

## Chair's Report 22 October to Senate

This year, the officers are trying to organize their work about the focuses of (1) shared governance, (2) communication, and (3) faculty engagement. My comments are organized along those lines, to the extent possible.

### Communication:

1. Faculty shared governance needs better ways of communicating between stakeholders that include standing committees, ad hoc committees, this committee, and others.

The officers have met with all the standing committees at their first meeting of the term, and we conveyed this priority to them. All have been enthusiastically supportive. As we establish a process for this, we want to keep it simple enough to not create a burden on the committees, but we want to get information that's rich enough for us to help steer the Senate in directions that strengthen the University and promote academic excellence.

I have worked with IT to create a system by which all committees can submit meeting schedules, meeting agendas, and meeting minutes to a dropbox. Then all Senators can access that dropbox to review the work of committees and become involved to the degree they desire.

In summary, all senate standing committees have either: a website (GE, Curriculum) or a DropBox (others) to share minutes/agendas, etc. These sites will be reviewed by the Secretary, and reports forward to Exec and Senate.

2. The Chair met with lecturer reps and is following up with their concerns: full lecturer email for communications and secure spaces (lockable cabinets or drawers) for all lecturers to store sensitive materials. The Provost is aware and working on this. Lecturer reps will tour a model workspace on Friday Oct 25 and provide feedback.
3. New bylaws are posted on the Senate website, <http://senate.csuci.edu>. They have been reviewed by Senate Executive Committee, and they've been declared the official governing document of the Senate. We are open for revisions.
4. Our discussion around campus civility was shared with the President's Task Force on Inclusive Excellence

### Shared Governance & Faculty Engagement:

1. The President's three year review is taking place. Comments can be directed to the Chancellor's office by Nov 1.
2. The President suggested, and we agreed, to two dates for all-campus shared governance discussions:
  - a. December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11am
  - b. April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm.

3. Senate officers (Wood, Miller) met with the Staff Council Chair (Cuevas) on Thursday 10/10. Staff morale is low. This problem is documented by the March 2018 Climate Survey, the results of which were disseminated by a document that summarizes the quantitative responses. This Fall, campus stakeholders were asked to advise on a draft report on the qualitative responses to the Climate Survey (i.e., Item 38). Senate Officers and the Staff Council Chair agreed that the draft document accurately described the state of campus morale, and agreed that it could have been released in the draft form presented to them.
4. There has been some concern about the way University administration has made unilateral changes to the way granting release time has worked. This year, Academic Affairs articulated a process for recognizing program reassign time. Academic Senate weighed in and sent the process to the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) for review. In the meantime, because Academic Affairs must continue their work, Senate Exec is trying to give them process feedback on short-term deadlines.
5. Going forward, when a process becomes documented, it will be referred to committee for a process review. If, as was the case with the travel funds process, it required swift action, exec will take a quick look and ok the process for one year while a more extensive review occurs.
6. We discussed a potential Resolution (to be endorsed by both Staff Council and Academic Senate) to call for a campus climate survey every 2 years, that the results of which would be discussed by all parties (staff faculty and admin in ways that allowed parties to feel they could speak freely) followed by a joint full campus discussion of results. The resolution might also call for the administration to make clear how they are addressing factors that contribute to low morale in the faculty and staff.

#### Informational Items:

1. Faculty Affairs Committee is continuing to work on a Lecturer Evaluation policy.
2. The Biology Program, Basic Needs, and Staff Council are holding a Harvest Festival Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-5:30pm with pumpkin carving and decorating. Location: Modoc Hall.
3. ASI is organizing a Mental Health Awareness week this Fall, and civic engagement activities in the Spring.

#### Senate Operations

1. Delays in the election process were due to the earnest desire by CoC to include all lecturers and waiting until all new hires were finalized. This takes far too long and we will use the Spring email list for the Fall for lecturers going forward. This will greatly speed up the election process.
2. Please encourage non-participating senators to consider opting out of senate to help ensure we make quorum.

