## **General Faculty Senate Meeting - Additional**

**Time: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm**

## **Minutes**

**04/10/2025**

In attendance:

Chair Sarah Senk, Vice Chair Taiyo Inoue, Secretary Ariel Setniker, Julie Chisholm, Christine Isakson, Margaret Ward, Keir Moorhead, Amy Skoll, Aparna Sinha, David Satterwhite, Ian Wallace, Jennifer Metz, Kevin Calnan, Kitty Luce, Matt Fairbanks, Mike Holden, Sam Pearson, Tony McDevitt, Wil Tsai, Executive Dean Dinesh Pinisetty, and guests.

Absent: Nipoli Kamdar.

**Call to Order**

* *Chair Senk called the meeting to order after quorum was achieved 11:03am.*
* *Agenda approved unanimously.*

**Minutes Approval**

* Secretary Setniker reviewed the March General Senate meeting minutes*.*
* *Minutes from 03/28/25 approved unanimously.*

**Cal Poly Senate Merger Resolution Second Reading**

* *Chair Senk presenting*.
* Senk mentioned that emails from senators came in about specific date in resolution – Senk has since cleared up why we are saying July 1, 2025 by adding a new WHEREAS: “the first phase of the integration involves the establishment of one administrative organization July 1, 2025”
* Senator Tsai clarifies process of author (Senk) editing \*prior\* to formally moving to floor for second reading
* *Senk submits to the Faculty Senate for second reading*
* Fairbanks comments that ‘maritime programs’ while important does not encompass everything intended
* *Fairbanks motions to replace ‘maritime programs’ with ‘academic programs’. 15 Yes, 0 No, 0 abstentions, motion passes.*
* Tsai motions for additional text reflecting Cal Poly Senate Resolution to be inserted per comment on SharePoint, Chisholm seconds.
* *Tsai motions to approve resolution as presented, Inoue seconds. 16 Yes, 0 No, 0 abstentions, motion passes.*

**Election Updates**

* *Vice Chair Inoue presenting*
* Tomorrow 4/11 is conclusion of election for 4 Cal Poly Senate At-Large positions for Cal Maritime faculty – only 4 nominations: Bets McNie, Wil Tsai, Matt Fairbanks, Keir Moorhead
* Tomorrow 4/11 at noon the election for which of these 4 shall sit on the Cal Poly Senate Executive Committee also closes – please vote
* Proposal for procedure to place Cal Maritime faculty on Cal Poly Standing Committees
  + Senk has created a form “Survey of Interest” paired with a document detailing what each committee does, and what qualifies faculty to serve
  + Calling for this form to be completed by Monday 4/14
  + If we collect more than one faculty member interested in each position, we will run a faculty-wide election
  + Rachel Fernflores adds that Cal Poly does not allow faculty to chair multiple committees (though faculty may typically serve on multiple committees)
* AY 2025-26 Maritime Senate RTP Committee needs to run as usual due to RTP running as usual next year
  + Senator Inoue’s three-year term is up
  + Need to check in with other two faculty members – Tom Nordenholz and Nipoli Kamdar (who stepped up last minute this past fall)
  + CFA President Aparna Sinha adds that this is an important service, and likely for just one more year

**Discussion of Solano Campus Faculty Governance Structures Going Forward**

**Current Maritime standing committees that need to continue:**

* Fairbanks asks about Maritime Curriculum Committee – continuing?
  + AY 25-26 changes can go through, but AY 26-28 should go through Cal Poly (this is off-cycle, no major changes in these cycles)
* Academic Integrity Committee: unclear what happens. Fernflores emphasizes need for a plan for AY 26-27 – might need to work on something unique to our campus – business as usual for AY 25-26
* Faculty Development Committee
  + Secretary Setniker: depends on whether we get allocated funding from CO for RSCA, etc.
  + Dean Benton (Faculty Development Administrator) confirms this was asked yesterday (RSCA, Panetta representative, Wang scholar, etc.) - awaiting answer
* Sabbatical Committee
  + up in meet and confer – Maritime CFA e-board proposed 1-year continuation of business as usual, merging for AY 26-27
  + Cal Poly counts years somewhat differently – will need to reconcile
  + Fernflores: likely cannot make [sabbatical] decisions for new deans – need to connect with university personnel and deans about this
* Senk: do we need to move policies to Academic Affairs policies? Fernflores: request move to senate ad-hoc committees. These are up to the Senate Chair, and takes charges to Executive Committee. No resolution needed.

**Recent survey on faculty governance**

* + *Senator Chisholm presenting*
  + Our faculty are informed about planned changes for senate merge (29 said yes, were aware)
  + Merge Cal Maritime senate with Cal Poly senate: majority comfortable or neutral
  + Local administration dissolving: majority uncomfortable with this plan
  + Survey data will be distributed with department data redacted when solely identifying
  + Solano being recognized as a formal caucus within the Cal Poly Academic Senate: mixed responses – means we may need to address this down the road
  + Key themes from comments:
    - Losing all our chairs is a big concern
      * Senk: this is not necessarily decided. We have some chairs remaining, and for other departments merging, there may be transitional roles
    - Loss of voice in larger Cal Poly system
    - Having a cohesive Solano faculty identity
  + Senator Luce: how do our at-large representatives in Cal Poly Senate gather “department” feedback and concerns? What kind of structure makes sense?
    - Senk shares concern of asking these at-large representatives to do the work of what the current Maritime Senate Exec does, without compensation
    - Inoue comments that the 4 is “very much a minimum”: there are other places for us to serve in the integrated Cal Poly (standing committees, department caucuses, etc.)
      * Fernflores confirms that Maritime faculty can immediately run for traditional senate spots as part of their department – no need to await vacancies
  + Senator Metz: ability to communicate and connect to lecturer constituents is challenging now, and am concerned about this as we move to an even more fragmented space. For instance, we don’t even seem to have a lecturer email list.
    - Senk and Inoue are hopeful that resources at Cal Poly will fill this concern – such as an analyst that keeps track of faculty, subgroups of faculty
    - Setniker comments that it would be helpful to understand duties of lecturer reps currently in Cal Poly Senate and their process for reaching out to constituents
  + Fernflores: have talked with Senate Chairs about putting together an ad-hoc shared governance group to talk this all through next year in preparation for the full merge
  + Senator Skoll: seems we can’t make these calls until we know the **structure** of this campus going forward

**Open Floor**

* Dean Benton: hope senate advocates for admin support (Pat Harper, Bessie Alaniz, Sam Koekemoer) so that we don’t have to rely on Cal Poly admin support – these are dean-supported – what happens when deans go away?

**Meeting Adjourned [~12:15 pm]**