## **General Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Time: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm**

## **Minutes**

**04/17/2025**

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, Nipoli Kamdar, Sam Pearson, Tony McDevitt, Wil Tsai, Executive Dean Dinesh Pinisetty, and guests.

Absent: none

**Call to Order**

* *Chair Senk called the meeting to order after quorum was achieved 11:03am.*
* *Agenda motioned by Senator McDevitt, seconded by Senator Fairbanks. Agenda approved unanimously.*

**Minutes Approval**

* Secretary Setniker reviewed the April General Senate Additional meeting minutes*.*
* *Minutes from 04/10/25 approval motioned by Senator Fairbanks, seconded by Senator Skoll. Minutes from 04/10/25 approved unanimously.*

**Chair’s Report**

* *Chair Senk presenting*
* Primary thing to think about is how we think about our transitional committees – creating ad hoc committees at Cal Poly for things like “Transitional Cal Maritime Senate RTP Committee”, making part of the Cal Poly Senate for the transitional year
* Professional Leave Committee: propose we should create an ad hoc for this as well
* Next year, nothing changes about what we’re teaching here, but may need CC ad hoc as well

**Vice Chair’s Report**

* *Vice Chair Inoue presenting*
* Li-Hsuan Huang will be serving on the ASCSU Lecturer Electorate – thank you!

**Senate RTP Committee Election Update**

* Senate RTP Committee will continue with Tom Nordenholz, and 2 seats (Letters & Sciences, MTLM)
* Ballot will be released today, closing in one week

**Cal Poly Senate Standing Committees Update**

* One seat on each of 14 committees for Solano campus faculty
* Last week we solicited volunteers – almost no overlap occurred, where it did, folks only wanted to be on one committee, but solved by email
* No one put name in for DEI Committee? Senator Sinha reports that she did, but she also put name in for USCP Review Committee. Wants to do one.
* Vacant seats (contact Senate Exec if interested):
  + Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee
  + Diversity Committee
  + Fairness Board
    - Senator McDevitt for Fairness!

**Executive Dean’s Report**

* *Dean Pinisetty presenting*
* Interim provost will be visiting our campus Tuesday, April 22, as well as (all?) college and library deans
  + Encourage participation in open forum
* Asked deans to work closely with chairs to document responsibilities and support that we need on the ground at the Solano campus, have received lists from all chairs, and condensed to a 2-pager that has been submitted to deans at Cal Poly. Provost will make a decision. Once decided, Dean Pinisetty will report back.
* Senator Sinha: Is there a likelihood of some departments getting an associate chair?
  + Way the plan is structured is recommendations for WTUs, move away from chair and rather go to “best person to handle those duties” meaning that I want faculty to decide. Maybe current chair can take it, maybe someone else.
* Senator Sinha: we are not curricular aligned – do you think Cal Poly chairs can handle managing two catalogs in the transition?
  + Rachel is working to align catalogs, but will take time. This is the exact reason we need to have someone on the ground, to support faculty and students. Plan submitted supports that. AY25-26 will be a bridge year; we will learn a lot.
* Chair Senk: request was not to say “6 WTUs for chair”, but for point people...?
  + Asked for WTUs for all types of tasks (recruiting, coordinating, etc.), but don’t want to pinpoint titles. Deans have yet to provide feedback.
* Senator McDevitt: ShipOps Coordinator, Small Craft Coordinator – in the past WTUs were designated, but not this last year – hope those will be included
  + Dean Steve Browne: those are in place this year and next year.

