



## **General Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Time: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm**

### **Minutes**

**3/23/2023**

#### **In attendance:**

Ali Moradmand, Ariel Setniker, Christine Isakson, Colin Dewey, David Satterwhite, Elizabeth McNie, Frank Yip, Kitty Luce, Margaret Ward, Matthew Fairbanks, Mike Holden, Mike Strange, Nick Lewis, Ryan Storz, Ryan Wade, Sarah Senk, Tamara Burbach, Wil Tsai, and guests.

Absent: Nipoli Kamdar

#### **1. Call to Order**

- Chair McNie called the meeting to order at 11:02am
- *Motion to approve the agenda by Senator Isakson, seconded by Senator Fairbanks. Agenda approved by unanimous consent.*

#### **2. Minutes Approval**

- *2/16/2023 minutes were reviewed. Minutes approved by unanimous consent.*

#### **3. Senate Chair McNie's Report**

- Chair McNie updated the Senate on the future school structure planning. The schedule is going according to plan.
- There is a GWAR working group looking for solutions to the adjustments required by the CSU. There are some challenges for us inherent to the new policy from the Chancellor's Office. GWAR is also being worked on in the Curriculum Committee policy. The GWAR working group has been formed. Updates forthcoming.
- The Exceptional service award as detailed in the CBA is coming (nominations and review). Email announcement and information forthcoming.

#### **4. Vice Chair Senk's Report**

- Vice Chair Senk presenting. Elections complete. Everyone was unopposed in their elections, so everyone won. There will be an orientation for new Senators in the near future.

## 5. Provost Schroeder's Report

- Provost Schroeder presenting.
- Interim Dean for Letters and Sciences appointment: Professor Alex Parker will take over the position in the summer. AVP Graham Benton will return to doing just one important job instead of two. Congratulations to Alex.
- Budget update: Provost Schroeder noted Franz Lozano's recent Senate presentation on the CSU's future funding allocation plans. That's starting in AY 2024-25. Currently, we're facing a flat budget in AY 2023-24. She's working with the Deans to determine how to meet funding priorities in Academic Affairs. New initiatives will need to be carefully considered. We aren't standing still however. The Art&Sci consultant report recommendations, for example, continue to be considered and implemented.

## 6. ASCSU Report

- Senator Isakson updated the Senate on legislative issues. She noted one bill in particular – a service-learning requirement for the CSU that would be another unfunded mandate from the state legislature if it passes.
- She noted that administration has a legislative rep for each CSU campus. Ours is Richard Ortega or VP of Advancement. Currently, there are only two legislative specialists on the faculty across the entire CSU. Isakson thinks that each campus should have one so that we can advocate effectively on these CSU-related issues.
- Senator Isakson also noted an issue with the community colleges (CC's) and the CSU where CC's are developing 4 year degrees, but ones that overlap with CSU degree, which isn't supposed to happen. There will be lots of discussions to come on this issue.
- She also reiterated that AB 928 doesn't dictate GE requirements for CSU 'native' students. It only mandates the Cal-GETC transfer GE requirements.
- Senator Tsai stated that Interim Chancellor Koester is working on the interim President appointment for us. It's a priority. And that she was hoping for announcement soon, perhaps in May.
- Senator Tsai noted that the CSU compensation survey results are out as well, which may be of interest.
- McNie – question on the selection process for the interim President. Will there be a visit to campus by Board of Trustees to talk to stakeholders? Tsai – this will be an unsatisfying, but his understanding is that the Board of Trustees selects two candidates. They (Koester and a Trustee) talk to those candidates and pick one.
- Fairbanks commented that it's shocking it works like that. The process seems inherently biased and inequitable for a CSU system that talks a lot about DEI. Very frustrating.

## 7. Appendix J Revisions (First Reading)

- Chair McNie presenting.

