

## Senate Executive Committee Meeting (2/14/2023)

Attendees: Sarah Senk (Vice Chair), Matthew Fairbanks (Secretary), Ariel Setniker, Wil Tsai, Frank Yip, and Provost Lori Schroeder.

Absent: Elizabeth McNie and Christine Isakson – attending the Curriculum Committee meeting.  
Victoria Haller – conflicting meeting.

- Minutes Review and Approval
  - *The minutes from 2/2/2023 were approved by unanimous consent after edits for concision and accuracy.*
- Setting the Agenda for the General Senate Meeting
  - Senk asked if Fairbanks had a draft agenda for Thursday. He did not. Fairbanks noted that we don't have continuing documents at the moment (no items for second reading, etc.).
  - Provost Schroeder says that McNie said there was a planned introduction for the new interim Library Dean Robison. Provost Schroeder will handle the introduction.
  - Senate elections should be on the agenda. Sequencing: ASCSU election, department elections, and then at-large. We also need to do the census to determine whether department representative numbers have changed for the upcoming year.
  - Tsai said Julia Chan in HR can give us the numbers for the census.
  - Kamdar has agreed to run her term on the Senate RTP through May for continuity.
  - Holden has been Chair of Faculty Development for a long time. He's looking to rotate out, which means we need to recruit a replacement.
  - The report out for FYE is going to be for March General Senate.
  - Tsai asked for an agenda item that is a report out from the standing committees. This gives an opportunity for everyone to be aware of their activities, what's staffed, what's not, etc.
  - Tsai also thought about an initial draft of a 'Tenants of Shared Governance' resolution, though he admitted that it's probably jumping the gun. He noted that our Senate didn't know quite how we were going to function when Cropper came in, and Cropper didn't understand how Senates were supposed to function, and we've only recently sorted out many of those issues. We would need to work on this resolution as the new President or interim President is selected.
  - Agenda item: Community Day planning. Perhaps 10 minutes.
  - Agenda item: Kamdar asked for 2 minutes to plug an FLC on using tech for equity.
  - Status Updates on Standing Committees – perhaps 15 minutes total. We need to give the Chairs a heads-up so that they can speak to this.
  - Tsai indicated that he's particularly interested in Curriculum Committee, General Education Committee, and perhaps the ARC.

- Other standing committees? PLC (Fischer), Faculty Development (Holden), RTP (Holden), Judicial (unstaffed), AIC (Inoue), Budget Oversight Committee, Sea Training Committee, International Experience Oversight Committee.
- Senk proposed another item – announcing the proposed adjustments to the standing committees and scheduling a vote on the issue for March. Some discussion of what form this action should take. The conclusion was that a resolution is not needed, but specific language should perhaps be made for a ‘first reading’. Because we won’t have that language, we’ll schedule 10 minutes for discussion of the issue after the standing committee reports.
- Yip – do we have time for a recap of the town hall and next steps?
- Tsai proposed an agenda item on the School Structure committee.
- The service equity discussion is also an item on the agenda, preceding the standing committee updates. Perhaps led by McNie, though Setniker is crunching the numbers.
- Off-topic Discussion: Senk is getting a bunch of students in her office asking about the Corporation and the Foundation and corruption, etc. For some reason, these allegations are re-surfacing. Senk has reached out to Ortega and Goodrich. They’re willing to do an ask-me-anything on Community Day.
- Some discussion of this and its causes followed. The Corporation website isn’t great, so perhaps more public-facing information is important. Perhaps a FAQ? We would need to solicit questions. It was noted that faculty members Simons, Parker, Oppenheim, and Isakson are on the Corporation Board.
- Provost explained that there’s the Advancement office, which is a CSU/CSUM entity, but the Foundation itself is a separate entity. Assis Malaquias used to be on the board of the Foundation, but he has departed. Perhaps we need to replace him for transparency reasons.
- More discussion. The BAC (Budget Advisory Committee) might be a route to raising some of these issues. Fairbanks noted that it mostly seems informational rather than advisory. Perhaps Fairbanks will look to add an agenda item to address some of these persistent issues and conspiracy theories about the Corporation/Foundation.
- It was agreed that more information in an easily digestible format should be public facing. Perhaps a commitment to an annual public budget town hall? Website should be updated, for example, to have actual transparency in the transparency link.
- Recapitulation of the Town Hall
  - Yip is leading this discussion. He noted that it was unfortunate that some students who wanted to be there could not because of classes. In the town hall, faculty/staff outnumbered students. Also, there was feedback saying that it would have been nice to have a ‘next steps’ in the town hall.
  - Tsai would support regular town halls, perhaps in the 11-noon hour. Senk agreed, saying that having a consistent time in an accessible hour would be excellent.
  - Yip also noted that the students he’s heard from want this to be part of a continuing conversation. Tsai - starting with the interim President or with this one? Yip – Mueller said that this semester was desired. Perhaps monthly.

- Some discussion of this. Tsai wondered whether a month after Community Day would be appropriate.
  - Senk noted that she's meeting with Meagan Nance on organizing Community Day. AMAs with administrators and others are scheduled. There will also be AMAs in larger, more formal settings as well.
  - Tsai was also interested in feedback from students on the town hall format and its technical aspects.
- Action Items for Senate Executive
    - Fairbanks expressed appreciation for the 'punch list' Tsai made. It's good to have specific goals so we can be proactive.
    - Tsai reviewed the current list of objectives.
    - Regarding GWAR – there has been no policy update since the exam was eliminated, and we need to adjust the policy and update the learning outcomes. He worried a little about it being potentially controversial. Senk didn't think it would be, and Colin Dewey has a good document that has some research on what other institutions are doing, etc.
    - Tsai pointed out that it needs to be implemented by Fall 2023. Some CSUs seem to have a policy, but none are online. Tsai will be contacting a couple of them.
    - Provost Schroeder noted that Dinesh Pinisetty will be speaking to her about GWAR today, so people are working on it. Engineering may be the issue – they can't add credits, but they also need this course for GWAR that would be additional credits.
    - Senk suggested Tsai talk to Dewey. She noted that OCN is doing GWAR course as a preparatory course for the senior capstone, though it seems that it hasn't yet been offered because of low enrollment.
    - Some discussion of various options that have been considered in Engineering to satisfy the requirement. Unclear which is best, but something needs to be settled on as a Senate.
    - Tsai will be the point person for Senate Exec on this, and he'll start by speaking with Dewey on the issue.
    - We reviewed the remainder of the current list. The list is available on Senate Exec SharePoint. It includes by-laws adjustments, Curriculum Committee policy presentation, etc.
- Open Floor
    - Senk asked about follow-on events regarding Evan Fishel. Provost – the week following Community Day for a Remembrance Day (Evan's family has agreed to this.) Some discussion of how to properly commemorate Evan. His degree will be conferred at graduation. Some other ideas were discussed.
    - Provost Schroeder has spoken with two people on the interim Letters and Sciences Dean position. There's another scheduled discussion. So, three total candidates, and she's hoping to make an appointment as soon as possible. Graham Benton will serve in the role through the spring. Not sure on summer. She will update the Senate on this process during Thursday's meeting.
- Meeting Adjourned