

Senate Exec Meeting (2/4/2021)

Attendees: Matthew Fairbanks, Cynthia Trevisan, Dinesh Pinisetty, Lori Schroeder (Provost), Frank Yip, Christine Isakson, Bets McNie, and Mark Goodrich (for the last 20 minutes)

- Dinesh invited President Cropper to attend Senate Exec meetings once a month starting next month.
- Off-site retreat is set 3/15 – 3/17. A few of us have some conflicts – classes and the like.
- General Senate Meeting dates are set, Dinesh is handling the communication of these and the calendar invites.
- Margot was the only person to volunteer to replace Sarah on Senate Exec, so no elections required. Congratulations Margot.
- Dinesh: update from the CLC, H&S. Vaccinations are being coordinated through Solano County. Early March is the hopeful date for educators like faculty to get the first vaccine doses.
- Lori added: she understands that there's a team working on vaccinations on our campus. We're dependent on the county and feds, but we're ready to go once we get the go-ahead. Wants to reassure folks that there's a solid plan in place. Solano County apparently has a website that has a way to register interest in vaccines.
- Lori: she noted Corporation board issue (membership not being diverse) keeps coming up, and she's pressing Cabinet to make the change. Seems like a relatively easy change that can start the process of sharing information on the Corporation and hopefully laying some concerns about it to rest.
- Christine and Bets noted their appreciation for Lori's continued work and their frustration with the process. Christine noted that staff are also questioning these same issues.
- Bets presented on her work sorting out who was on what committees, what are the committees, etc. She's been putting together an Excel spreadsheet that has this data. She shared the spreadsheet.
- There are 134 slots for faculty to serve on active committees (some are inactive). Senate, University-wide, etc.
- She included tenure-track or tenured faculty (lecturers aren't required and FERPing faculty don't have to serve).
- Dinesh noted that FERPing faculty may have to serve based on contract? Each FERP faculty will also receive 3 WTUs for service like a regular academic faculty. If they are teaching their full load of 12 WTUs in one semester they receive 3 WTUs for service load and if they teach 6 WTUs each semester they get 1.5 WTUs for service load.
- 4.6 Committee Service Requirements per tenure-line faculty member. Not including search committees or departmental committees.
- About a third of the faculty do about 2/3rds of the service work based on committee assignments. Some faculty do "literally nothing" for service.
- Female faculty do significantly more committee work compared to their average male faculty counterparts.
- Assistant professors serve on more stuff than both associates and full. Full is least by a significant margin.
- Christine collaborated on crunching the numbers from the data Bets put together.
- Bets: there are some interesting questions raised about who is doing service and who isn't.

- Frank: appreciates the work that went into this. I like the idea of publicizing this widely. The idea of assistant profs doing more work than full profs is shameful. RTP process has created a pressure for assistant profs to serve on these larger, more important committees.
- Dinesh: agrees with Frank's points. Everyone receives the same amount of WTU release for service.
- Cynthia: a question, has this been weighted in any way? Say, Curriculum vs. Feral Cat Committee? There's a disparity in workload there.
- Christine: just getting the data was a huge undertaking, so no weighting has been done. In the future, more data needs to be reported out of committees, and that will inform what is time-consuming and difficult.
- Bets: would like to look at weighting for chairperson-ships as well, since that usually means quite a bit more work.
- Agreement that weighting is important in the future, but we can certainly pressure the zero service folks without more granular data.
- Cynthia/Dinesh expressed interest in making sure committee membership does occasionally rotate. This helps junior faculty trying to get into positions as well as making sure that senior faculty can take a break or try something new.
- Bets noted that senior faculty may respond to this by saying that they do departmental service, and they are unlikely to take pressure from Senate well.
- Also noted that in conversations with admin, this data is important. Noted the current number of positions per faculty that the data shows. Dinesh said that he has told admin to route requests for faculty service through Senate Exec. Thinks this is being followed.
- Cynthia noted that there are some service opportunities that aren't being captured, so we should be a little cautious.
- Bets: I'll share this with Senate Exec, but we should keep it within the Committee for now until it is completed. Will also have a page in the spreadsheet for other service and reassigned time.
- Christine: noted that people might not enjoy the reassigned time data being shared. She's not sure how equitable the reassigned time assignments are?
- Dinesh noted that there is a pretty rigorous reassigned time accounting system. Gets reported university-wide and to Chancellor's office.
- Christine said that senior faculty maybe there should be an option for them to avoid service, but it would need to come with extra teaching or something of the sort. Apparently this happens on other campuses. She (and Cynthia) recall something to this effect at ASCSU.
- (switch of subject)
- Bets: some faculty have signed up for asynchronous classes, then turn it into synchronous at a time of their choosing. Students get left out if their schedule doesn't fit. Views this as unacceptable.
- Dinesh: perhaps Graham can send out a reminder, and that faculty need to be called out for this practice.
- Christine: I've heard about this happening. She's seen situations where something gets scheduled, but it's optional, but that's still depriving students who can't meet then.
- Frank: doesn't matter, the standard should be – does the student view it as required for their learning. It's unacceptable. This practice needs to be stopped.
- Lori: Graham can do this, but it might be more powerful coming from Senate and admin? Also, are faculty perhaps misinformed? They might think this is acceptable practice and simply require a correction.

