

# SAS February 27, 2014

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## *Call to order*

**CHAIR** calls the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

## *Attendance*

Kelsie Miller, CHAIR

Valry Hensel, Administrative Assistant

All senators are present except **Science Ed**, **Political Science**, who are absent, and **Family and Consumer Science**, who is excused.

Present in the gallery: Marilyn Levine, Jesse Nelsen, Bryan Elliott

## *Additions or Corrections to the Agenda*

**CHAIR** would like to strike Learning Commons from, and add WSA to, the agenda.

Provost Levine will speak for 20 minutes and take questions after

## *Approval of the Agenda*

**Physics** moves to approve the agenda. **English** seconds. No discussion. **PASSED**

## *Approval of the Minutes from February 13, 2014*

**Geology** moves to approve the minutes from February 13, 2014. **Management** seconds. **English** wants to approve the minutes with correction to include the description of the Student Rights and Advocacy Committee. **Geology** accepts friendly amendment. **PASSED**

## *Announcements*

Student Computer Lab Usage Survey

**CHAIR** encourages senators to complete and promote the lab survey in order to accurately assess lab fees. **Geology** asks if there is a spot for comments, questions and concerns. **Gallery, Provost Levine** confirms that there is.

## *Communications*

(none)

## *Tabled Items*

(none)

## *New Business*

### Presentations

Provost's Report. Provost Levine is the Chief Academic Officer. The provost speaks highly of the excellence of the Student Board of Directors, and of the quality of questions the senators ask

A "Tsunami of Change" is occurring on campus. Provost Levine wants to engage the senate and other bodies on campus. The Washington state legislature claims to support higher education and students, but three years ago WA ranked 50<sup>th</sup> in the nation for state support for public higher education. In 2012 it ranked 49<sup>th</sup> and in 2013 it was ranked 48<sup>th</sup>. The current state budget accounts for 16% of campus funding. Amongst the changes occurring on campus, three of the biggest include:

iCAT \$7 million has been invested in updating CWU's online presence and use of digital technology to provide greater efficiency and seamlessness. Collecting more complete organizational effectiveness data will improve the services provided for students and the quality of education they receive.

University Faculty Criteria Guidelines CWU's comprehensive post-tenure review occurs every five years with a required portfolio submission (the criteria of which is decided by each department). Financial incentives serve as rewards for professors who exceed standards. University-wide criteria were out of date; the provost is working on updating these criteria and Version 5 of the University Faculty Criteria Guidelines will be released during the first week of March and will be reviewed by the departments.

Responsibility-Centered Management Because CWU operates four days out of every week as a de-facto private university, the current financial model needs revision and the university administration is focused on maintaining and improving the quality of education provided. The deans of each college will administer budgets, with the provost in oversight. This model stresses revenue generation, but focuses largely on how departments can reduce costs (more effective scheduling, work load assignments, utilizing data to improve student-based decisions) by improving the efficient use of current resources. The pilot for this model will begin in July 2014. The deans are currently completing scenario plans with faculty to increase student retention and success. External auditors have praised the transparency of Central's leadership, and are confident in the potential for the success of this model.

Questions Speakers List: **Geology, Economics, English, Computer Science, Biology, Nutrition, DHC**

**Geology** Tenure-track positions are being reduced, what is CWU doing to increase positions? **Provost Levine** Nationally the ratio of tenure-to-adjunct is in favor of adjunct positions. At Harvard University, 56% of general education course are taught by adjunct faculty. CWU aims to avoid the national trend by increasing tenure-track positions. CWU currently hosts 30% adjunct faculty with 70% of faculty either tenured or tenure-track.

**Geology** What is the cost of the proposed changes? **Provost Levine** confirms that changes will be costly, and a 6% increase in tuition is anticipated, compared to Western Washington University, Washington State University and the University of Washington which have all raised tuition.