- She noted that the adjustments are to clarify what work should be placed in what category of RTP review. Identical language appears in, for example, both service and scholarship.
- The other desire behind the adjustments is to clarify what constitutes scholarship.
- We also wanted to specifically recognize faculty development activities and DEI work as items that can be put into the WPAF for consideration by reviewers.
- The new language is highlighted in yellow. Moved and deleted language is also indicated in the draft.
- Chair McNie also noted that the MVI category is returning, and these adjustments will also encompass and clarify the activities appropriate for their RTP reviews.
- She thanked Provost Schroeder, Keir Moorhead, and others for helping with the MVI category machinery.
- Senator Luce called out the importance of open-source resource work being called out specifically in the Appendix. She will add comments in the SharePoint.
- Holden – where should written comments go? Answer – the document is available in the Senate SharePoint. Please add comments there.

## 8. Resolution on Advising (First Reading)

- Chair McNie presenting. The reasoning and background for the resolution: advising is stressful, difficult, and time-consuming. Very important for students. Most faculty advisors are dropped right into the role in their first year. McNie acknowledged the University Advisors for their great work, but they can't handle all advising despite being crucial support. Students can take an extra semester or even a year to complete their degrees if advising isn't done properly.
- The resolution calls for developing a guidebook for academic advising and training.
- The resolution calls for department chairs to not assign new faculty advising in their first year on the job.
- Questions or comments?
- Senator Tsai – first, we have a starting point for the guidebook. Katie Hansen and Krystal Loera have a lot of the technical background written down already. Other parts of the guidebook will need to be major specific. Hope we can all agree that this is crucial for our programs. Tsai linked to a guidebook on the Registrar's website for reference.
- Senator Strange – this references tenure-track faculty, but we in ET sometimes have full-time lecturers do some advising to distribute the advising load. There are people who have been here many years and do excellent work in advising. The resolution should encompass these folks. Additionally, particularly with the license programs, there are a lot of details that are very specific to students or particular classes. For him, it took 4-5 years before he was familiar with all the details. There really needs to be a strong department/program specific portion of this guidebook.
- Provost Schroeder said that her office really wants to support this effort. She agreed with Strange, and noted that we might consider a faculty mentoring program for advising. She's excited to move this initiative forward.
- Point of information: Secretary Fairbanks noted that people should put these comments right into the resolution in "reviewing" mode on SharePoint. Though the comments are captured in the minutes, these minutes won't be approved until April.

## 9. Resolution on University Service (First Reading)

- Chair McNie gave some background on this resolution. Service on these University committees is important for shared governance. There are a lot of requests for service, which is good, but this service load should be reasonably distributed. She noted that this doesn't evaluate departmental service, and it is not the purview of the Senate to delve into department activities.
- She noted that some committees vary in number and identity per year (search committees for example), but these statistics should roughly carry over year to year. In 2022, there were 233 University-wide service positions for 49 tenure-track faculty. If all were filled, that's 4.7 positions per tenure-track faculty member. Currently, we fill 195. This is almost 4 per faculty member.
- There were comments in chat noting this large load doesn't even include department service, cruise prep, etc.
- Chair McNie described the inequities of service in these University service positions. Women serve far more on average. 6% of faculty do not serve at all. 14% are on only one committee.
- She recognized that not all committees require the same amount of work.
- What the resolution asks for is (1) asking administration to reduce the number of requests. (2) calls on fully-promoted faculty to serve on at least 2 University-wide committees. (3) calls for new faculty to not serve on University-wide committees in their first year and no more than one in their second year. New faculty need to establish themselves in teaching and research.
- Continuing the resolution's ask: (4) number and nature of committee positions to be published at the beginning of each year, (5) recommended maximum of 5 positions per faculty, and (6) explore opportunities for faculty who do not wish to do service to acquire additional teaching, etc.
- Questions and comments?
  
