Executive Committee Minutes  
July 7, 2022
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Present: Alison McKee (Chair), Stephen Perez, Julia Curry, Rachael French, Charlie Faas, Brandon White, Reiko Kataoka, Laura Sullivan-Green, Vincent Del Casino

Absent: Tabitha Hart, Priya Raman, Karthika Sasikumar, Patrick Day, Kathy Wong(Lau), Nina Chuang

Recorder: Eva Joice, Senate Administrator

1. Approval of the Executive Committee Agenda of July 7, 2022 (EC Agenda of July 7, 2022, Consent Calendar of July 7, 2022, and Executive Committee minutes of June 10, 2022) was tabled until the next meeting due to a lack of quorum.

2. Senate Records:
The Executive Committee discussed Senate Records retention. Chair McKee has reviewed CSU regulations which state that these records should be maintained until no longer needed. It was suggested that once the minutes of the Senate and Executive Committee are approved and posted online no recordings or notes need to be maintained and should be destroyed. Chair McKee will discuss this further with the President at their next meeting.

3. Update from Interim President Perez:
The legislature proposed a $211 million increase to the CSU baseline. This means an increase for SJSU mostly for mandatory costs such as salary increases. Some one-time funding was proposed such as $3 million for the Moss Landing Marine Labs dock plan, and $5 million for the Wildfire Research Center.

Interim President Perez participated in “Hill Day”. The CSU presidents met virtually with our legislators. They talked about Pell grants. The buying power of Pell grants has eroded over the past 50 years. Doubling Pell grants would be great for students.

C: [VP Faas] If the CSU gets under $300 million, then faculty and staff salary increases will be limited to 7% and not 8%.

The President and Provost met with WASC commissioners on June 23, 2022 for 25 minutes. There was a brief introduction followed by questions. We should receive their recommendations soon.

4. Update from the CSU Statewide Senator:
There will be a presentation by the new chair at the next Board of Trustees’ meeting on July 12th and 13th. An announcement was sent to Senators regarding an exhibit at the MLK Library on Saturday from 2-4:30 by Patty Wong. It is a community effort.

5. Update from the VP of Administration and Finance (VPAF):
UPD has held three monthly meetings at the MLK Library. The campus community was invited to attend as well as the public. At the first meeting there were protestors and they were invited in. Chief Carroll will be happy to come back to the Senate in Fall 2022.

The Campus Master Plan continues to move forward. We haven’t done one in 20 years. We met last week and talked about housing locations, concepts, and are in the process of putting a report together.

Last weekend there was a sideshow on South Campus prior to the July 4 holiday that did some extensive damage. We have talked to the District Attorney about restitution.

Questions:
Q: The monthly UPD meetings are important due to national interest in gun violence. What are we doing to take a stance on this issue?
A: [VPAF] We don’t take a position on public issues.

C: However, I have done research on WWII internment camps and can say that many Presidents have stood up on public issues. As a university, we have a responsibility to speak out about how to protect and advance society.
A: [VPAF] Every week the president, provost and VPAF address these issues. They look at them from every angle.
A: [President] The president would enjoy another conversation about this at another time.
C: [Chair McKee] Thank you, Senator, for speaking to the role of higher education in society. These kinds of discussions often get lost.
C: As a university we need to ensure the safety of our students, faculty, and staff, but we are also obligated to serve the community.

Q: If we are opening up our doors to the public, how do we ensure safety?
A: [VPAF] You have to be prepared: e.g., with the lockdown of buildings.

C: The library and the Student Union can be unsafe places. Female students have commented on people in the library staring at them and their belongings. It is our responsibility to provide a safe place to learn and work.
A: We are doing things like Active Shooter Training and taking extra precautions. This is a safe campus. The Student Union and the MLK Library aren’t unsafe places. Up until this past year, my issues were mainly with the homeless population and the Student Union. However, the homeless population has changed its patterns.

6. From the Provost:
For the next year the Provost will be focused on the restructure of advising. The Provost has also been working with the deans on their T/TT hiring plans, and looking at their positions to make sure they are in the right places.

Questions:
Q: There was an announcement from Penn State about a track for non-tenure line faculty with different titles. Have you seen it?
A: No. This is a conversation we should have. Can you forward the announcement to me?
C: Yes.
Q: What kind of feedback did you get from the Transfer Student Orientation?
A: There was mixed feedback. Some faculty didn’t show up and others changed plans last minute on students. We need to have a larger conversation about how to do transfer advising.
C: In Engineering there were lots of conversations about this between faculty and staff. Our students were frustrated by the schedule. Major advising wasn’t until the end of the day and it was decreased to 1 hour and 20 minutes for 30 students which wasn’t realistic. It was not productive for us.
A: [Provost] Transfer Orientation falls under VP Day and he isn’t here today.
C: Faculty are the most qualified to advise within a major. However, faculty aren’t compensated to work over the summer.
A: [Provost] Everyone was paid that needed to be paid. The comments by the College of Engineering are new to me. Faculty need to be trained.
C: By whom? Trainers of faculty need training about what faculty do as mentors and advisors.
Q: We are still in COVID and there are ongoing manufacturing issues trying to find supplies for research in different fields and areas. In some cases, the demand is so high that they simply aren’t available. This continues to impact RSCA as well as tenure-line faculty’s RTP progress today. Has consideration been given to this?
A: [Provost] The original letter I created in collaboration with Professional Standards would be a way that a faculty could explain problems with delays in shipping of supplies currently that might impact research productivity. Faculty should not delay tenure applications but indicate this in their dossier.

7. Update from the Policy Committee Chairs:
   a. From the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA):
      I&SA received a complaint by a student that a professor in a department announced that everyone was getting an “A” in his class, and this student wanted to know why, since he was taking the same class by another professor, he wasn’t getting the same grade. I&SA will identify the department and college and have them respond. This is very concerning.
   b. From the Professional Standards Committee (PS):
      Chair French just took over and is playing catch-up right now. She is reviewing the amendments last year to the RTP policy.
   c. From the Organization and Government Committee (O&G): No update. Chair not present.
   d. From the Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R):
      There is nothing new for C&R. We are discussing how to move forward on the GE Pathway. We are waiting for next steps.
      
C: [Provost] There hasn’t been a CSU Provosts meeting since May. The Provost hasn’t heard much. The Provost will dig a little.

C: [Chair McKee] After investigating other campus Senates, there doesn’t seem to be a consensus on if or how they are moving forward.
C: Chairs at the ASCSU did give a report on these issues, but there was no timeline given.

8. The meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.