

# Executive Committee Minutes

February 24, 2022  
3:00 - 5:10, Via Zoom

## Abstract

Agenda - Approved. Minutes for 2/10/ 22 - Approved. Chair Report. President Report. From EPC: Revision to the Education MA - Approved for Senate Agenda. Provost Report. Statewide Senator Report. Vice Chair Report. Resolution re: United in Kindness - Approved for the Senate agenda. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Vice President of Student Affairs Report. Modality for the Executive Committee for AY 22-23 - Approved for virtual AY 22-23. Special Report on Orientation for the Senate. Faculty Eligible for Emeritus Status and request for Distinguished Chair for Greg Sarris - Faculty Eligible for Emeritus Status approved for consent calendar, Request for Distinguished Chair Emeritus approved for the Senate agenda. From EPC: Memo about AB 928 - Endorsed by the Ex Com. Senate Agenda - Approved.

**Present:** Lauren Morimoto, Bryan Burton, Emily Clark, Emily Acosta Lewis, Emily Asencio, Richard Whitkus, Michaela Grobbel, Sam Brannen, Karen Moranski, Monir Ahmed, Michael Young, Erma Jean Sims, Wendy Ostroff

**Absent:** Karen Thompson, Judy Sakaki

**Guests:** Gerald Jones, Moe Jabbari, Pamela Coleman, Alvin Nguyen, Jenn Lillig, Michael Balasek

**Approval of Agenda - Approved.**

**Approval of Minutes for 2/10/ 22 - Approved**

**Chair Report - L. Morimoto**

L. Morimoto said we have a very full agenda and a number of times certain today. She noted there will be a Budget Forum on Thursday March 10th, from 10:00am to 11:00am. She encouraged the Ex Com members to attend. They are going to try the same format, where people present and then there will be some smaller groups that will be led by members of the Budget Advisory Council group.

We had a very good chair chat yesterday talking about interdisciplinarity and talking about some of the academic and the structural barriers to doing interdisciplinary work on this campus. Folks had a lot of ideas about how we can actually move this forward and one of the suggestions was the creation of an interdisciplinary task force. It will be focused on something fun; about how to make our campus work better together and do the kind of work that's exciting and that speaks to our COPLAC identity. The Provost will probably be the one who ends up convening it later on, so keep your eyes out for that. The other thing that was really interesting and maybe this is not news to everybody else, but she did not know that we still have a graduate program of interdisciplinary studies and the undergraduate program still exists, but in a different form. It is not for students creating their own major, but a place for faculty to create their own major and then trying to find a home. That made her nervous because finding a home for a major can be hard, especially when involving different faculty. But that does exist, so as people incubate and find ways to preemptively create agreements and if the program takes off, consider whether it has a home. When we get to the task force, they can sort that out. We do have the national conference coming here in November and she thought that could be a good way to work backwards on things that we would like to see happen by that point or to prepare our students and our faculty to be fully engaged in that Conference. We'll come back to interdisciplinarity in a future Chair Chat. On the Tuesday March 8th at 2pm Chair Chat, we will address what happens when people do not follow shared governance policies or rules and try to brainstorm about what we would like to see happen, what are some options, and looking at how we can make shared governance meaningful and where we hold people accountable.

She is going to send out a note, stating that the Senate Analyst has graciously agreed to be our parliamentarian for this semester. If anyone has an objection to that, send her an email or email the Senate Analyst.

#### **President Report - Given by K. Moranski**

K. Moranski announced that we are moving forward to begin the SEIE Dean search, as you may be aware, Stacey Bosick has been serving as interim Dean of the School of Extended and International Education for the last year or so. We held off on beginning that search thinking that it was an opportunity to do something different in terms of leadership structure, but it is crucial that SEIE be entrepreneurial for Sonoma State. This is an area where we can make money for the institution that goes back to departments and back to Schools. We have to maximize that and she needs a Dean who is going to be highly entrepreneurial and who is going to think about the community and building relationships that help us develop continuing education

units, develop certificates, stackable credentials, things that are going to draw the public into Sonoma State to encourage matriculation at Sonoma State and to give us an opportunity to build a revenue stream. She will be working with Structure and Functions and through University Personnel to start that search and find faculty to serve on that search and put together a committee and get that going. She is working on the job description now.

Thanks to the CFA leadership, we are ready to move forward on our plan for at least 70% in person for the fall. The 70/30 split that we used this semester will be used in the fall as well. CFA said that there will not be a need for a meet and confer since we're essentially staying the same. If there is a situation in which a department cannot reach 70%, then the Dean will examine that issue, work with them and then ask me for an exception.

She had some unfortunate sad news about a faculty member. Tony Mountain, former Hutchins School faculty member, passed away very suddenly last night. We will put out announcements as necessary once more is known.

The Chair said one of the things that she has talked to University Personnel about is that one of the things that happens on this campus is the position announcement is created before the committee is put together. Would it be possible to assemble the committee and then do the POAs? Because the two places where you can diversify a search are in the POA and the constitution of the committee. To take away one of those options is limiting. It would be great if we could start that practice.

