**Senate Executive Committee Meeting (10/22/2024)**

**Attendees:** Sarah Senk (Chair), Taiyo Inoue (Vice Chair), Ariel Setniker (Secretary), Christine Isakson, Julie Chisholm, Maggie Ward.

**Absent:** Keir Moorhead, Executive Dean Dinesh Pinisetty.

**Reflection on Senate Chairs Meeting and Implementation of AB 928**

* Senator Isakson reported on the recent Senate Chairs meeting, describing it as primarily an introductory meeting for chairs to connect and offer support. She highlighted that another Senate chair expressed confusion regarding the implementation of AB 928. Senator Isakson mentioned Cal Maritime’s progress, emphasizing that the institution has successfully integrated these changes, while other campuses face challenges.

**Proposal for Special Senate Meeting to Expedite Resolution Vote**

* Senator Chisholm provided an update on the attempt to waive the first reading of a recent Senate resolution. The waiver did not pass, as some faculty felt unprepared to vote due to unfamiliarity with the content. To facilitate timely voting before the upcoming board vote, the committee considered scheduling a special meeting for a second reading. This approach would ensure that all faculty have an opportunity to understand the resolution fully.

**Discussion on Faculty Awareness and Engagement**

* Senators raised concerns over faculty engagement with Senate documents and meeting preparation. Some members expressed frustration over low attendance and participation in meetings and Senate-related discussions. Senator Setniker suggested clarifying the importance of timely Senate processes to faculty who may question the need for expedited actions.

**ELDP Event Planning and Faculty Engagement**

* Senator Senk proposed a campus event at the end of the semester featuring a leadership activity led by Director of CLD, Jay Harcum. The event would serve as an interactive introduction to the Educational Leadership Development Program (ELDP), providing faculty with insight into the program’s structure and goals.

**Merger Concerns and Core Principles Discussion**

* Senators discussed establishing core principles to guide decision-making and maintain Cal Maritime’s institutional values post-merger. Senator Inoue proposed that decision-making should rely on faculty expertise in specific fields, especially when reconciling Cal Maritime’s curriculum and programs with Cal Poly SLO’s standards.
* The committee agreed on the importance of retaining authority over curricular decisions, particularly in unique areas such as maritime studies, to ensure the integrity and relevance of Cal Maritime’s offerings.

**STCW Compliance and Curriculum Task Force Proposal**

* The committee discussed STCW compliance issues and the potential impact on merged curricular standards. Senator Setniker and other members emphasized the need for an FAQ document to clarify STCW requirements, given that even some Cal Maritime faculty and administration find them challenging to interpret.
* The committee considered forming a task force or inviting subject-matter experts to Exec meetings to address STCW’s complexities, ultimately deciding to invite key stakeholders, including former STCW compliance officers, to an upcoming meeting for input.

**Curriculum Committee Role in Merged Structure**

* The committee deliberated on the potential role of Cal Maritime’s Curriculum Committee in a merged framework with Cal Poly SLO, considering both integration and semi-autonomous structures. Senator Isakson highlighted that a fully merged committee model could be challenging due to distinct curriculum requirements, while a separate but collaborative approach might better serve Cal Maritime’s unique needs.

**Board Vote Preparation and Informational Document Creation**

* Senator Senk suggested preparing an extensive informational document detailing Cal Maritime’s unique curricular and operational requirements, including STCW and other accreditation constraints to inform decisions about the proposed integration.

**Preparation for Future Engagements**

* The committee will continue preparing for the special Senate meeting and the ELDP event to engage faculty and increase awareness.
* Upcoming meetings will focus on gathering input from STCW stakeholders to clarify compliance issues and create a comprehensive FAQ to support both internal understanding and communication with Cal Poly SLO.