- Cynthia: benefit of the doubt as a first step is a good idea.
- Lori: so, I'll see if Graham can write something up and then consult with Senate Exec so that we can sign on if we would like.
- Some more discussion about this issue. Consensus is that the practice is not good. Students should know what they're signing up for. Frank: we have a responsibility as a body to correct this, gather the data and address it.
- The response to response to IBL resolution has been postponed to next time. It will be the first thing on the agenda for next meeting.
- Mark Goodrich is here to talk about the Cal Maritime Corporation. Wants this to be a discussion. Wants to talk to campus constituencies about what they would like the Corporation to be.
- There's apparently a website set up so that comments can be anonymously made.
- He's showing some slides. Skipped a two and a half minute video. Not sure what was in there, but it is on the website.
- Functions of the Corporation
 - Scholarships, real estate, investments, run the bookstore, childcare facilities, etc. (these are examples from other CSUs)
- Showed the Board. Noted its lack of diversity. Wants it to be more diverse and representative. Wants faculty to be part of it. Views the initial board as sort of a start-up situation.
- Bets: when she heard about the Corporation, she was delighted about what the Corporation could do for the campus, but shocked by the diversity issue. Who formed this Board? "I felt like I was back on a fishing vessel off Alaska in the 80's."
- Cabinet-level conversation was the originator of the Board membership.
- Bets: if this is how the Corporation makes decisions, I'm worried. The Board formation and membership makes me doubt the whole affair.
- Cynthia noted that not all CSUs have these. What was the rush?
- Mark said that there wasn't a rush, though it may have appeared that way.
- Frank: so...why the Corporation?
- Mark said that the state structure is such that large capital projects can't be put together easily, and sales within the bookstore does not have to be within the restrictions imposed by CSU. The structure of the corporation will also be beneficial to our cadets.
- Frank: that's the first time I've heard that articulated. Can we put that first and foremost? The only, unsatisfactory explanation I've heard before is that 'other CSUs have one'.
- Mark: noted.
- Christine – Foundation and Corporation appear to have the same statement of purpose according to state records. Why does the Corporation exist?
- Mark – Foundation is meant for more philanthropic things, Corporation for development.
- Christine – would like to see this articulated in their mission statements. I think that would be helpful, transparent, and would allay some doubts.
- Mark offered another slide that talked about the advantages of these auxiliary organizations.
- Mark asked about how to communicate with the campus about the Corporation.
- Bets – lead with the important stuff (like Frank mentioned) and a Senate presentation would be good.
- Matt noted that in-person stuff would be unwise this semester.
- Frank reiterated some of the concerns and stated we needed a clean slate.

- In the chat, Lori shared that Qualtrics would be available soon! Found room in her budget. It's a one-time expenditure for now, but she's put in for ongoing allocation of funds.
- Mark exited. Some further discussion of the Corporation and its issues. Noted that Mark is just the messenger. Cynthia shared that she viewed it as having a good and concrete purpose, but the development and messaging was very odd.
- Apparently administration was unaware of our Senate meetings. Dinesh will send Jennifer Hembree the info for 25Live scheduling. Odd that it wasn't already in there since it has been on the Senate website.
- Meeting adjourned around 12:10.