**Senate Executive Committee Meeting (11/05/2024)**

**Attendees:** Sarah Senk (Chair), Taiyo Inoue (Vice Chair), Ariel Setniker (Secretary), Christine Isakson, Julie Chisholm, Maggie Ward, Keir Moorhead, Executive Dean Dinesh Pinisetty.

**Absent:** none

**Core Principles for Merger Integration**

* The committee discussed foundational principles to guide Cal Maritime’s role in the merger with Cal Poly SLO.
* Chair Senk proposed emphasizing subject-matter expertise, collaboration, and the preservation of Cal Maritime’s unique programmatic needs, such as STCW compliance.
* Senator Inoue stressed the need for clear, pre-established principles to streamline decisions and avoid micromanagement.

**Development of Work Groups for Merger Tasks**

* The committee reviewed methods to engage faculty in merger-related work groups.
* Senator Setniker suggested using Padlet to gather faculty input on work group priorities and proposed distributing instructions to Senators ahead of the General Senate Meeting.
* Senator Inoue raised concerns about faculty reluctance to participate due to perceived additional workload and suggested exploring support or compensation options.

**Clarification of Senate Structure Post-Merger**

* Senator Chisholm led a discussion on the future Senate structure under the merger framework.
* The committee acknowledged the need for some fully merged committees, while others, such as STCW oversight, require Cal Maritime-specific governance.
* Senator Moorhead highlighted the importance of maintaining a semi-autonomous governance model for maritime-specific programs during the transition.
* Executive Dean Pinisetty suggested forming transition-focused work groups to address governance changes and ensure seamless integration.

**Preparation for the November General Senate Meeting**

* Senator Senk emphasized focusing the meeting agenda on merger-related discussions and ensuring productive outcomes.
* The committee decided to introduce a pre-meeting survey to gather faculty input on work group priorities, ensuring informed discussions at the meeting.
* The role of Senators in representing their departments and gathering consensus was clarified to ensure alignment between faculty and Senate discussions.

**Timeline Challenges and Resource Allocation**

* The committee acknowledged the tight timeline for curriculum alignment and program decisions, with a target completion date by August 2025 for Fall 2026 implementation.
* Executive Dean Pinisetty noted that while $35 million has been allocated for integration over five years, the allocation of resources remains unclear.
* Advocacy for faculty support and compensation for additional workloads was highlighted as a priority.

### **Action Items**

* Finalize and circulate a draft of core principles for use at the November General Senate Meeting.
* Distribute Padlet instructions to Senators and incorporate the tool into the General Senate Meeting for collaborative input.
* Begin pre-meeting discussions to identify and prioritize work groups, ensuring faculty representation and expertise.
* Develop clear messaging to encourage faculty participation and address concerns about workload and compensation.