**Economics** With the rising cost of tuition and poverty has CWU advocated for "Pay it Forward?" **Provost Levine** Some are arguing for it, but have been less successful. **Provost Levine** believes it is a bad plan, because it increases debt astronomically. Washington and Oregon was already 26% behind other states before the decline in state funding. CWU has instead increased the availability of tuition waivers and scholarships. Under the new revenue model, \$0.11 of every dollar paid in tuition is set aside for waivers and scholarships to help ensure opportunity in higher education.

**English** expresses her appreciation for Provost Levine's presence. Regarding the "intrusive advising" policy – What if departments already have advising deficiencies? **Gallery, Jesse Nelsen** acknowledges that the availability and quality of advising varies across majors. Some departments have been able to fund advising at high levels. University-wide enrollment by department is currently being reviewed to improve human resources. **Provost Levine** wants full-time professional advisers to be available for deployment to departments as such need arises, and wants to find funding for this proposal. Faculty contracts include a "service" component and accountability will be enforced. Professional advisers would know how to read student data appropriately. Provost Levine believes it is "value added" for

increases in cost. Rearranging and reorganizing the management of CWU will improve the quality provided.

**English** How can students trust that the changes made will be implemented as promised? **Provost Levine** cites her successful record of accomplishing short-term, mid-term, and long-term goal. Improved faculty participation and high-quality changes have been signs of success, and thus reliability.

**Computer Science** expresses concern that there has been a disregard of student feedback by the administration. He cites “Dead Day” as an example, whereby the senate was misinformed about how that change would be implemented when it voted upon the decision. **Provost Levine** shares that there were 600 respondents (out of 10,000 students) who provided excellent feedback and the Faculty Development Day initiative is being changed in response to that feedback.

**Computer Science** cites the Wellington Wildcat logo change, whereby one student created and completed the survey. Where was the accountability? **Provost Levine** acknowledges that it was a slip-up and could have been handled better. However, *critical* concerns on campus have been addressed and student feedback has not only been requested by the administration but actively listened to. **Provost Levine** brought Dead Day to attention: the pilot was not successful, and a change is thus to be implemented. She will endeavor to improve communication between students and administration; several such improvements have been implemented.

**Biology** moves to exhaust speakers list. **English** seconds. **PASSED**

**Geology** moves to reconsider the hasty motion, and reminds the senate that students don’t typically get the opportunity to speak with the provost.

**English** Proposes that the provost provide contact information for further questions. **Jesse Nelsen** volunteers to serve as intermediary.

**Geology** withdraws motion.

**Nutrition** The Nutrition department has seen a dramatic increase in enrollment, yet the budget is shrinking. Three professors are to be hired. With the budget as strict and tight as it is, how can students advocate to professors that they need more courses? **Provost Levine** Departmental leadership has advocated for increased faculty and has increased funding to improve course sequencing.

**DHC** provides a critique of tenure-track bonuses rewarding faculty for the wrong reasons. What is Central’s policy for providing incentives to professors? **Provost Levine** Faculty Senate Committee has spent three years reviewing the policies. A diversity of methods will be utilized, with teaching excellence prioritized. Academic Leadership Team was created with a \$50,000 per year budget to spend on faculty professional development that encourages scholarship as pedagogy, not just research. **Provost Levine** believes that the purpose of tenure is to protect relevant, academic free speech in the classroom; not to be a straightjacket for faculty to conform to specific parameters. CWU’s emphasis on teaching excellence and the philosophy of tenure-track awards will ensure that faculty are rewarded for appropriate, superior work.

**Biology** Some schools use resources to invest in businesses. **Provost Levine** CWU will not be working with businesses. An example of entrepreneurial revenue generation is CWU granting permission to allow faculty to patent their work, and to market the tremendous scholarship produced at Central.

WSA: Organizing Director JulieAnne Behar The Washington Student Association is a nonprofit coalition of four-year colleges which brings together student voices, and which lobbies for issues of student concern.

