

## **General Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Time: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm**

### **Minutes**

**02/20/2025**

#### **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, Tony McDevitt, Wil Tsai, Executive Dean Dinesh Pinisetty, and guests.

**Absent:** Sam Pearson.

#### **Call to Order**

- *Chair Senk called the meeting to order after quorum was achieved.*
- *Agenda approved unanimously.*

#### **Minutes Approval**

- *Minutes from 01/23/25 approved unanimously, motioned by Ward, seconded by McDevitt.*

#### **Chair's Report**

- *Chair Senk presenting.*
- *Chair Senk introduces Cal Poly guests Jerusha Greenwood (Senate Chair), Rachel Fernflores (Lead for Curriculum and Shared Governance), Sarah Best (Senate Analyst) who will be discussing Cal Poly Senate resolution up for vote soon that would add designated "at large" seats for Solano campus faculty on the Cal Poly Senate.*

#### **ASCSU Report**

- *Senators Julie Chisholm and Christine Isakson presenting*
- *Community colleges are revisiting past attempt to develop bachelor's degrees*
- *White paper for three systems of California to be blended due to access issues – problematic to ASCSU*
- *AI Initiative unveiled by CO is a bit polarizing, too early to gauge support of ASCSU*
- *Assembly Budget Committee met this week, Senator Isakson will send out timestamped video discussing Sonoma State rollout with our Chancellor – recommend watching. Also saw a lot of support for maintaining (rather than cutting) CSU budget*
- *Will be sending out Stanislaus resolution on Sonoma State, along with survey concerning support and/or writing a similar resolution through our Senate*
- *Legislative specialist work – Senator Isakson has been working on a "toolkit" to take to lobbying opportunities*

## Executive Dean's Report

- *Executive Dean Dinesh Pinisetty presenting*
- Thank you to those who helped with open house this past week – 197 attendees (students together with their families)
- Announcement: Due to integration, we are putting a pause on new majors and minors
- Starting academic year 26-27 students will receive Cal Poly degrees – when will we no longer be Cal Maritime?
  - o WASC needs to approve integration
  - o Chancellor has to say we only have 22 campuses
    - Only then will we no longer be Cal Maritime, but Cal Poly
- Here to answer any questions about departmental integration into Cal Poly following 2/12 meeting with Cal Poly administration – will announce weekly office hours for questions
- Goal is to be efficient with budget, but ensure enough support on the ground at our campus when it comes to administrative structure at Cal Poly Solano campus
- Senator Luce mentions that Library and Counseling were not addressed in 2/12 meeting with Cal Poly administration – when will these groups be addressed?
  - o Pinisetty: Unit 3 is far bigger than these groups, and just didn't get to that point of addressing all subgroups, but will be sure to update as information comes in
- Senator Sinha: In the fall, for all the departments that merge – will our current chairs be doing WPAF reviews in the coming year? Current deans?
  - o Pinisetty: decisions have not been made – a lot of involved parties – certainly the structure that is settled on will dictate RTP. Deans will move back to faculty. Have asked deans and chairs to work themselves into scheduling – reason for this is we cannot make false promises to our lecturers.
- Senator McDevitt: Is there any legitimacy to requiring a commitment/letter of intent from deans?
  - o Pinisetty: what I was saying was that deans will retreat to faculty and so want them to schedule themselves to protect lecturers from potentially not finding another job should they need.

## Workgroup Report-Outs

- **RTP:**
  - o *Senator Sinha presenting*
  - o Compared RTP policy with Cal Poly RTP Policy
  - o Senator Skoll: on our campus, if you go up for tenure in year 5 and don't get it, there is no penalty and such individuals can go up in year 6 – how is this scenario at Cal Poly?
    - Senator Sinha: do not know, will need to look at department level guidance. Suggest that each faculty look up the department policy that will affect them specifically.
    - Senator Isakson: will we not be honoring the policy that you were hired under, and instead moving to Cal Poly policies?
      - Chair Senk: Senate workgroups tasked ONLY with comparing policies. CFA working on policy negotiations. Sinha is point person for both Senate workgroup and campus and CFA workgroup on RTP.
- **CFA Update:**

