

Senate Executive Committee Meeting (09/14/2023)

Attendees: Elizabeth McNie (Chair), Ariel Setniker (Secretary), Christine Isakson, Wil Tsai, Mike Holden, Maggie Ward, Provost Schroeder, Ryan Okada (ASCMA President).

Absent: Sarah Senk (Vice Chair)

- **Discontinuation Policy**

- McNie: pressure coming down from CO that every campus should have a policy that examines procedures for discontinuing a program
- Holden: no mention of layoff/reassignment of faculty – when at SFSU, president proposed eliminating engineering program, though not successful.
 - Should consider inclusion of layoffs/reassignment in policy – perhaps cite CFA policy (surely this exists?), but should be clearly stated
 - Put a lot of these comments in email – but can translate to SharePoint for all senators to view
- McNie seconds idea that all senators should have eyes on this policy
- McNie is not sure, but thinks eliminating a department might be one way a TT faculty can lose their job – need to check with CFA
- Provost: upon first hearing this, was concerned to what extent this would worry faculty, especially with our OCN program in its infancy and not necessarily meeting the minimum of graduating 10 students/year - we have a different scale here.
- This is not pressuring any eliminations necessarily, just a need to have policy in place since there is not currently such.

- **Plan Forward Campus Working Group**

- McNie: Senator Holden made a good point via email over how we ask these questions every few years and how we might consider moving forward while integrating past findings/goals
- Holden: a lot of time and effort spent on what we should do in next year, but assessment does not happen in academic master plans
 - Suggest going back and assessing master plan from 2016-2021 which has a predetermined set of benchmarks, even though this includes COVID year
- Tsai: should openly acknowledge assessment process didn't flesh out as intended, to buy a bit of goodwill back
- Provost: President has been given a specific mandate to address these certain things – this strategic plan has a 'fast track' inside of it
- McNie: would it be helpful to have fifth category about 'evaluating/synthesizing past assessment plans'?
- Holden: important to get ahead of cynicism – let's point out how it's different this time right at the beginning
- Provost: President is viewing this as a continuation of A&S work

- McNie: not sure looking at ‘the parts’ is good enough anymore – we need to look at whole picture
 - Suggested to President Dumont that we use Spring Work Week to get community to look at systemic overview – not sure 50 minute subgroup meetings is going to get us anywhere
 - Holden: one thing to be optimistic about is assessment of past plans might point out some growth and that’s something (e.g. OCN program exists)
 - Provost: we have a model for reviewing past in Academic Excellence strategic planning
- **Policy Approval Pipeline Issues**
 - McNie: some policies approved last semester and even prior fall fell through the cracks – we are having to push some of these through now, such as RTP Appendix J, CC policy, and Review of Administrative Policy, and Professional Leave Policy
- **Watchstanding Working Group Call**
 - McNie: recap of email thread concerning edits – any additional edits?
 - Tsai: one question that came up in Deans & Chairs – is this in parallel with department efforts?
 - McNie: yes, Senate will provide support roles
 - Setniker: this working group will also oversee university-wide LOs for professional development
- **Existential Crisis Resolution Next Steps**
 - McNie: thinking we will send as normal and let it sit before meeting with president of alumni association
 - Provost: any connection to plan forward initiative? Is one an impetus for the other? Is there messaging that could go out down the road?
 - McNie: there is certainly a connection, and this is something we could share if we have opportunity to meet formally with Alumni Association, that there is work being done.
 - Tsai: we need to open up dialogue with Alumni Association – I get this weird pulse that there are two groups of Alumni Association, so we need to see how this sits with both, but yes, we should establish that AA is an important constituent in this process
 - Ward: DO we have data on who makes up Alumni Association?
 - McNie: unique situation in that there are no dues, everyone who graduates is part of the AA. Not sure who is active.

- Ward: Have we talked to Captain Burbach about SUNY meeting last week? Want to make sure Alumni are well-informed about whole picture of all maritime academies at a low
 - Setniker: Is it not true that the bulk of our alums are much-in-the past grads (vs. Recent)?
 - Provost: we could push advancement for more data on this, but I do believe this is generally true, and we need to examine what date we started offering non-licensed programs – bulk of alumni from licensed programs.
 - McNie will move resolution forward
-
- **Thank You Letter to Jase Teoh**
 - Setniker: Thank whole team
 - Holden: even though still issues, team responds very quickly and puts time in
 - Provost: so proud of this team and also it's only a year-old team. It wouldn't have been possible if Jase hadn't come through the door pushing an upgrade – it was her tenacity that made this happen.
 - McNie will pen and send around.
-
- **Open Floor**
 - Welcome Ryan Okada, Student Body President
 - Tuition Increase: students believe it was pushed through over summer intentionally, passed yesterday 15-5-4 – this is going to be tough for students
 - Buildings on campus are not what they need to be – understand President is fighting for money but it is still tough
-
- **Minutes Review and Approval**
 - *The minutes from 08/29 were approved by unanimous consent (Isakson abstained) after some amendments to the minutes of the 08/29 Meeting. The minutes from 09/07 were approved by unanimous consent (Tsai, Ward, Isakson abstained).*
-
- **Meeting Adjourned [11:57am]**