Minutes of the CSBS Senate Meeting on 4/18/11

Present: Tim Strauss (Chair, Geography), Carol Weisenberger (History), Taifa Yu (Political Science), Otto MacLin (Psychology), Cyndi Dunn (SAC), Jim McCullagh (Social Work), Philip Mauceri (Dean)

I. Approval of the minutes from 4/4/11

The minutes from 4/4/11 were approved with one correction.

II. Recognition of CSBS Community Partners in Education

The senate continued the discussion of how to recognize organizations which provide internship opportunities for CSBS students. It was determined that these organizations will be recognized as “CSBS Community Partners in Education.” Recognition will be given every two years to all organizations which provided internships during the past two years. They will receive a letter of thanks from the dean of the college, a certificate suitable for framing, and will be listed on the CSBS website. Departments are also encouraged to think about how they can recognize and thank these organizations.

By February 15th of each even-numbered year, department heads will send to the dean’s office the names and addresses of all organizations providing internships for students in their departments during the previous two years (e.g., all internships from summer 2010 through spring 2012 should be submitted by Feb. 15, 2012). In addition, departments are encouraged to provide photos and short narratives highlighting the experiences of one or more students which can be used in publicity materials and press releases by the college as well as by departments themselves.

III. Strategic planning

The CSBS Strategic Planning has met several times over the past month to evaluate progress on the strategic plan, make revisions to the plan, and develop new action steps. The revised plan will be posted on the CSBS website by the end of the semester and will also be sent to the senators. One major change has been a new emphasis in the area of faculty development. Currently, faculty are reimbursed for conference travel only if they present a paper at the conference. As funds become available, the plan is to also allow faculty to apply for funding to attend conferences or workshops that provide them with certain types of training or other faculty development.

There was discussion of the importance of reviewing the strategic plan annually to assess whether we are making progress towards our goals and to devise new action steps. Accountability and transparency are very important in this process. All department heads have been asked to provide the dean with a list of the action steps carried out by their department during this past academic year. Each department should have a least one meeting per year to discuss the strategic plan and to develop and assess progress on action steps. In times of resource scarcity, the strategic plan plays a vital role in prioritizing effort and expenditures.
IV. Senate leadership for 2011-2012

Two senators have terms ending in May 2011. Senator Dunn (SAC) will continue for another term. Senator Lynch (SAHS) will be stepping down, and SAHS will need to determine a replacement.

The suggestion was made that the roles of senate chair and secretary rotate on a regular basis with each senator serving in one of these roles during his or her second year in office. This suggestion was rejected.

Senator MacLin will serve as senate chair for 2011-2012. Senator Weisenberger will serve as vice chair during 2011-2012, to succeed as chair during 2012-2013. Senator Dunn was elected as Secretary-for-Life.

V. Comments from Dean Mauceri

Distinguished Alumni Days will be held April 22-23. This will also be the first meeting of the newly formed CSBS Advisory Board. There are currently ten members; Dean Mauceri would like to add five additional people. Senators are encouraged to send suggestions for board members directly to the dean; board members are not necessarily required to be alumni.

VI. CSBS Senate response to proposed restructuring of the LAC

Senators reviewed and made changes to a draft position statement regarding the proposed restructuring of the LAC. Chair Strauss will send the revised document out to the senate via email and ask for an email vote on adopting this resolution as the CSBS Senate position on the proposed restructuring. If adopted, the document will be sent to the chair(s) of the LAC-RSC. The document will also be posted on the CSBS Senate website.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cyndi Dunn