**Senate Executive Committee Meeting (01/16/2025)**

**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*

**Updates and Meeting Schedules Discussed**

* Chair Senk provided updates, noting that last week’s meeting was replaced by faculty meeting with hiring consultants for VP, CEO, and Superintendent positions.
* Senator Inoue confirmed the RTP Committee completed dossier reviews, with Chair Senk expressing gratitude.
* Chair Senk mentioned a meeting scheduled with Rachel Fernflores to discuss strategies regarding merger integration with campus senates.
* A semester meeting schedule was discussed, with Senator Inoue and Senator Setniker agreeing to assist in finalizing it.

**University Restructuring and Senate Adaptation**

* Chair Senk shared that university restructuring decisions are expected by early March at the latest according to Jessica Darin at the recent all-faculty meet-and-greet, ideally by the end of February.
* The committee discussed adapting Senate representation to fit the new structure, including a maritime caucus or a temporary solution for integration.
* A proposed transition of the Cal Maritime Faculty Senate into a maritime caucus, effective July 1, was deliberated, with an emphasis on maintaining representation and equity in resources. Senk noted that caucus refers to *college* representatives at Cal Poly and it is currently unknown whether there will be a maritime college or if all departments will be merged into existing colleges at Cal Poly.
* Concerns about the long-term implications of structural changes were raised by Senator Inoue, and further discussions were planned to evaluate the maritime caucus as a potential permanent feature.

**Addressing Unique Maritime Faculty Issues at Cal Poly**

* The committee addressed complexities regarding the Senate’s role in representing academic departments and potential conflicts with marine programs.
* Senator Ward expressed concerns about the lack of control over the training ship’s management and its implications for autonomy.
* Senator Moorhead raised concerns about marine programs potentially being managed by marine transportation, emphasizing risks to decision-making and liability.
* The formation of a faculty committee under the Cal Poly Senate to address licensed faculty issues post-merger was proposed by Senator Inoue.
* Chair Senk noted that Maritime faculty will need to understand both Senate and university committees and involve relevant experts in safety, curriculum, and resources discussions. Senk is preparing a document with information about these committees gleaned from the Cal Poly website and conversations with Fernflores and Cal Poly Senate Chair Jerusha Greenwood.
* Senator Moorhead proposed broadening a potential “marine programs committee” to include additional faculty and administrative personnel. Senk will discuss with Cal Poly Senate Chair Greenwood.

**Cal Maritime Faculty Senate Transition and Solano Campus Integration**

* The committee discussed potential challenges in merging the Solano campus into the Cal Poly system.
* The team agreed to prepare a dossier outlining key issues and continue discussions with Cal Poly counterparts about Senate integration and decision-making processes.
* The transition of the Cal Maritime Faculty Senate into a maritime caucus was further deliberated.
* The committee discussed proposing a standing committee within the Cal Poly Senate. Concerns about resistance from the Cal Poly Senate and the current burnout period of Maritime faculty were noted. Chair Senk agreed to consult with Jerusha Greenwood, Cal Poly Senate Chair, regarding this idea.

**Maritime Programs’ Senate Representation**

* The committee discussed ensuring maritime programs such as ELDP, maritime Gen Ed, and first-year leadership maintain representation in the Cal Poly Senate.
* Chair Senk emphasized preserving maritime-specific strengths, while Senator Moorhead questioned the need for non-maritime faculty representation.
* The committee agreed to evaluate interests and determine a negotiating position before submitting a formal proposal to Cal Poly.

**Rescheduling Senate Exec Meetings**

* Scheduling conflicts were addressed, and the committee decided to reschedule the next Senate Exec meeting Wednesday, January 22 at 2:30 PM.

### **Action Items**

* **Email to Executive Dean:** Chair Senk to draft and send an email regarding the ET chair election policy and procedure, cc'ing the President.
* **Merger Presentation:** Chair Senk to prepare a presentation on merger information and timeline for the upcoming General Senate meeting.
* **Proposal for Maritime Representation:** Executive Committee to develop a proposal for Cal Maritime representation in the Cal Poly Senate, including a maritime caucus and potentially a standing committee.
* **Merger Timeline Updates:** Chair Senk to consult with Jerusha Greenwood, Jess Darin about timeline updates.
* **Retreat Notes and FAQs:** Chair Senk to compile retreat notes and prepare FAQs for the Senate meeting.
* **Resolution Drafting:** Executive Committee to draft a resolution for transitioning the Cal Maritime Faculty Senate into a maritime caucus, effective July 1.
* **Survey Results:** Chair Senk to include updates on working group interest survey results in the Chair’s update at the General Senate meeting.
* **Agenda Planning:** Chair Senk, Vice Chair Inoue, and Secretary Setniker to plan the General Senate meeting agenda and circulate it via email.
* **Feedback Gathering:** Senators to gather feedback from departments regarding representation needs in the Cal Poly Senate.