The Provost said she would talk with Chandra Holdt about that and we can certainly find ways for the committee to have input into the POA. She was very happy to have any input. She threw away the former job description and is starting all over again because it is so out of date. It's a good time for us to have some input into that position description.

The Chair provided examples of search committees with less than diverse representation.

**Time certain reached**

**From EPC: Revision to the Education MA - E. Asencio, J. Mahdavi**

E. Asencio introduced the MA in Education revisions. Mainly, they were designed to bring the program into compliance with EO 1071. She said EPC was super impressed. The proposal was very thorough. It passed EPC without hesitation.

J. Mahdavi said the main thing is that we're having our three concentrations come into compliance with Executive Order 1071 before the Chancellor's office comes after our Provost or something. **It was approved for the Senate agenda.**

### **Provost Report - K. Moranski**

K. Moranski said as part of our membership in COPLAC, we co-sponsored the Beard Leadership Circle, which is a professional development opportunity that started last year and is continuing for a second year. It is hosted by Sonoma State and it will be held in July on our campus. Each year the Provost nominates up to three faculty. We were very fortunate this year that we were able to get three of our faculty into the Beard Leadership Circle for Chair training and those faculty are our very own Emily Asencio, Kyuho Lee and Monica Lares. We are exceptionally proud of them. They were nominated first by their Deans and then by herself. We thank them and are excited to be working with them. She will be one of the facilitators at the workshop, so we are excited about that return on investment for our COPLAC membership. That's been a really important piece of the puzzle for us.

The Chair said since we have three of the chairs going maybe they could do a couple of workshops for the other chairs, who are still in development.

The Provost said she was thinking that we would do that once we build the model. The chair's training is using pieces of that back on our campus during the year to do some additional chair training.

### **Statewide Senator Report - W. Ostroff**

W. Ostroff said it has been a big week in the CSU. One thing that R. Senghas said to her was that he got contacted by a reporter about our SSU resolution regarding the former Chancellor Castro and asked if there was any follow up. The news media is wondering if we are going to follow up on our resolution, in particular she assumed, about the call for the investigation, even though Chancellor Castro has resigned.

There are also two resolutions have come out from campuses concerning AB 928 and campuses in the CSU are making Senate resolutions calling for keeping the golden four and calling for standing up for our general education in the CSU because AB 928 seems to be railroading toward what the UCs want for general education. We've gone through two major overhauls in the last couple of years. If our voices aren't heard, we may get steamrolled over on this. Some of us have been trying to strategize how to give feedback. There is a portal for feedback that individuals and groups can respond to. We're trying to put together a campus response, which is wonderful, and individuals should weigh in if they if they feel so moved. AB 928 is a very formidable challenge for us, and we need to make our voices heard. We might want to also some kind of resolution in our Senate, for standing up for our meaningful general education and the CSU.

A member said there was also the other aspect of that resolution that was related to investigating the procedures and policies in place. What can be done in the long term, investigating how was this allowed to be swept under the rug. That is another thing that needs to be examined. Even though the Chancellor is gone there's still more that needs to be examined with what happened.

W. Ostroff said thank you for saying that. She fully agreed. She will bring that to the ASCSU plenary which we're going to be having next month. All of us agree that we don't want this to be a done situation, we want to investigate how and why and make sure that that doesn't happen again.

The Chair of EPC asked is there a date or a deadline by responses from campuses are sought? W. Ostroff said that's a really good question. She didn't know about the deadline, but she would find that out.

#### **Vice Chair Report - B. Burton**

B. Burton said we had a good chair chat on Interdisciplinary studies at SSU and we would like to keep that ball going. We are talking about a task force, so at some point he and the Chair will loop back with the Provost and Stacey Bosick to talk about the next steps because we do want to work on this in the summer time and keep it moving.

Elias Lopez has asked for the faculty to try to come up with how we want to be involved in recruitment efforts. Maybe in the next Senate, we can definitely talk about that, but if anyone has any ideas that would help him and Emily Clark.

Following up on the bookstore issues, faculty have different opinions about the bookstore. We are putting together a Google form that will help us understand what are the structural barriers to ordering books on time. How can we make matters better? He and the Chair are hoping to meet with Chair Councils and the Deans. We're going to try to get some buy in from them and to ask their faculty to complete the Google form because we have a lot of anecdotal evidence, but no real data we can use to find solutions.

The Chair said half of the faculty are saying the reason they don't get their book orders in on time is because they aren't assigned their classes till the week before class starts. Maybe we can come up with some possible solutions, such as would people would be willing to have a book for certain classes, where lecturers often teach. That would be the book that is adopted for that course. Another option that a lot of folks in our department do is we don't schedule anything for the first three weeks that requires the textbook. We want to get a sense of what people have done to deal with delay and what are some possible things that have worked. But also wanting to know the barriers to the bookstore getting orders on time and then trying to see if they can be addressed. We've had this talk before in here, but we need to move on it. The AS Senate is pushing. They want this to get sorted because of the accessibility issues. That's the other piece; we have to be in compliance for accessibility.

