**Senate Committee Meeting (02/06/2025)**

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

**Absent:** Executive Dean Dinesh Pinisetty.

**Proposed Faculty Representation & Governance Structure**

* Chair Senk reports out on meeting with Cal Poly Senate Chair, who proposes adding “at large” senators from the Maritime campus during the transitional period, as well as adding maritime representatives to Cal Poly Senate Standing Committee. The informal proposal from Cal Poly Senate Executive Committee (via Jerusha Greenwood, Senate Chair) includes three at-large seats for maritime faculty, plus a fourth seat permanently designated for a licensed mariner. These seats would be voted on by maritime faculty.
* **Process & Governance:** Rachel Fernflores communicated to Senk that Cal Poly Senate’s Executive Committee has responded positively and unanimously to the proposal, but the full Senate has yet to review it.
* **Faculty Selection:** Discussion on whether faculty representatives to standing committees should be appointed or elected, with an emphasis on ensuring expertise in key areas such as curriculum development and faculty affairs.
* Some members expressed concern that, while integration is moving forward, there remains a need for a campus-specific faculty group at the Solano (Maritime) campus to address local issues.
* **Senator Isakson:** “We can't ignore the work that still has to be done here. We need representation that allows us to handle matters specific to this campus.”
* **Chair Senk** emphasized that Cal Poly’s Senate model is highly functional, with professional administrative support that would alleviate some of the local burdens on faculty.
* **Senator Chisholm:** “We're going to find ourselves re-evolving into similar structures just to get things done here. This could lead to more uncompensated service work.”
* **Maritime Executive Group:** Committee discussed proposing a transitional governance body composed of:
	+ The four at-large Cal Poly Senate representatives (including the licensed mariner seat)
	+ Two ASCSU representatives from Cal Maritime (pending ASCSU approval)
	+ One CFA campus chapter president (pending CFA negotiations)
	+ Maritime representatives on key Cal Poly Senate standing committees
	+ A mechanism for quarterly faculty-wide meetings for updates and discussions aimed at maritime faculty during transition.
* **Standing Committee Representation:**
	+ Discussion of Maritime faculty having designated seats standing committees at Cal Poly during transitional period.
	+ Additional representation was suggested by Senator Setniker for curriculum-related committees to ensure maritime-specific concerns are addressed.
* **Integration Resolution Timing:** Discussion about resolution. Senk notes February general meeting may be too soon for a first reading because decision about college structures has not been made. Discussion of when to bring the resolution to the Senate for a vote.
	+ First reading proposed for the March 20, 2024, meeting.
	+ Second reading and final vote scheduled for April 10, 2024.
* **Coordination with Cal Poly:**
	+ Cal Poly Senate expected to discuss the proposal at their February 25, 2024, meeting.
	+ Aim for Cal Poly to approve the integration plan before the Cal Maritime Senate vote.
* **Faculty Consultation:**
	+ The need to present the proposed structure to the full faculty body to ensure broad support was discussed.
	+ Consideration of inviting Jerusha Greenwood from Cal Poly Senate and the ASCSU Chair to a future meeting for further clarification.
* **Recognition of Uncompensated Service:**
	+ Discussion on advocating for course release time for at-large representatives and key committee members and inquiring about faculty reassigned time at Cal Poly.
	+ **Senator Chisholm:** Suggested requesting at least three units of release time for the transition period.
* **Potential Future Maritime Faculty Caucus:**
	+ Some members expressed interest in maintaining an informal faculty caucus or working group to ensure campus-specific needs are addressed.
* **Clarifying Administrative Authority:**
	+ Questions raised about what the Cal Poly administration must formally recognize and approve.
	+ **Chair Senk:** “Bottom line: By July 1, Cal Poly Senate is the only officially recognized Senate. We need to ensure our representation within that structure.”

**Action Items & Next Steps**

* **Finalize Proposal for Senate Representation:** Draft resolution to be shared with full Senate ahead of the March 20 meeting.
* **Confirm Final Senate Meeting Dates:** Adjustments to ensure timely voting on integration resolution, such as adding an extra April meeting.
* **Clarify Standing Committee Appointments:** Determine nomination or election processes for maritime faculty seats.