**Geology** moves to take a five-minute recess. **Management** seconds. **ITAM** opposes. **PASSED**

The meeting is recessed at 8:31 PM and reconvenes at 8:36 PM

**WSA** All CWU students are members of the WSA. The organization was established in 1982 after 30% tuition hike in 1979. Students joined forces to lobby for affordable higher education. Central's WSA branch meets every Thursday at 4 PM in the BOD Conference Room. The WSA Board of Directors and student lobbyist teams work toward advocating for current issues. New, dedicated sources (such as unclaimed state lottery funds, marijuana taxes) of state revenue are being investigated in order to lower the costs of higher education. 2013 was the first year in 30 years that there was not a tuition hike.

Currently 40 bills are being pushed forward, including the Dream/Real Hope Act, which was signed into law on February 23, 2014. The WSA is also working toward eliminating the 1-year residency requirement for military veterans seeking in-state tuition. The Motor Voter program would allow 16 and 17 year olds to pre-register to vote at state-wide DMVs. Another goal is eliminating differential tuition, which requires that students pay higher tuition rates for certain subjects.

**ITAM Alt** Legislators have heard nothing about differential tuition.

**Biology** If this came about, how much would it increase tuition? **WSA JULIANNE** doesn't have data.

**Geology** Enormous lab fees are already incurred by students in, for example, STEM courses.

The WSA provides legislative bill tracking and research; paid internships in Olympia and membership to the United States Student Association.

**ITAM** What is the student fee for membership? **CHAIR** \$1.25

#### Academic Appeals Process

Claire Held, senator for **Nutrition** is the student representative on the Academic Affairs Committee, and is working on student advocacy. Academic grade appeals are available when a student has suffered violation of his or her academic and disability rights. Richard DeSchiels, in Bouillon 204, is available by appointment to assist with the procedure. Grade Appeal Committee oversees the process.

**Nutrition** emphasizes that forms must be submitted within two quarters of the contested grade and encourages senators to disseminate this information to their students.

**Geology** The Student Rights and Advocacy committee recently reviewed this topic. **Geology** emphasizes the importance of following the timeline and instructions clearly.

**Nutrition** adds that two references are also required.

**DHC** Is the committee currently reevaluating the procedure? **Nutrition** confirms that a new packet will be used by Fall 2014.

**Computer Science** There appear to be differences in the process Nutrition is presenting vs. the Policy Manual.

**DHC** inconsistencies existed even within the same document.

**Nutrition** adds that the review is still in the works

**Gallery, Jesse Nelsen** clarifies that there are two methods of appeal: one for arbitrary grading and one for discrimination, each with a different process for redress. He emphasizes that retaliation from professors will have harsh consequences (on the faculty), and does not want students to feel proactively intimidated by such a concern.

#### Funds requests

**Military Science: Bryan Elliott** requests \$1500 for the Army ROTC's portion of Military Ball registration expenses. The ball is a joint Army and Air Force event, and approximately 100-150 Army cadets and guests are expected to attend. Funds will only be used for CWU students (with a ticket system in place to ensure accountability).

Questions: **Biology** inquires about the purpose of such events. **Gallery, BE** These events allow younger officers to become acquainted with the traditions of the military. **Computer Science** Appreciates "mission-briefing" style slideshow. **Philosophy & Religious Studies** receives confirmation that none of the SAS-allocated funds will be used for non-students, and inquires about the cost of food being included on the request. **Gallery, BE** states that he submitted an exception request to cover costs of food, since food is included in the registration costs of this event.

**Communication** moves to approve the full amount. **LLSE** seconds. **PASSED**

**Aviation:** Laura Waingrow, **Aviation** requests funds for the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Women in Aviation Conference in Orlando, FL, a three-day event with education sessions and professional networking. 12 students will be attending and the \$1500 requested will be used for registration costs. Extensive, successful fundraising efforts are helping defray the total cost of attending this event.

Questions: **Geography** attended this conference and states that it is an excellent networking opportunity. **Geology** Thanks Laura Waingrow, the senator for **Aviation**, for being the first *woman* to request funds from Club Senate for this event.