- *CFA Chapter President Aparna Sinha presenting*
- Faculty \*do\* have legacy rights, but we will have to negotiate how many years – this is something we will be bringing to meet and confer, as well as discussing with Executive Dean Pinisetty
- We have answered all the faculty RTP questions in an FAQ, confirming with CBA, CFA has been doing work to look at memorandums, but we will have to negotiate some answers
- Dean Benton: answers provided in FAQ are from the view of the CFA, we will need to meet and ensure interpretations with academic affairs, HR, etc.
- Senator McDevitt: is there any plan to do some hiring to bring us up to the CSU standards (tenure-line density)? MT is woefully below the minimum.
  - Senator Sinha, Chair Senk, Chair Greenwood, Rachel Fernflores have not heard plans, but Fernflores has been in discussions with MT Department Chair McNie and has been taking this issue back (to Cal Poly administration)
  - Senator Sinha will find out answer to what the minimum is and come back
  - Department Chair McNie reports that MT tenure density is 40%, senators tentatively say that CSU requirement is around 70%
- **New Programs/Program Growth:** *Senator Tsai presenting*
  - [Workgroup Report](#) on Senate SharePoint and Website

### **Cal Poly Integration Updates**

- *Cal Poly Senate Chair Jerusha Greenwood presenting*
- This week at our (Cal Poly) Senate Executive Committee meeting we finalized a resolution draft concerning our future senate structure – meeting with all the caucuses – will introduce it Tuesday February 25<sup>th</sup>, hoping to have it approved by end of winter quarter (March 11)
- Resolution summary:
  - Create 4 at-large positions for Solano campus members, one of which will be for a mariner (thank you to Bets McNie for providing revised definition of mariner)
  - One of the 4 at-large will serve on the Senate Executive Committee
  - One at-large position will be created on each standing committee
  - Bylaws for each standing committee will be updated to reflect new positions
  - Establishing what membership means – includes professional consultants such as librarians, coaches, counselors
  - Nomination eligibility
  - The Academic Senate welcomes Cal Poly Solano members
- Senator Tsai: thank you and your senate for putting this together and being intentional and reaching out to us – one of the best possible governance scenarios in front of us
- Bets McNie shares mutual support
- Senator Inoue echoes sentiments as Vice Chair of current Cal Maritime senate, as does Senator Chisholm
- Senator Moorhead appreciates footnote defining mariner. Not sure *we at Cal Maritime* even have a policy which defines a mariner in this way
- Colin Dewey: went through fear and concern, now feeling “very stoked” – in talks with Dustin (Cal Poly English department chair) and “now Jerusha, I am feeling maximal integration”

- Secretary Setniker acknowledges level of work that this resolution takes, particularly in regards to Curriculum Committee and at-large position proposed – much appreciated
- Chair Greenwood offers open door particularly to MT faculty as they will be joining her home college of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Science
- Senator Isakson echoes sentiments and thanks for good will and collegiality and collaboration
- Chair Senk: this brings us to what we as the Cal Maritime Senate want to do in parallel to the Cal Poly proposed resolution
  - o Survey will be going out for (simple) feedback on things Cal Poly should know as they go into proposing their resolution and what the Cal Maritime Senate Executive Committee should be including in our parallel resolution draft
  - o Cal Maritime Senate Executive Committee will be drafting parallel resolution and will be taking feedback/ideas by spring break

### **Open Floor**

- Senator Isakson: I understand that advising works differently at Cal Poly – what will happen in our integration with advising?
  - o Pinisetty: Likely that academic year 25-26 will go as usual, and will circle back
  - o Greenwood: Business has a whole advising center, so it is college/department specific, but in Department of Agriculture, freshmen go to Mustang Success Center for consistency, then student peer advisors. Specific faculty handle advising for specific concentrations, etc. Professional advisors keep up with curricular changes.
- Senator Skoll – what are faculty loads at Cal Poly/are they department specific?
  - o Greenwood: it is college-specific but can also be department-specific, such as for internship supervision, special projects
- Senator Sinha: will courses be the same in 2026?
  - o Fernflores: still figuring it out – we do need to publish the catalog this fall as students are entitled to see what they’re coming into. Both provosts have said that students coming in 2025 will be under the maritime catalog. Likely going to have a Cal Poly SLO catalog, and Cal Poly Solano catalog. Not going to work on overlaps until next year, so admitting 25-26 and 26-27 under current structure. In Fall 2026, hopeful we can have at least addressed the overlap issues.
  - o Pinisetty: students own catalog rights – no course substitutions, but students can change their catalog rights.

