

Senate Executive Committee Minutes

November 27, 2023

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Clark 551

Present: Josh Baur, Julia Curry, Vincent Del Casino, Charlie Faas, Rachael French, Tabitha Hart, Reiko Kataoka, Dawn Lee, Alison McKee, Sarab Multani, Karthika Sasikumar (Chair), Cynthia Teniente-Matson, Hiu-Yung Wong

Absent: Patrick Day, Laura Sullivan-Green

Recorder: Reiko Kataoka, Associate Vice Chair

I. Approval of the Senate Executive agenda of November 27, 2023.

II. Approval of the Senate Executive minutes of October 30, 2023 as amended.

III. Chair's Update from Chair Sasikumar

- 2023 Academic Senate Holiday Reception will be on November 30.
- The next Executive Committee meeting will be on January 29, 2024.
- Senate Retreat will be on February 16, 2024 in a hybrid format, both in MLK 225 in-person and by Zoom.
- Nominating Petitions for the Academic Senate are due on February 16, 2024.

IV. President's Update from President Teniente-Matson

- Chief of Staff position: This is the last week for Lisa Millora. Her office will report to the president on 12/1. Jennifer Malutta will assume the position after 12/1.
- UP will move under the Administration and Finance Division. University will bring an external reviewer for other potential reorganizations.
- Public announcement on Vice President for Student Affairs Patrick Day's departure will be made today. The Interim VPSA position will be taken by Mari Fuentes-Martin, who worked on the housing assessment for us earlier.
- CDO search will complete within a couple of weeks.

Questions & Comments:

[Q]: What is the rationale of moving the UP to Finance?

[A]: Human Resources and budget are tied together. Also, there will be no new hire for the VP position. The new Chief of Staff will oversee Title IX and DEI. The

move of the UP is temporary while we are re-assessing the organizational structure.

[Q]: Will the Interim VPSA be eligible to take the position permanently?

[A]: No.

[Q]: Could you tell us a little more about the Interim VPSA?

[A]: She was the Dean of Students at the U. Texas and recently retired. She did the housing assignments, looking into ways to expand the current housing in downtown San José, including the plan with Signia in the “Spartan Village.”

[Q]: How is the CDO search progressing?

[A]: We have very active candidates for this highly technical position.

[Comment]: Given the agreement with the DOJ, Title IX compliance is our concern.

[Response]: Title IX and Gender Equity Offices will remain available. We will review the transition.

V. University Updates

a. Interim Chief Diversity Officer Lee

- There were a series of Transforming Communities Workshops this month.
- The Time, Place, and Manner policy has been drafted by the Student Affairs.
- We recognize the need for a space for faculty and staff as well to discuss how to talk about what's happening in the Middle East. ODEI's approach is to adopt the guidelines outlined in the “Israel-Palestine: Avoiding Antisemitic and Islamophobic Hate Speech.” This event is being scheduled now.
- The Student Affairs team will continue providing support for Israeli, Palestinian, Muslim and other students. Support for mental health is another focus.

Questions/Comments:

[Q]: You mentioned the conversation with faculty and staff. Will you share it with the students?

[Comment from the president]: We are meeting with different parties and reviewing news reports and reports coming in from various units including UPD, Student Affairs, and student organizations.

[Comment]: It's difficult to show that nothing very bad happens, but that nothing very bad happens is a testament to your work.

[Response]: Thank you. If the situation worsens, we will consider making another statement. We will work with VP Day.

[Comment from the president]: CDO Lee and VP Day have talked with student groups, Chancellor Garcia, and the entire CSU system to work and support together. AS president Multani is a great partner in this work.

[Q]: There is a petition circulating (referring to the online petition about the incident at the 7th Street Plaza on 09/12). What would be the next step on this petition?

