Cal State Fullerton

ACADEMIC SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

OCTOBER 27, 2026

11:30 AM - 12:50 PM **MH-141**

Present: Bruschke, Childers, Dabirian, Gradilla, Graewingholt, Jarvis, Kleinjans, Mallicoat, Milligan, Swarat, Valdez

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Chair Dabirian called the meeting to order at 11:31am.

II. URGENT BUSINESS

- No urgent business.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (Mallicoat) The Dean of Education Search Committee met, and they are working on the call.
- (Kleinjans) The Dean of Communications Search Committee is meeting on November 12th.
- (Swarat) Heads up that I'm working with the SASM Division with Student Affairs to start a co-curricular program review to strengthen the quality assurance for those units and partly also very selfishly, I'm preparing for a WASC visit coming up because that's going to be one of the things that they will be looking for. So, I will bring a set of guidelines here for you to review, because we no longer have the Assessment Education Effectiveness Committee.
- (Mallicoat) Other thing I have, Greg, the conversation we were having about how we can't waive the critical thinking class for Engineering. I just wanted to bring that out and see if there was any update?

  A: (Childers) Yeah, there's a requirement from the Chancellor's Office that no longer allows waivers for lower division GE, but they do allow substitutions. So, in effect what is going to happen is engineering is looking at requesting some course, or maybe a sequence of courses that the current students already do to ask the GE Committee to substitute that rather than waive the critical thinking component. The larger concern is they need to institute some course that legitimately looks like a life science course that the GE committee would be okay with. They have a deadline for Fall 2027.

  - The Executive Committee had an extensive discussion on this matter.

IV. TIME CERTAIN

11:40-11:50 AM
Topic: IRA Discussion
Presenter: Jon Bruschke

Jon Bruschke presented to Exec on IRA funding. Enabling documents (Ed Code Section 89230, Executive Order 429 (EPR 83-58), the CSUF Governing Document, and the Athletics Referendum, facts and figures, and historical IRA funding were discussed.

Q: (Kleinjans) I heard that quite a big fraction of the budget is usually not spent. Do you have those numbers?

A: (Bruschke) I haven't had a chance to look at it, but I can surely get it back to you.

Q: (Kleinjans) If these are co-curricular activities, then how can basic needs have co-curricular activities?

A: (Jarvis) Co-curricular activities are not included in IRA funding.

12:30 PM
Topic: Athletics Director Introduction
Presenter: Shondell Reed

Shondell Reed joined the Exec meeting to introduce himself and discuss Athletics programs and achievements and answer any question the Executive Committee has regarding Athletics.

(Reed) So, I just wanted to introduce myself. As we talked about when I first walked in, I'm coming up on month two on the job, so I am still learning all manner of things. I graduated from here in '95. I was a Comm major- journalism. I wrote for the Daily Titan back in the day. I feel like I like to say I've been around the world and back in some respects. I had a chance to go to law school, had a chance to go to grad school, get my master's in sports management. I've seen college athletics now at a number of different iterations, small liberal arts school, of course, large research institutions and now most recently even at the service academy. I bring all those experiences with me back here to Fullerton.

From an athletics perspective, I look around this table and see all the folks in this room who are committed to their academic discipline. I'm sure if you guys have been following the news even a little bit, you'll see that the world of intercollegiate athletics is changing just in terms of what student athletes are entitled to in terms of resources and things like that. I feel like I'm here to pour into our student athletes and make sure they have the things they need to be successful. I think that part of that is also, you know, collaborating with the university, working with all of you and making sure that our student athletes are successful on the field. I appreciate the opportunity to come to each of you and have an opportunity to say hello.

Q: (Mallicoat) I think one of the things that this group has been talking about a bit lately is, you know, how do we keep our students safe? And certainly, the athletics team suffered a really tragic experience last fall with women's soccer. This group has been talking about what are some of the things that we can help with supporting students broadly around their use of e-scooters on campus. We've been working with parking and transportation around how do we make better pathways for students. We would love to know ways in which you can support that, if that means maybe asking coaches to give a little bit of grace as student athletes are kind of trying to run from one place to the next, and how do we make those transitions a little bit easier for them?

A: (Reed) I had a conversation with President Rochon about this. I told him we're willing to support any way we can and that we would get behind any campus-wide initiative. I don't think it needs to be athletics specific, but we are about to have a helmet drive in collaboration with the PD to encourage more and more people to wear helmets. But in terms of the practice time question, I think that our coaches here are in a position to give some more grace on practice time. I still think it's worth having that conversation, though, and I am very open into partnering with any campus initiative that comes up in terms of curbing that because even our coaches get frustrated about that.

Q: (Valdez) Even thinking of current events and how the WNBA game was pushed to a ridiculous time because women's sports are not respected, and I feel like that is also visible in college sports, I'm wondering how you might help elevate women's sports on campus because for instance, our softball team is amazing, but there are e-mail blasts about our baseball team that I'm getting, and so I'd really like to hear what you might have in mind about how to level the playing field between the two sports, especially when our softball team is winning major tournaments and games and our men's are not, yet that's who's being promoted.

