research and Innovation Division. First, 57 proposals were received for the call for faculty course release awards for research Spring 21 competition. 26 proposals were funded from across the colleges. The second announcement was related to a request for researchers



to continue strict adherence to COVID-19 on-campus research activities. The aim is to prevent COVID-19 impacts in labs. A campus notice will be sent to all researchers with approved plans.

5. Senate Actions (Weston)

5.1. Graduate Council (Gill, Balsdon) **Time Certain 3:30pm**.....20

- a. *Mirrored grad programs in Master’s of Public Health - Epidemiology* (~~2/3 vote~~).20
- b. *Mirrored grad programs in Master’s of Social Work* (~~2/3 vote~~).....27

The programs were presented by the directors of the School of Social Work and the School of Public Health. The dean of the Global Campus also provided details.

No Zoom recording exists for the second part of the meeting (after the pause). There was a motion to refer the item to the next meeting of the University Senate (February 2, 2021). **The vote was recorded by the Senate Secretary as 39 yes, 14 no, and 7 abstentions.**

5.2. Proposed Emergency Change to SPRING 2021 Academic Calendar (Joanna Brooks, Eyal Oren) **Time Certain 3:15pm**.....35

AVP Joanna Brooks introduced a new proposal to the revise the Spring 2021 Academic Calendar. The proposal was to eliminate the traditional spring break, and distribute the 4 non instructional days throughout the semester as “rest and recovery days” during the semester. These days would be Friday, February 12; Monday, March 8; Tuesday, March 30, 2021; and Thursday, April 15.

The proposal was presented as an effort to support the health and well-being of the campus community and had the support of a series of speakers (faculty and students) led by director of the School of Public Health. Letters from the County of San Diego public health officer, the School of Public Health faculty and a third letter from public health students accompanied the proposal.

Energetic opposition was presented by students led by AS President/Senator Holt. In addition, there were significant comments and points of concern offered on the zoom chat. Senator Holt and student leaders offered alternative viewpoints to those presented by the public health faculty and students. Specifically, Senator Holt indicated successful implementation and positive results from his experience working with the University to support students and other campus stakeholders in their health and well-being during the Fall 2020 semester.

The meeting was paused to re-establish order. There is no record of additional debate. A motion to adopt the proposed academic calendar was successful. The vote was recorded by the Senate Secretary as: 44 yes; 28 no; and 7 abstentions. Motion was approved.

5.3. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee- Policy File Update- Department Diversity Councils (Gloria Rhodes).....44

DEI moves approval of the following policy file update to include new organizational units and to establish unit diversity councils and functions. **Motion carries without objection** (yellow highlights are the actual policy file updates).

Section: Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity

Current:

7.0 Diversity Liaisons

7.1 The administrative heads of each college, SDSU Imperial Valley, the Library, Global Campus, Business and Financial Affairs, Student Affairs and Campus Diversity, Information Technology, Research Affairs, and University Advancement in consultation with the Director of the Office of Employee Relations and Compliance shall recommend two Diversity Liaisons to the Chief Diversity Officer. Nominees for these positions shall be from among tenured faculty and permanent staff.

7.2 The Diversity Liaisons

- a) Shall serve as liaison between the Chief Diversity Officer and the unit diversity councils as well as other members of the units;
- b) shall offer informal advice and counseling to their peers regarding diversity and discrimination;
- c) shall direct concerned students and employees to the Office of Employee Relations and Compliance, to the Chief Diversity Officer, or to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibility; and
- d) shall report to the Chief Diversity Officer on existing and new diversity initiatives within their respective units.

7.3. The Chief Diversity Officer, in consultation with the Office of Employee Relations and Compliance shall hold regular meetings of the Diversity Liaisons to respond to their concerns, to discuss diversity initiatives, and to inform them of recent developments in policy and law.

Add:

8.0 Diversity Councils

8.1 To ensure effective shared governance, transparency and broad sharing of relevant information from all voices regarding diversity, inclusion and equity, each college, SDSU Imperial Valley, the Library, Global Campus,



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Business and Financial Affairs, Student Affairs and Campus Diversity, Information Technology, Research Affairs, and University Advancement shall establish a standing Diversity Council.

8.2 The Diversity Councils

- a) shall review, advise, and provide feedback to the unit's leadership regarding matters related to students, staff and faculty diversity, equity, and inclusion;
- b) shall provide guidance and support for the development, implementation and on-going assessment of unit diversity plans; and
- c) may be involved in coordinating DEI initiatives within and across units and contributing to campus DEI initiatives.

8.3 Each unit shall establish a process for ensuring that the composition of the Diversity Council includes broad representation of the unit's employees and, as appropriate, students.

5.4. Undergraduate Council (UC): Writing Placement Assessment (WPA) waiver for Covid-19 impacted semesters (Joanna Brooks) [20/21_13].....45

UC Chair Brooks introduced the new option to take the WPA exam online. In Spring 2020, the WPA was waived because the test could not be offered. All students were expected to meet the graduation requirement by enrolling in the designated writing courses. The waiver for taking the exam extended to the Fall 2020 semester. For the Spring 21 semester- students will have a new option to take the WPA online. The UC recommends the adoption of new online pathway to take the WPA exam as part of process to meet the writing graduation requirement.

Undergraduate Council moves to approve new online WPA test as part of the process to meet the writing graduation requirement. Motion is approved without objection.

5.5. Committee on Committees and Elections (David Marx).....46

The CCE moves approval of the following appointments to committee- Donna Ross (EDU) to the Intercollegiate Athletic Council and Magdalena Altamirano (SDSU Imperial Valley) to the library Committee. Motion was approved without objection.

5.6. Proposed SDSU Mission Statement (VP Luke Wood).....47

The new SDSU mission statement proposal was presented to the University Senate for its consideration by Vice President Wood. Dr. Wood provided an overview of the strategic planning process (involved 4,000 campus stakeholders) to develop the campus strategic plan “We Rise/We Defy”. A component of the plan was the adoption of a new mission statement that adopted the values and themes from the plan and matched the mission statements of SDSU’s aspirational universities.

Discussion was divided into two divergent positions. One position was to support the adoption of the new mission statement as it was the culmination of a broadly consultative and iterative process. The language before the Senate is the byproduct of careful review, expert led guidance by consultants, and support from the executive committee of the “We Rise/We Defy” Strategic Plan.

The other position centered on advocacy for retaining the existing mission statement.

The discussion resumed after the pause of the meeting to re-establish order. There is no zoom recording of the discussion. The Senate Secretary recorded a vote of a motion to adopt the new proposal. **The motion failed with the following vote: 20 yes; 29 no; and 14 abstentions.**

5.7. Senate Vote on conferral of degrees (Tam Lieu) **Time Certain 2:45pm**

Office of the Registrar representative Tam Lieu presented the list of the students for December 2020 graduation. Faculty have been provided ballots for undergraduate and graduate students. The list is of late applicants for graduation. Chair Weston seeks a motion to approve the names for graduation by acclamation. Senator Greiner/Fuller made such a motion. Motion carries without objection.

6. Committee Reports

6.1. Academic Policy & Planning (Hopkins) [19/20_09].....48

6.2. Graduate Council (Gill) **Time Certain 3:30pm**

a. 2021-2022 *Graduate Bulletin*.....49

b. 2021-2022 *General Catalog and Graduate Bulletin*.....58

6.3 University Relations and Development (Adrienne Vargas).....62

6.4 Zoom hold & Duo rollout (VP Sheehan) **Time Certain 3:45pm**

7. Announcements (Weston)Adjourn.