

Senate Executive Committee Meeting (9/13/2022)

Attendees: Bets McNie (Chair), Sarah Senk (Vice Chair), Matthew Fairbanks (Secretary), Christine Isakson, Victoria Haller (Student Rep), Frank Yip, Wil Tsai, and Provost Lori Schroeder

Absent: Keir Moorhead

- Minutes Review and Approval
 - *Minutes from 9/10/2021 were reviewed and approved by unanimous consent.*
- Title IX Assessment Visit by Cozen O'Connor
 - Tsai is presenting.
 - ASCSU met with the Cozen O'Connor [a law firm doing the Title IX assessment CSU-wide] representatives. It became clear that a third of campuses have had their visits, but faculty were not aware of nor involved in those visits. This was not received well at ASCSU Plenary. The representatives suggested feedback from University general populations via a survey, but the point was made to them that if this was seen as a top-down effort, confidence in the process and thus survey participation may falter.
 - VP of Cadet Affairs Kathleen McMahon is here to explain what information the consultants have given (or asked of) our campus. Tsai wanted to have this conversation and collaborate.
 - McMahon confirmed she's the point person for the campus on this Title IX site visit. The consultants sent a list of docs that we as a campus need to provide. There's a template for all the materials required. Visit is scheduled for 9/20-9/22.
 - McMahon has reserved them a room for the visit, and she's coordinating Chief Gordon, AVP Graham Benton, Craig Dawson, and Siobhan Case to start pulling together everything.
 - She's spoken with the Title IX lead at Sonoma State, which had a visit already. That individual revealed that there were no conversations with students during their visit, which she thought was odd.
 - McMahon is hoping to have ready some specific concerns of ours that perhaps the consultants can offer advice on. She highlighted the need to shore up our DHR processes. Also how to recruit and retain a TIX coordinator, which we've had 2 failed searches for.
 - Tsai observed that the whole CSU has issues recruiting coordinators in TIX. Not just us. Also, other campuses' faculty have expressed frustration with the timeline and the non-involvement of faculty. There's clearly a gap in communication from the Chancellor's Office, because McMahon only hearing about the visit a few weeks ago is clearly not good. McMahon added that Cozen O'Connor originally proposed an earlier date that campus had to reject because it conflicted with Orientation.
 - McMahon shared the visit template the consultants shared with her. The focus is definitely on processes and policies. Not focusing on experience or climate.
 - Tsai noted that Cozen O'Connor seemed to walk that focus back a little in response to the pushback they got from ASCSU. He would expect that they would be amenable to alterations to get key constituencies into the visit schedule. Who would those be?

- Faculty and students are absent, McNie noted. She expanded, noting that there's an 'end-user' component to the processes/policies that's really important.
 - Fairbanks asked about the TIX liaisons and whether they should be on the schedule. However, the faculty position hasn't been recruited yet and how to handle the ones on the admin side is still being discussed – perhaps responsibilities will be written into job description of supervisory positions, etc.
 - Senk asked about what the consultants/law firm is doing. Is this just evaluating CSU's legal liability and compliance? Tsai said that he didn't get that impression, that the lead lawyers have a lot of experience in this area. We're not getting the most senior lawyers in the firm, but the firm seems committed and are adjusting as they learn more about the situation in the CO and CSU at large. McMahan also vouched for the seriousness of the firm in addressing the issue.
 - Senk and Yip followed up, noting that faculty and student consultations are really important. Want to make sure they occur during the visit.
 - McMahan offered to send over the template and wanted us to come up with how the faculty should be involved in the visit.
 - Some discussion as to how to solicit faculty participants. Senate Exec will be involved, perhaps Julie Simons as well because of her experience in Gender Equity. Fairbanks suggested broadening the call to General Senate to get perhaps some more diversity of opinion. Senate Exec will discuss and get back to McMahan.
 - As far as students, suggestions were made to involve AS folks and other student leaders. Isakson expressed a concern that discussing TIX issues in a group setting could be a very difficult conversation, and we want to be sensitive to that and realize we may only get the very few students who may have some experience with TIX and are comfortable speaking about it.
 - More discussion of this. Noted that student leaders would likely be relaying student concerns they've heard. Tsai noted that we may need as a campus to do some work to gather this information and make sure the upcoming Cozen O'Connor survey is participated in. He also said that being informed about the level of confidentiality people can expect in these conversations and the survey would be helpful. McNie asked that the confidentiality issue be asked of Cozen O'Connor prior to their arrival.
 - McNie summed up our initial take on faculty involvement. She said that Senate Exec + Julie Simons would be the group in the meeting if possible (contingent on scheduling, but Julie Simons should be prioritized in terms of availability). We would also consult with Senate on Thursday.
 - McMahan will send the template and be in contact about scheduling during the visit.
- Provost Updates
 - Nothing for now, but there's a slot for her in the General Senate meeting agenda. McNie wants to make that a regular thing. Provost said she would keep her comments brief.
 - Agenda for General Senate Meeting
 - Fairbanks updated on the minutes. He's sending previous meeting minutes today. There are also some elderly minutes that need to be approved.
 - Vice Chair Senk will start the election process for open seats on Senate, and she's also looking at committee membership. McNie will share her information on the standing committee membership, etc.

- Provost's Report will be 5 minutes, which she says is sufficient.
 - GE Resolution reading. Senk will run it, but Tsai and Isakson will support. Tsai has a practiced spiel on the issue that he can do. Propose waiving first reading. Need to sort out the threshold for this vote. ASCSU threshold is three-quarters.
 - Jase – Senior Director of Academic Technology
 - Erika – Coordinator of Student Academic Support
 - Donny Gordon on active shooter response
 - Chris Brown on RIO
 - Burbach on the JED Foundation
 - McNie will report on the Cozen O'Connor folks.
 - Senk noted that we should pull the trigger on instituting the 'default' by-laws for the standing committees who have not yet written their own. She will contact the committee Chairs.
 - Tsai asked about updating Senate on 3-School Model Evaluation Process Task Force. Wordsmithing of this in the draft agenda ensued. McNie will put this in the Chair's report at the beginning. The task force on this is actually meeting at 8am on Thursday, right before the Senate meeting.
- Open Floor
 - Yip - could Ariel Setniker (Faculty Development Coordinator) be given access to the all faculty list please? It's important for her to be effective in the position. Provost Schroeder said that she'd push on that issue.
 - Yip – request for hot weather policy. Perhaps a default uniform during hot weather warnings like last week. Haller noted that a faster response on this issue would have been good. It didn't happen until Thursday of last week.
 - Haller asked about the Commandants office and who was there, who was in charge of demerits, etc.
 - Haller also noted an email that changed a policy – now there are no boots at formation. AS went through so much effort to change the policy last year, and though this is a small thing, the process by which these changes happen needs to be clear. Who made the change? Who was consulted?
 - General agreement from Senate Exec that these were important questions, and we would be interested in learning the answers, and that we would ask those questions as well. We suggested Haller speak with VP McMahon.
 - Provost Schroeder asked whether we had received the learning outcomes of the Corps from the Commandant's Office. Response: though McNie has a report of some sort from the Commandant's Office, she's not sure that it contains those. We will follow up.
 - Tsai asked about whether Graham Benton was reviewing the internship policy. Provost says she will follow up with him on it and then see about Tsai's proposed amendment.
 - Some discussion of sharing the Zoom link for the meeting. Probably not on the website, but we should distribute widely (staff and students).
- Meeting Adjourned