**Senate Executive Committee Meeting (12/10/2024)**

**Attendees:** Sarah Senk (Chair), Taiyo Inoue (Vice Chair), Ariel Setniker (Secretary), Christine Isakson, Julie Chisholm, Keir Moorhead, Maggie Ward, Executive Dean Dinesh Pinisetty.

**Absent:** none

**Agenda**

* *Agenda approved unanimously*

**Upcoming Meeting and Retreat Planning**

* The committee discussed preparations for the upcoming All-Faculty meeting, including the need to replace Senator Aldrich due to his absences from Senate work schedule.
* A reminder email for faculty and plans to moderate online audience questions were reviewed.
* Chair Senk proposed scheduling another executive meeting on December 17 to finalize January retreat planning.
* Retreat discussions were postponed for more in-depth review at the next meeting.

**Maintaining Campus Representation**

* Senator Chisholm shared updates from discussions with the ASCSU Executive Committee regarding the potential loss of campus representation due to bylaw changes. She proposed drafting a letter to maintain representation, with Chair Senk supporting this approach.

**Senate RTP Committee Updates**

* Senator Inoue outlined challenges with the Senate RTP Committee, including conflicts of interest and membership changes. He emphasized the need to align decisions with policy while addressing a lack of eligible candidates.
	+ Sam Pecota, MTLM Representative to the Senate RTP Committee, alerted his fellow committee members at 9:30am the day before the deadline for the 2-year reviews, that he wished to recuse himself from the process.
* Upon discussion with Tom Nordenholz, Chair of the Senate RTP Committee and Dean Graham Benton, and careful review of Senate RTP Policy AS 01-004, Senator Inoue reported that Tony Snell and Nipoli Kamdar were considered for the position, with Nipoli ultimately chosen due to policy compliance.
* A deadline extension for RTP reviews was granted by Dean Benton to accommodate the transition process.
* Concerns were raised about the challenges of managing conflicts of interest within high-stakes committees and the need for early disclosure policies.
* Senator Inoue clarified that the RTP policy mandates that alternates must serve for all cases within a term and not selectively.
* The committee approved Senate RTP Committee membership changes (from Sam Pecota to Nipoli Kamdar for MTLM Representative) by acclamation, agreeing to communicate the decision formally to Dean Benton.
* Senator Inoue advocated for a swift transition of Senate RTP Committee membership via an election by acclamation, supported by precedent in past cases.
* Senator Isakson emphasized informing faculty about the change, with the group agreeing on approval by acclamation.
* Senator Inoue committed to drafting a memo to Dean Benton to formalize the decision.
* The committee discussed recognizing those who stepped up to address the gap left by Sam Pecota’s absence, emphasizing the need for transparency and internal resolution.

**Managing Conflicts of Interest**

* The committee discussed the complexities of managing conflicts of interest within the RTP process and the broader institution.
* Chair Senk noted the strain on faculty serving on multiple committees simultaneously, while Senator Chisholm suggested formal censures for policy violations.

**Rachel Fernflores’ Visit and Faculty Review**

* Plans for Rachel Fernflores’ visit were reviewed, including a ship tour and simulator demonstration led by Senator Moorhead. Chair Senk and Senator Isakson planned to join later.

**Action Items**

* **ASCSU Representation:** Senator Chisholm to draft a letter for Executive Committee review regarding ASCSU representation.
* **RTP Membership Memo:** Senator Inoue to draft a memo endorsing the Senate RTP membership change for Dean Benton.
* **Calendar Invite:** Office of the President to send out an invite for the meeting with Rachel Fernflores on Thursday.
* **Ship Tour Coordination:** Senator Moorhead to coordinate the ship tour and simulator demonstrations for Rachel Fernflores’ visit, and update Exec members on schedule.
* **Conflict of Interest Letter:** Senate Executive Committee to consider writing a letter to Sam Pecota regarding late conflict disclosures.