**General Education Report**

* *General Education Committee Chair Sarah Senk presenting*
* We have many programs on campus (FYE, GE, ELDP, Teagle, etc.) - how do we connect the dots? All the pieces matter.
* Avoid relying on unicorns, build durable processes
* Back in Fall 2023, during Faculty Retreat led by Faculty Development Director Ariel Setniker, we crowdsourced definitions of leadership skills in order to refine Cal Maritime’s Leadership Institutional Learning Outcome
  + In the past, faculty were never invited to contribute to the leadership ethos, or learning how to infuse into the curriculum
* TEAGLE Connection – Innovative GE path
  + essential for building future leaders capable of insight-driven decisions
* New First Year Path
  + Starting with orientation, we align with First Year Experience and Common Read
    - Thanks to Jon Fischer, creating a visually appealing ‘Common Reader’
* Pilot Summer Training for Faculty
  + Embedded Leadership Outcomes in Intro GE Classes – setting us apart
    - Intro to Comp
    - Intro to Chem Lab
    - Gateway Math
    - Physics for Future Leaders
    - Intro to International Relations
* First Year Seminar Leadership Seminar Series
  + In addition to FYS, students attended 4 outside-of-class seminars
    - Captain of your own ship
    - Wayfinding
    - Good shipmates
    - Ripple Effects
* Micro courses on Leadership Development
  + 0- or 1-credit courses, but if students take all 3, can count as an elective
* Director of Faculty Development Ariel Setniker is creating a first-time Curriculum-Wide Assessment Framework for Leadership at Cal Maritime – this is the piece we’ve been missing – real assessment of our leadership education and continuous improvement

**RTP Policy and Procedures Update**

* *CFA President Aparna Sinha presenting*
* Update on RTP negotiations – we were hoping to have an MOU before today, but was delayed due to associate chair possibility
* Cal Poly wants us to move to Interfolio, due to negotiations, this will begin Fall 2026. In Fall 2025, faculty will choose between Canvas and Interfolio
* Department Chairs will have option to write review
* Provisional Department Committees and Senate RTP Committee will hold
* Hoping to sign this MOU next Tuesday
* Sinha shares proposals for long-term (2026-27 and after) plans should you elect to go by Cal Maritime policy – please complete survey so we accurately know how faculty feel
* Senator Chisholm: was hoping there would be an ability to disaggregate who was taking it (in tenure pipeline or not).
* Was there any consideration for faculty hired after 2026?
  + Future academic hires would be evaluated under the appropriate Cal Poly policy.
* Setniker: strongly encourage promoted professors to complete this survey – contribute to our community and view serving on an RTP committee as an \*opportunity\* to support your younger colleagues, rather than a negative
* Isakson: will Cal Poly faculty receive training on fairly evaluating our faculty (especially licensed faculty)?
  + Yes, this is point 9 on Sinha’s RTP Parameters document
* Sinha adds we need training here on Interfolio
* McDevitt: has anyone from SLO been invited to spend time in foreign ports? This would be an eye opener.
  + Senk: good question for Rachel Fernflores (joining us later in this meeting)

**Discussion of Transitional Senate Committees**

* *Chair Senk presenting*.
* Senk proposes sending a letter to Chair Greenwood concerning transitioning Cal Maritime Senate Standing Committees that do not overlap to Cal Poly Senate ad-hoc committees
* Setniker: we are asking the larger senate body thoughts – Exec could just make an executive decisions, but we want to represent you and your thoughts
* CC: minor changes – will need to talk with Cal Poly folks
* Professional Leave: still in negotiations
* Senator Tsai: support Exec being deputized and making assessments about which committees should transition
* Senk: do we need to convene CC for any adjustments due to ship being absent in fall
* Setniker: we’ve had the ship absent before, and what I understand in my role of CC Chair, we aren’t materially changing CCRs, we are swapping classes or making course substitutes
  + Dean Browne confirms course substitutes
* Is there something analogous to AIC?
  + Handled in departments, as well as Fairness Board
* Luce: is there a mechanism for making an ad-hoc committee after our senate is dissolved?
  + Fernflores: yes, submit to Chair of Senate, they take to Executive Committee for approval

**Open Floor**

* *Senator Fairbanks introduces a commendation resolution to the floor ‘Commending Cal Maritime Senate Work’. Resolution waives first reading and passes by acclimation.*

**Meeting Adjourned [~12:25 pm]**