- Amy Skoll – think this is great and want to support it, but she wanted to note that many committees require one member per department. Small departments like GSMA are hit harder by this requirement. She's not sure if this is compatible with the ask to limit service in the first couple years. Perhaps there should be a guide to best practices on this issue? McNie agreed.
- Senator Strange – we in ET have unfilled positions (two licensed faculty currently). The positions that they might otherwise fill cannot be filled. Part of the reason we're in this position is because we've been unable to hire successfully.
- Senator Tsai – we need to have the conversation about where we're willing to forgo input on certain committees or issues. Not sure how to resolve this, but the discussion needs to happen and decisions need to be made. To reduce the number of positions, we will need to trust that some decisions can be made without faculty input.
- Steve Runyon – understands the rationale for not going to the department level on service. However, we need to recognize that some departments do a great deal of unrecognized service in terms of mentoring, cruise prep, advising, etc. These things make the University run, but often are uncredited. McNie agreed and noted the work that individuals in her department do that isn't named and isn't recognized outside the department.

## 10. Curriculum Committee Policy Revisions (First Reading)

- Chair McNie turned it over to Amy Parsons, who was the lead on this policy rewrite. Amy Parsons recognized Ariel Setniker, McNie, Kitty Luce, and Graham Benton for their work on the policy revision.
- Parsons shared a short document summarizing the changes.

- The idea is to lengthen timelines and give departments more time for decision-making, consultation, etc, as well as giving the Registrar more time for implementation.
  - The new policy splits the curriculum change types into 3 categories depending on how substantial the changes are.
  - Definitions and procedures are more defined and specific.
  - There will be a first and second reading for 'standard' changes (the middle category).
  - Programmatic changes (the big ones) will have a multiple meeting timeline as well as notifying the General Senate of the proposed changes.
  - They have added a GVAR policy, though this is a very early draft that will be informed by the GVAR working group that has been formed.
  - Questions or comments?
- Secretary Fairbanks appreciated the work. He asked whether the GVAR working group would be putting in all their recommendations prior to the April meeting so this can be passed then? Response - that's the goal, and it should happen.

## 11. Announcements

- Amber Janssen (IRB Chair) introduced herself, noted that IRB is more organized: there's a website thanks to Ian Wallace. There's a link to the IRB application there. There's also an official IRB email.
- Reminder – if there's any research that involves human subjects, you need to submit an application, even for simple survey type stuff. Janssen noted that Fairbanks, Isakson, Wallace, and her are all on IRB. Reach out, we're not scary.
- Parvin Lester introduced herself. She's the new confidential advocate. She's learning a lot about the maritime industry and our University. She put her contact info in the chat. She wants to be sure students and faculty know her and know that she's available. McNie encouraged faculty to invite Parvin into their classrooms. It takes only a couple minutes and builds her visibility, which is important.
- Tsai made an announcement for A/V and Academic Tech. Jase Teoh has a demo of the classrooms' future tech set up in the Faculty Conference Room. Please come by, check it out, try it out, and give feedback.

## 12. Open Floor

- Steve Runyon (CFA President) stated that he has printed copies of the CBA. If you want one, come see me. Also, CFA is going into negotiations for the Cruise MOU. He noted its importance for the functioning of this University. He asked about whether Senate would consider penning a resolution or other communication in support of the faculty negotiations.
- Senator Burback is working with other MT faculty to introduce shoreside students to marine equipment. Radars, radios, driving a small boat, etc. She wants to start a commitment to department knowledge sharing, so this isn't just meant as a Marine Transportation thing. Everyone has good stuff to share with other majors. More to come on this initiative.

- Senator Storz highlighted the fee advisory committee issues. He's been on there for several years. This year, they recommended against various fee hikes, and the President apparently ignored their recommendations. The thought is that Goodrich asks and gets whatever he wants. In particular, there's a 25% increase in dining fees with less service.
- Nance is organizing a Friday mini-community day. 4-7pm this Friday. They are looking to showcase cool things that campus members are doing in the future. There will be food and a cash bar.
- Senator Ward – we should look at how tech resources (computers for instructors, etc.) are doled out on campus. Faculty should have the ability to print and do various things that are required for their work here. McNie said that she would speak to her about this and get it on the agenda for next Senate Exec.
- Senator Isakson supported Ward's proposal and asked a clarifying question about which fee proposals were rejected or approved. Senator Storz clarified that all fee increases were approved over the recommendations of the fee advisory committee, not just the one he called out earlier.

### **13. Meeting Adjourned [~12:20 pm]**