

## Senate Executive Committee Meeting (3/24/2022)

Attendees: Dinesh Pinisetty (Chair), Bets McNie (Vice Chair), Matthew Fairbanks (Secretary), Christine Isakson, Leah Wyzykowski (Student Rep), Frank Yip, Wil Tsai, and Provost Lori Schroeder.

Absent: Keir Moorhead.

- Minutes
  - *3/15 minutes approved by unanimous consent.* Yip motioned for approval, Isakson seconded.
  
- Chair Updates
  - No changes in the department Senator line-up according to Pinisetty, though Mike Holden has transitioned from being at-large to being the ME department representative.
  - At-large positions have three nominations for two spots so far. Deadline is Friday (3/25) for nominations.
  - Tsai will be coordinating the Senate officer elections.
  - Senate officer elections will be a 30 minute time slot on either the 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> of April according to current plans.
  
  - The Department Chair survey draft got a little feedback. Pinisetty has updated it, and it's ready to go. Statements from Department Chairs are due to Pinisetty by this coming Monday. Cynthia Trevisan, Assis Malaquias, Steve Browne, and Nader Bagheri are being evaluated.
  
- Discussion of CommUNITY Day and Related Issues
  - CommUNITY day issue: at least one faculty member was planning an online class on Tuesday. Some communication endorsed by us clarifying that no classes are to be held is important.
  - Question: what about evening classes on Tuesday? We hadn't thought about these. Consensus seemed to be that it would be up to instructor discretion since the Day's programming is finished by about 6pm.
  - McNie: I've just read a 5 page letter from a student about how the CommUNITY Day is a bad thing and there's some sort of Instagram poll with over a hundred student signatures, the vast majority of responses being against the CommUNITY Day.
  - Wyzykowski indicated that she hadn't seen it.
  - Some discussion of this and whether the President should make a statement. Provost Schroeder suggested a joint admin/faculty statement to show that faculty and administration are united in this.
  - Tsai shared that the group of students he's spoken to have a great deal of cynicism about the Day and that apparently they've rolled it up together with a speech about Title IX in the commercial cruise meeting that was not a hit.
  - More discussion of the issue. General acknowledgement that a unified front is needed. Also that the communication needs to come from the top.
  - Wyzykowski noted that the service day for student organizations is perhaps being confused in students' minds with CommUNITY Day because of a similar naming scheme.

- Yip suggested that the presenters be informed of the attitude among some on campus regarding the Day. They should know what they're coming into.
  - Pinisetty shared that 20 faculty volunteered to be discussion facilitators, though some want to be partnered, so we may still need some more volunteers.
  - Yip: what was the nature of the Title IX presentation at the commercial cruise?
  - Wyzykowski: not sure, wasn't there because I already completed commercial cruise.
  - Tsai related what his students said, which was it focused too much on the procedures of Title IX rather than what would actually need to happen while on commercial cruise.
  - From chat: "I know that any student going on commercial cruise who wants a wi-fi hot spot will be provided with one -- so that they can make necessary communication for safety reasons (including TIX related reasons)".
  - A Title IX training for cruise faculty is being scheduled. McNie and Steve Browne and Pinisetty are trying to sort out the timing. Tues/Thurs time slots are full of other things and the 'ask' from Cadet Affairs was a little vague on the parameters. McNie/Pinisetty will be following up.
  - McNie: one candidate for the Title IX position is coming to campus in the very near future. This is the only candidate coming for an on-campus interview. We shouldn't feel obligated to hire the person unless the fit is good. If the candidate is not successful, the search will be referred to a hiring agency.
  - There were some questions on the students participating in the interview: Wyzykowski will have two options for time slots to meet the candidate. The Compass has been consulted on participating - one response was received by McNie from them.
- Open Floor
    - The candidates for AVP of Facilities are being interviewed today and tomorrow. Please attend if possible. See email from Pinisetty.
    - Commandant search: Pinisetty noted that Tsai saw all four. He and Fairbanks and Moorhead and Yip all saw 1 or 2. Please send your feedback asap. Yip mentioned that he's not sure if the search committee has seen the faculty feedback to date. He's not sure why.
    - Pinisetty: I'll be sending a strategic planning (Academic Excellence) document soon. Please review and send your feedback. Provost Schroeder and Pinisetty were co-chairs of this strategic planning committee.
    - Question: any updates on the Budget and IE Oversight Committees? McNie: They exist. No volunteers as yet.
    - No feedback has come in on the Curriculum Committee policy or Yip's resolution on hiring.
    - Provost noted that the other strategic planning groups will have documents to circulate and review as well. Some overlap. Some issues are exclusive to other strategic planning groups, so don't assume an omission here in Academic Excellence means it isn't being addressed.
    - Tsai: update on ASCSU business. Lots of business. Open hiring processes for Chancellor and Presidents. One resolution making its way that expresses a lack of confidence in the Board of Trustees regarding their actions regarding the former Chancellor. It feels a little like Cal Maritime from last fall, but statewide.

