



General Faculty Senate Meeting

Time: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Minutes

1/20/2022

In attendance:

Dinesh Pinisetty, Elizabeth McNie, Colin Dewey, Matthew Fairbanks, Keir Moorhead, Tamara Burbach, Margaret Ward, Mike Holden, Ariel Setniker, Ali Moradmand, Christine Isakson, Wil Tsai, Ryan Wade, Nipoli Kamdar, Steve Browne, Frank Yip, Kitty Luce, and guests.

1. Call to Order

- *Moorhead motioned to approve the agenda, Fairbanks seconded. Agenda approved by unanimous consent.*

2. Minutes Approval

- 1/6/2022 Senate meeting minutes were reviewed. Senator Browne motioned to approve, Vice Chair McNie seconded. *1/6 minutes approved by unanimous consent.*
- 12/16/2021 Senate meeting minutes were reviewed. Senator Browne motioned to approve, Vice Chair McNie seconded. Senator Kamdar indicated she was abstaining from the vote. No objections. *12/16 minutes approved by unanimous consent.*

3. Senate Chair Announcements

- Chair Pinisetty outlined upcoming dates and deadlines that are important to faculty. These were primarily concerned with RTP evaluations, but also included the possible Day of Dialogue dates, which are 3/15, 3/16, 3/22, or 3/23.
- Dean van Hoeck mentioned in chat that there are 4 student members on the Day of Dialogue organizing committee.
- Chair Pinisetty stated that an email will go out regarding the application process for awards of assigned time for exceptional service to students (as outlined in the CBA). Details will be included in email.
- Chair Pinisetty noted the reform task force survey that went out to Senators from Senator Tsai. Deadline for Senators to submit feedback from their constituencies is upcoming at the end of the month. Senator Tsai will resend the link to the form be sure everyone got it.

4. Senate Committees Discussion – Vice Chair McNie

- Vice Chair McNie is surveying faculty to do an annual census on faculty service as well as compensated faculty positions.
- Vice Chair McNie noted that Senate Exec is recruiting for the International Experience Oversight Senate committee and the Budget Oversight Senate committee. These are in the by-laws. We need faculty to serve and also write the policies for those committees.
- Continuing – we need 1-2 more members on the Student Evaluation Task Force for this semester. Its purpose to take a close look at the student evaluation process that occurs at the end of each semester and make improvements.
- *If anyone is interested in any of these positions, please reach out to Vice Chair McNie.*

- Gender Equity Committee is an ad hoc Senate committee, led by Julie Simons until she went on sabbatical. The Committee is currently working on getting a final report on campus gender equity issues from the TNG consultants.
- *The proposal is to make a standing committee (JEDI). We would need 2-3 faculty for membership and policy drafting.*
- Secretary Fairbanks indicated his support for the establishment of the committee. It's of clear importance. His only worry is whether staffing this new standing committee would be difficult given the number of other committees that are currently unstaffed.
- Chair Pinisetty also indicated his support. He wants to be sure the mission of the Committee is stated so that it is sustainable into the future, at least 3-5 years.
- Senator Browne noted that the by-laws would need to be amended.
- The floor was opened for non-Senator comments:

- AVP Graham Benton thought it was a good idea, but noted the existing DEI Council on campus. He would want to see at least a liaison between the two entities.
- Dean Mandernack agreed with AVP Benton's point and stated that he had spoken with Julie Simons about having cross-talk and collaboration between the two groups.
- No further comments. Chair Pinisetty suggested anyone can email him, Vice Chair McNie, or other Senate Exec members on these issues.

5. Interim Title IX Coordinator Introduction

- Jodie Shipper is here. She's the interim Title IX coordinator. She will actually be here for a few more days, but a colleague of hers (Kimberly Anderson) will be taking over after that.
- Jodie Shipper is a consultant and has served in this role for a variety of institutions.
- Shipper outlined her role: she's spent her time here responding to Title IX reports and making sure everyone gets the support and information they need. Also spent time looking at how the office has functioned in the past. It's a little early for her to share her complete thoughts on it, but she will do so in the near future.
- Shipper also said that information we might have is important to her. Anecdotal data is ok. Questions she has: Why don't people reach out to Title IX? Do folks understand what the role of a TIX coordinator is? And other questions of this nature.
- Her email is jshipper@csum.edu or titleix@csum.edu. Both will route to her even after she leaves for some time.

- Shipper asked Senators for any questions we have on the office or its functioning. There were no questions at this time.

6. Classroom Concerns and Brightspace Support

- Dean Michele van Hoeck is presenting.
- Thanked Senators for our invitation. She noted her earlier emails on this topic this semester for further information.
- The current system for routing facilities concerns should be an improvement. She noted that part of the problem was that some classrooms on campus were without a clear administrative “owner”.
- The Dean noted this system was started within the Library, which is perhaps why she is the point person on this new system.
- The QR code asks that people login so they [facilities] know who is requesting. There is also a link on the Faculty Affairs website. The four Deans have divvied up which classrooms are covered by who. Deans will push forward the reported issues to make sure they are properly resolved.
- Senator Moorhead: Is there anything being done proactively instead of reactively? People should be checking whether basic things like projectors are working. This doesn’t seem to have been done prior to this fall.
- Dean van Hoeck: Yes, this should have been done, but wasn’t. Not sure what else to say about it. The new CIO is meant to be handling this now, but wasn’t in place then. The Dean noted that one of the proactive measures is to standardize classroom technology to make sure maintenance is straightforward.
- Vice Chair McNie: the Navigator classroom technology is akin to a game of Twister®. Are there any plans to improve the accessibility of those classrooms?
- Dean van Hoeck: yes, and you know how quickly those classrooms came together. Noted one classroom in particular is lacking basic components for interfacing with the system. This is a priority and she [Dean van Hoeck] is the point person on the project.
- Senator Moorhead indicated his experience with these systems and said the proper equipment might be hard to get over the 1-2 year timeframe. We need to focus on making sure what we have is at least functioning. His comments were met with general agreement.
- Dean van Hoeck: I’ve run out of time, but a few words about Brightspace – Khaoi Mady left for a promotion, which is good, but leaves us a little short. Michael Lam in IT, Ariel Setniker, and Sam Pearson are the Brightspace team currently.
- Secretary Fairbanks noted his positive experience with the new team, and there were other comments in chat to this effect.