**History** moves to allot \$1500 for conference registration costs. **English** seconds. **PASSED**

#### *Reports*

**CHAIR** entertains a motion to table committee reports. **Management** so moves. **English** seconds. **PASSED**

#### *Committee Reports (tabled)*

- Constitution and By-Laws
- Recruitment and Publicity
- Student Advocacy
- General Education

#### *Chair Report*

**CHAIR** Spring Quarter Meeting Schedule

General SAS will meet every other Thursday at 7 in Black 201, beginning April 3

Special Meeting: The Constitution & By-Laws Committee has scheduled a review of all revisions on April 17 at 7 pm in Black 201.

Executive Board will meet Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in BOD Conference Room, beginning April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### *Advisor Report*

Student feedback regarding the CEPS split has been requested. The **CHAIR** encourages senators to agree on a list of pros and cons to be passed along to the BOD and submitted to faculty senate.

**English** suggests using the discussion in previous meeting's minutes for feedback

**ITAM** Pro: The split would allow professional studies to have their own recognition (versus education majors).

**Geology** Pro: Split will allow the education department to offer specialized classes in STEM fields.

**Biology** Con: The split will increase administrative costs. **CHAIR** clarifies that the cost for a new dean and administrative staff is \$317,000 per year; however, neither college would be unable to support itself and the additional costs won't create a debt.

**ITAM** Pro: Faculty Support. A 2007 poll of faculty shows massive support for the split. The recession pushed the split out of discussion until now. Pro: Better communication with, smaller workload for the deans of the colleges.

**Philosophy & Religious Studies** Con: money could be spent in struggling departments, or directed elsewhere on campus.

**Nutrition** Pro: A division will allow for greater growth and versatility and help Central keep students on track with the national trend toward STEM-related degrees

**Geology**: Con: Split *may* be more expensive in the future, as they can make financial demands further down the road.

**Philosophy & Religious Studies** Pro: Growth for university

**ITAM Alt** Pro: potential for increased resources

**Geology** moves that SAS submit this list of pros and cons as well as a division vote to demonstrate support or non-support of split.

**HISTORY** clarifies that Geology is calling for role-call vote

**Music** Seconds

**CHAIR** offers a word of caution: A roll-call vote could demonstrate divisiveness in student voice.

**ETSC** If your intent is a vote by numbers without attaching identity, use a "division" vote. Numbers are counted, but identities remain anonymous. **ETSC** makes a friendly amendment to call for division.

**CHAIR** clarifies that friendly amendments don't work.

**HISTORY** A simple majority vote will suffice, as the CEPS Split discussion is still in the early stages.

**CHAIR** would like to entertain a motion that SAS submit a list of pros and cons to demonstrate support for the split.

**Biology** so moves. **LLSE** seconds.

**English, Philosophy & Religious Studies, DHC, Supply Chain** abstain

**PASSED**

*Old Business*

(none)

*Issues and concerns*

Faculty Senate Representative: **CHAIR** spoke to the faculty senate chair, who stated that the meeting schedule for SAS is not conducive to enticing a faculty representative at SAS. **CHAIR** Suggests changing meeting time of increased contact.

**Biology** Changing meeting times is not going to happen.

**ITAM Alt** Could a student report back to SAS from Faculty Senate? **CHAIR** wants a dedicated faculty representative.

**Geology** It is not acceptable that no faculty is willing to join. Is there a possibility of speaking with faculty to encourage a representative to volunteer? **CHAIR** states that she has worked actively, to no avail.

**Biology** proposes to continue communication and find a dedicated faculty representative.

**English** proposes writing a formal letter, voted upon by division, to be submitted, and believes that it is unreasonable that faculty is uncooperative.

**Biology** strongly advises against emotive letter, but still encourages a letter.

**DHC** states that it is disrespectful to SAS

**Anthropology** wonders if faculty would be more willing if they came to only one SAS meeting per month.

**CHAIR** will draft a letter.

*Adjourn*

**Physics** moves to adjourn. **LLSE** seconds. **PASSED**

The meeting is adjourned at 9:35 p.m.