- Tsai also brought attention to curriculum and GE issues related to Assembly Bill 928. Isakson said it's not getting attention it deserves. It's going to impact CSU systemwide and Culture & Communication in particular on our campus.
- Isakson indicated that a lot of time has been spent reviewing legislative bills that are relevant to CSU. She has some materials that she can supply for information on what ASCSU will be supporting (or not supporting).
- Tsai: there were 27 draft resolutions last meeting in ASCSU, so a lot of things working their way through. Title IX investigations are proceeding at each CSU campus and an external law firm was retained to conduct these.
- Pinisetty: is UC inclined to change their curricula? (regarding Assembly Bill 928) Idea of 928 is that everyone needs to be on the same page regarding credit numbers, GE units, etc. There will be CC, CSU, and UC discussions to sort it out (hopefully). The legislators have set the GE units at the UC number (33+1 lab) because the CSU's is larger. Pinisetty understands the unit count thing, but wonders about particular classes. ICAS is going to set the first point of discussion (theoretically) and then negotiations will proceed from there?
- Isakson: separate issue regarding FLCs. How are these funded? It would be nice if faculty were involved in distributing those funds, giving input, etc.
- Yip clarified that FLC funding comes from the Provost's office. Faculty propose them. Michele van Hoeck administers that. The faculty development funds are a regular line item (Nipoli/Ariel/Sam's budget), he thinks.
- Some more discussion of this and the need for transparency and perhaps a policy governing FLC funding and how it's approved. Provost Schroeder noted it might be a good idea to gather information from Nipoli Kamdar, Michele van Hoeck, and the Faculty Development Committee before proceeding. If there's a feeling that there's insufficient funding, then perhaps there needs to be an ask during the budgeting process.
- Pinisetty noted that Taiyo Inoue's FLC came before the Faculty Development Committee, though this doesn't always happen.
- It was agreed to gather information and perhaps invite Michele van Hoeck and Nipoli Kamdar to discuss it. Once that's done, we can assess what steps to take in terms of transparency and procedures.
- Yip asked about the nonspecific threat regarding maritime academies we received email notification of last week. Apparently this is resolved and the concern came from a vague Instagram post that threatened violence. It turned out that the threat was not directed at Cal Maritime and no violence occurred.
- Action items regarding CommUNITY Day? Joint admin/faculty email definitely. Haste is important.
- Some discussion of the messaging surrounding the Day. The geo-tracking line for enforcement of attendance apparently raised some hackles amongst the student body.
- Fairbanks asked about model language for addressing the Day's importance in classes. Pinisetty suggested that some lines from Michele van Hoeck's email that might be helpful.
- Tsai put across that this communication from the top needs to emphasize the benefits and importance of the day. Explain and sell it first, then note that it's required. Emphasis is important.

- McNie volunteered to draft the message. Others volunteered to assist. Provost Schroeder asked to see the draft as well.
  
- Meeting Adjourned