A: (Reed) I was not tracking that we were sending out any promotional materials regarding baseball, but not softball, and I can definitely look into that. If that's the case, that definitely shouldn't be happening because you're right. I will say that most people know Fullerton for our baseball team. I'm not saying that's an excuse to promote baseball over softball. I'm just saying that our brand nationally in college athletics is mostly because of our previous success involving the baseball team. But generally promoting our sports, especially teams that are doing very well. When I first got in the chair, I said my goal is to pour into Gina and make sure we can continue to win. So, anything I can do to support Gina and that team I want to do. Our head of marketing left to take another job, and we just completed interviews for a new marketing person last week. That's the person that's usually running point on all the promotional stuff. We've had a backup person who is kind of part-time doing that job for the last three months. We should have a full-time marketing person in the next couple of months on the ground no later than December 1. Once that person gets on the ground, I can definitely re-attack this conversation with her about people that all of our support programs get equal coverage.

Q: (Graewingholt) I'm so delighted that we have a water polo team now and all these other great sports teams. If you had unlimited funds, where would you want to see our sports area growing?

A: (Reed) Right now we are behind in terms of our scholarship allocation for our teams. And so the NCAA used to have a rule that said if you were a basketball team, you couldn't have more than 13 full scholarships issued at any one time. Women's basketball was 15, baseball was 11.7, softball was 12, etc. After the house settlement, the big NCAA lawsuit, that rule changed. Now the rule is we have a roster limit of how many people you can have on the roster and that's your scholarship limit. Baseball's roster limit is 35. It used to be you couldn't have any more than 35 on the roster, but you can only give 11.7 scholarships out in total. Now you can

have 35 guys on 35 scholarships and we're still sitting at 11.7. In order for our coaches to be able to recruit enough student athletes that are high quality and who can compete and make sure we can beat the other schools in the league; we are going to have to increase on the scholarship side. My top priority right now would be increasing our scholarship allocation in some of our sports now that the house settlement has opened up what you didn't divvy up in terms of scholarship.

Q: (Gradilla) I've seen that in football that there's the transfer portal issue, I'm not sure how it exists in other sports, is that if they're the same transfer portal and what protects us from the bigger schools poaching our athletes to transfer?

A: (Reed) The transfer portal works the same in all sports, number one, and there is nothing that prevents that from happening. We just need to make sure we're creating a good environment. Sometimes if it's close, if it's on the margins, if we're treating them well and they're having a good experience here, and that's not just down the athletics, that's on campus too, if they're having a good experience, we'll be able to hold on it, we'll be able to hold on, we're in a great location, we're in a great place to live, and those things factor in. But there is a tipping point where the finances get so high that they feel like they have no choice but to move.

There's a bill circulating through the House right now that already passed the Senate called the Protect College Sports Act. About 80% of that act does not affect what we do here because a lot of it's about forming super leagues and, you know, payment spending caps up to like 50 million dollars. I think that the one piece that will help us is that it will bring back what's called the one-time transfer exception. There's a rule, and there used to be a rule in the NCAA that said you could transfer one time during your college career without having to serve at what they used to call a year of residence. If the Protect College Sports Act passes, that will come back and a student will be able to transfer one time during their time in college without having to sit here. The next time they transfer, they'll have to sit.

The reason that helps us is because a lot of times, especially in a place like Fullerton, you will get a young man or a young woman that out of high school was pretty good, good hotshot player, what have you, and they go to a UCLA and now they're riding the bench, but they want to play, so they ultimately decide to transfer out, and then they land at a place like Fullerton. I think the numbers indicate we do pretty well with transfer students.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 EC Minutes 10-6-26 (draft) – *forthcoming*

5.2 EC Minutes 10-13-26 (draft) – *forthcoming*

5.3 EC Minutes 10-20-26 (draft) – *forthcoming*

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

- R.A.C.E. will come to Exec on 11/3.
- Vincent Vigil and VP Doss will also come to Exec on 11/3 and discuss our club organizations and procedures on what to do if any clubs are out of compliance.
- I am going to look for a document that was presented to the Board of Trustees on shared governance, which comes from the educational code and it's really well done. Once I find it, I will send it to you all, the President, and I want to send it to the R.A.C.E. group, as well.
- Me and Su Swarat went to San Jose for the Student Success Symposium and discussed student success. The overall message was we need everyone to get on the "train".

VII. STAFF REPORT

VIII. COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

8.1 Graduate Education Committee [Valdez], F 10-23-26, 2:00 – 4:00PM, MH-141

- The committee reviewed UPS 410.115 (policy for academic certificates and micro-credentials) and lifted language from Long Beach to make the UPS clearer and specify a 12-unit minimum for undergraduate certificates and a 9-unit minimum for post-baccalaureate certificates. The committee then discussed issues slowing graduate admissions, like technical issues with Cal State Apply, evaluator capacity, and peak submission periods. Possible improvements suggested included daily file assignments and using priority deadlines to spread out application volume.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Rescission of UPS 291.000 Distinguished Faculty Member Guidelines

9.2 Revisions to UPS 270.102 Graduate Committees and Advisers

9.3 Revisions to UPS 410.170 Doctoral Programs

9.4 Revisions to UPS 330.124 Leaves of Absence for Graduate and Credential Students

X. ADJOURNMENT