**Meeting Adjourned [~12:15 pm] (unanimous)**

## Governing Policies

Topic	Cal Maritime Policy Links	Cal Poly SLO Policy Links	Notes
New Degree Programs (Nosker, Lewis, Parker)	<a href="#">Systemwide Website: “Develop a New Program”</a>	<a href="#">Academic Programs and Planning Website: New Program Development</a>	<p>Cal Maritime uses the Program Planning guide from the Chancellor’s Office to craft proposals and develop the workflow. Past proposals are used as precedent.</p> <p>Cal Poly’s policy is laid out on the website and details the workflow through the campus, which includes the campus curriculum review details. It also lays out the process for pilot programs.</p>
New Minors (Tsai)	<a href="#">Policy on Undergraduate Academic Minors</a>	<a href="#">Academic Programs and Planning Website: Minors</a>	<p>At Cal Maritime, a minor consists of no less than 12 units, with at least 6 units of upper-division. At least 6 units must be different than major requirements.</p> <p>At Cal Poly, minors will consist of 15-24 units and at least 5 courses. At least 6 units will be foundational competencies. At least half of the minor units (at least 3 courses) will be upper-division courses. At least half of the minor units must be completed in residence. A major and a minor may not be taken in the same degree program.</p>
Institutes and Centers (Chiego, Dewey)	<a href="#">Centers, Institutes, and Similar Entities Policy</a>	<p><a href="#">Policy for the Establishment, Evaluation, and Discontinuation of Campus Centers and Institutes with Academic Affiliation</a></p> <p><a href="#">Division of Research Webpage for Centers, Institutes, and Specialized Laboratories/Facilities</a></p>	<p>The scope of Cal Maritime and the functions of the Cal Poly policies are similar. Both policies lay out the proposal requirement, although Cal Poly’s is more extensive. Approval process for Cal Poly includes the College Dean, Dean of Research, Academic Deans’ Council, Provost, the Academic Senate, and the President. Both policies define the annual review process as well as steps for closure.</p>
Cross-Disciplinary Studies (Dewey)		<a href="#">Academic Programs and Planning Website: Cross-Disciplinary Studies Minor</a>	<p>Cal Poly defines this as: defined as a set of curricular requirements comprised of coherent groups of courses tailored for each partner program such that all students from target majors develop (1) depth in the partner discipline, (2) focused study in their own discipline, as well as (3) focused study in the mutual domain of the minor. Total number of units outside of the major must be between 12-24 units.</p>

Concentrations /Options (Strange)		<a href="#">Academic Programs and Planning Website: Concentrations (Undergraduate)</a>	<p>Cal Maritime does not have a policy on options. Cal Poly’s policy on concentrations requires at least 12 units, no single course should appear in every concentration, and the number of concentration units must be less than 50% of the total major, support, and concentration units.</p> <p>Detailed discussion can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Q: Is there a requirement on the variation of total units across all concentrations</p>
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## Existing Structures

Topic	Cal Maritime	Cal Poly SLO	Comparison Notes
Existing Minors (Tsai)	<a href="#">Cal Maritime Academics Website: Undergraduate Programs (Majors and Minors)</a>	<a href="#">Academic Advising Website: Minors at Cal Poly</a>	<p>Cal Maritime has Business, Int’l Strategy and Security, Law, Oceanography, Mathematics, and Naval Sciences.</p> <p>Cal Poly has an extensive listing. Minors that overlap with Cal Maritime include: Data Science, Economics, Law and Society, Mathematics</p>
Existing Institutes and Centers (Chiego, Dewey)		<a href="#">Division of Research Website: Centers and Institutes</a>	<p>Centers of interest: CAFES Center for Sustainability, Cal Poly Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, California Cybersecurity Institute, Center of Expressive Technologies, Center for Coastal Marine Sciences</p>
Existing Cross-Disciplinary Studies (Dewey)		<a href="#">2022-26 Catalog: BA Interdisciplinary Studies</a>  <a href="#">2022-26 Catalog: BS Liberal Arts and Engineering Studies</a>	
Existing Concentrations (Strange)		<a href="#">Orfalea College of Business Website: Concentrations</a>  <a href="#">Biological Science Department Website: Undergraduate Concentrations</a>  <a href="#">Cal Poly Mechanical Engineering Website</a>	<p>Business School: i) Accounting, ii) Entrepreneurship, ii) Industrial Technology</p> <p>Biology: i) Anatomy and Physiology, ii) Ecology, Evolution, Biodiversity, and Conservation</p> <p>Interdisciplinary Studies: i) Ethics, Law, and Social Justice, ii) Global Citizenship and Social Sustainability, iii) Health and Society, iv) Science, Technology, and Society, v) Visual Media and Cultural Studies</p> <p>Mechanical Engineering: i) Energy Resources, ii) General, iii) HVAC&amp;R, iv) Manufacturing, v) Mechatronics</p>