[A]: The university will not take any action unless the situation changes and calls for one. We will work with VP Day on this.

b. Statewide Senator Curry

- A focus at this week's interim committee meeting will be on culture of concern. The recent case of the two U of Arizona faculty members' suspensions highlights the need. At ASCSU, we want to protect the ability of faculty to speak freely, as in the Academic Freedom resolution from U Chicago.
- On what happens to whistleblowers, we need information about actual policies or offices from each campus.
- DACA employees in the CSU system is another area on which we are researching

Questions:

[Q]: Do you review whistleblower policies of all of the CSU campuses?

[A]: It is more on implementation. We will research how university offices handle whistleblowers cases.

c. Vice President for Administration and Finance Faas

- There will be Campus Master Plan Town Hall tomorrow (Tuesday, 11/28).
- Maureen Pasag will join us as the new Senior Associate Vice President, Finance and Business.
- There was a lecture series presentation by Dr. Harry Edwards, which was a great occasion.

Questions:

[Q]: I heard about excess workload and resulting delay in important functions such as reimbursement. Why not have a better system?

[A]: Multi-level approval processes take time, which may cause delay sometimes.

[Q]: Can we have automated reminders for what's past due, pending etc.?

[A]: Our system sends a reminder after a week, but we will take a look at it.

d. Vice President for Student Affairs – Absent

e. Provost Del Casino

- 60 programs have been identified by departments to discontinue due to low graduation numbers. It will be reported to the Board of Trustees and their responses will go out in May to the campus.

Questions:

[Q]: Are all CSU campuses approach it in the same way?

[A]: Every campus does the process differently. What I don't know is how the Board of Trustees will respond in May. As a part of the Academic Master Plan process, we will also create new degrees.

[Q]: On the transition of AVP for Faculty Development Deana Fasset, her role was so vital in supporting faculty that it is very concerning that the role is eliminated. How would this leadership gap be resolved?

[A]: There will be a search to ensure faculty support. VP for Faculty Success has some overlap with that position.

[Comment]: We find the AVPFD role crucial for our career success. The Faculty Success position evolved to be for hiring. The Center for Faculty Development is where faculty retention happens.

[Response]: For the time being, VPFS will step into mentorship and those tasks.

f. AS President Multani

- The Lobby Corps is doing outreach for safe space on the conflict.
- The Finance Committee had a lot of feedback on the \$80,000 impact.
- Scholarship Gala will take place on 12/7 at the Student Union BallRoom.
- Government Coordinator hiring was finalized.
- Spring activities will include the followings:
 - Panel event in March, partnering with Career Center, Alumni Center, etc.
 - Restructuring campus connection
 - Revaluating committees
 - Rethinking student memberships at committees to make the appointment process easier, and connect the new AS Board members and the Senate.

- Series of workshop on life skills, by working with library for the process

VI. Policy Committee Updates

a. Curriculum and Research Committee Chair Wong

C&R has been:

- in the process of analyzing and summarizing Cal-GETC implication survey;
- creating a new Credit for Prior Learning Policy;
- modifying Graduate Student Writing Assessment Policy; and
- reviewing a new CCI and a new program (MSCL).

Questions to the provost regarding curriculum

[Q]: Is it possible to have more information at an early stage on the Master Plan?

[A]: It is need-based and responds to the system's request.

b. Organization and Government Committee Chair Baur

- The Senate eligibility expansion proposal will be ready for the 12/04 meeting.
- O&G is considering the request to add "or designee" to the Assessment Director EXO seat on the Accreditation Review Committee.
- O&G is developing a survey for Senate meeting modality.

Questions:

[Q]: Will the survey be just for faculty?

[A]: It would start with faculty. We'll be cognizant of the wishes to include students and other members.

c. Instruction and Student Affairs – Absent.

d. Professional Standards – None.

VII. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

The minutes were taken by Associate Vice Chair Reiko Kataoka on November 27, 2023 and completed on December 14, 2023; reviewed and accepted by Senate Chair Karthika Sasikumar on January 30, 2024 and approved by the Senate Executive Committee on Feb 2, 2024.