7. AIC Policy Updates – Taiyo Inoue, Chair of the AIC

- Inoue gave some context: AY19-20, Senate called for rewrites of committee policies. Written in summer 2020. Approved by Senate in spring 2021. First round of feedback from admin in summer 2021. New draft. Second round in fall 2021. Policy still not signed. It’s been a long haul.
- Here are the substantive changes: the first draft had a disciplinary framework for both faculty and students. The Provost noted that paid employees (admin or faculty) legally have to be handled by HR. This made sense, and Inoue noted HR could consult with AIC if they wished, so he made this change to the policy along with another adjustment.

- In the second revision, a request was made by the President to change “student” to “cadet”. Inoue pushed back on this item. Inoue noted Provost being great in facilitating the following discussions, which resulted in the “student” language staying.
- Another question came up: does the policy apply to the graduate school? Administration suggested initially that the graduate school would be governed by different policies. Senate Exec pushed back on that idea. Inoue added a line that indicated the policy would apply to the graduate school unless they drafted something that superseded it.
- Inoue noted that the original draft was to make the policy model restorative justice principles. The policy had two tracks for handling cases that would depend on which was agreed to by the accused.
- Inoue noted that another change was a request by the Provost to be notified in the restorative justice cases. This change was made in consultation with the Provost, but notably, the student conduct office would not be notified in these cases.
- There were also questions about cases of students accusing other students of academic misconduct and concerns about potential retaliation. Inoue noted that it wasn’t under the purview of the AIC, but that instances of retaliation could be referred to the student conduct office.
- Inoue noted this policy is significantly different than the one approved by the Senate and it seems like Senate should review it again because of this.
- Secretary Fairbanks agreed. He suggested to shorten the timeline for approval, we could potentially waive the first reading of the policy given that it isn’t completely new.
- Inoue noted that the previous process with a first reading, a second reading, a vote, and *then* two rounds of revision at the administration level. He sees the period between the first and second readings of a policy as the appropriate time for feedback from both faculty and administration.
- *No objections from Senators to adding policy to February General Senate meeting agenda for a vote.*
- AVP Benton thanked Inoue for his work and for the policy line about the graduate school. He serves as Dean of graduate school, and the graduate school is often overlooked. He would advocate that the Senate be mindful of the graduate school in writing new policies, etc.

8. General Education Committee Policy

- Chair Pinisetty noted the year long track toward approval this policy has had. He asked whether the Senators want to make this the second reading or whether we should reset the timeline.
- Senator Dewey noted that he hadn’t seen any feedback since the first reading. Feedback he saw was mostly about membership. He’s unaware of any feedback from those outside the committee since that time.
- Chair Pinisetty said that there were two responses that came to him since then. The responses were general supportive, but wanted a clear definition of “periodically” as used in the draft policy.
- Senator Dewey noted it depends on whether you’re a social scientist or a geologist. Seems like it should align with the usual program review cycle. AVP Benton confirmed that would be appropriate.
- Another comment was that it would be helpful for the GE Committee to maintain a repository with information like lists of approved GE courses, criteria of adding courses to GE areas, etc. Vice Chair McNie noted that the Curriculum Committee policy would outline a repository for this sort of documentation.
- Some discussion of ‘staggered terms’ language in the policy concerning GE Committee representatives. No clear conclusion was made. Vice Chair McNie suggested deferring to the Committee’s language.

- *Chair Pinisetty suggested voting in February on AIC and this policy. No objections from Senators.*

9. IRB Committee Update

- IRB committee is fully-staffed. It will elect a Chair in next two weeks. Members will also will be completing their required trainings over a similar timeline.

10. Open Floor

- Steve Runyon noted that administration should get the GE draft policy now so that their review can be run in parallel with the Senate.
- AVP Benton is on the search for, in essence, Matt Tener's replacement in the tutoring center. No qualified candidates yet. He has reached out to community colleges, UC Berkeley, UC Davis. He appealed to faculty to send him references for qualified folks. In the meantime, we're limping along using the resources we have with our professional advisors.
- *Chair Pinisetty: the Curriculum Committee is developing their new committee policy. If you have input, they would like to hear from you.*
- Vice Chair McNie has heard some frustration from faculty on the speed with which HR is moving on a variety of issues. She expressed interest in getting information on why these issues are occurring.
- Chair Pinisetty noted that it has come up in the Deans and Chairs meetings. He will bring it to President's attention. Need to figure out where the issues are, why all these things are being delayed. Chair Pinisetty and others noted various issues, including very slow onboarding of faculty, particularly lecturers. Lecturer appointment letter delays were also mentioned.
- Steve Runyon saw the letter last semester from VP McMahon saying that counselor hiring was a priority, and he was wondering what the situation is. Appointments are hard to get for students.
- Chair Pinisetty said that his understanding was that Ian Wallace had verbally accepted a full-time position, but the contract itself is delayed.
- Steve Runyon: it was implied that there would be additional resources beyond that. Chair Pinisetty said he would inquire.

11. Meeting Adjourned [12:15 pm]