#### **Resolution re: United in Kindness - M. Jabbari, P. Coleman**

The Chair welcomed Moe Jabbari and Pamela Coleman to the Executive Committee. She asked them to introduce themselves and discuss United in Kindness.

P. Coleman said she was very happy to meet with the Ex Com today. She has lived in Santa Rosa for 11 years and her entire career has been in higher education. She spent her entire work life working to help people's children find the right college to attend. She has been an enrollment management person in California and nationally for almost 40 years and currently she works for an organization that works with not-for-profit four-year colleges and universities to find Presidents, Vice President and Provosts. She was in the San Francisco office currently working with Washington U and St Louis and with Tulane University, with the University of Notre Dame and Wellesley college. She also works with the University of California, the Cal State system, and many other wonderful organizations that serve the people of this country and help us become a more civilized society. It meant a great deal to her to meet with senior faculty members at our major university here in Sonoma County.

Thank you for everything you're doing, and in these very difficult times for our country, she was heartened to know that there are faculty teaching bright people that will go forward and lead us.

M. Jabbari said he has been living in Santa Rosa and Sonoma County for the past 40 years. He is an engineer by training, and has been working for high tech companies in Sonoma County and elsewhere. He is married and has three wonderful children, all of them have gone through higher education, one of them to Sonoma State and he is an alumni of Sonoma State. He was in the first class of the MBA program at Sonoma State University, and he was very pleased he did that.

After attending too many memorial services for victims of hate crimes in our nation and in our state, he decided that somebody had to do something. He knew we could not change the world. He said, they knew we could change our immediate neighborhood and surroundings, namely Sonoma county, so therefore, Sonoma County United in Kindness was launched, and we wrote a declaration of unity and then we took it to the public. So far, pre-COVID, 1600 people have signed and endorsed us as well as nine different organizations, the first one being Sonoma County Human Services Commissioners and the second one being the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors.

We have taken it to different organization and so far 49 organizations have signed on. In Sonoma County we should have proclamations in support of this program - Sonoma County United in Kindness, because there is a definite need. It is unfortunate that we have to talk about being kind, but definitely there is a need out there, because of the polarization in our community and our nation. We have to do something about it. We met the district leaders in the K through 12 school system and introduced United in Kindness. They are very enthused, and he was glad to report that Bennett Valley school district has adopted Sonoma County United in Kindness and they published their own proclamations. Now we would love to work with higher education and being an alumni of Sonoma State University, he believed we have to pay back to the society. We are pleading that if you could adopt Sonoma County United in Kindness, or endorse us, it would be a very good publicity for Sonoma State University, and we can put the campus name along 49 different organizations. It is really a feather in our cap that a higher education institution in Sonoma County is favoring this program. We also are working with Santa Rosa JC. Our goal is to get higher education involved at this movement, in this program. It is not curriculum. It doesn't cost any money at all. It doesn't need any written documents, all you need is to have a home grown declaration or you can use ours, or we can coach with you, we can work with you to issue a declaration that every

student, every faculty, would sign. We believe people who signed the pledge or the sign the declaration, they make a pledge to get involved by doing acts of kindness. In every interaction, we are asking people to exhibit two acts of kindness. The reason we say, two, is that the first one is easy, the second one, you have to think about it and, if you think about it, if you do it on a daily basis, it becomes a habit. Obviously we cannot do it all on our own, so we need the community support. That's the reason we are here today. He thanked Dr. Eyler for meeting with us and communicating with us over many emails back and forth to get to this point. We are pleading with the body that Sonoma State should come on board and either adopt our declaration or publish or issue your own declaration and make it school wide. At the Bennett Valley school district, it was very easy. They did it two weeks. Their sixth graders have made a plan that if there is a student in school that is in need, they have made a pledge not to leave them alone at lunchtime. How great that would be if that kind of scenario could be implemented at Sonoma State University. He offered to answer questions.

A member said this sounds wonderful. You are not asking for any commitment from us, we make this proclamation and then theoretically we're done.

M. Jabbari answered we are not looking just for a name that Sonoma State endorses. We are hoping that as people signed the declaration, make the pledge that you will intentionally talk about acts of kindness. We are not looking for a commitment, but we are looking for a forum to pledge. So many students could be kinder, they could learn to talk about it, so it becomes a natural thought for them. There are people, unfortunately in our society, the minor few, who are committing hate crimes, and the bigotry is getting all the press. 90% to 95% of people are good and we love to honor that.

A member said she liked the project very much and wondered how other organizations have actually implemented it. For example, have students or other members of other organizations signed up online, for example, or are they physically able to do that? With thousands of our students, she was trying to see how we should do it.

M. Jabbari said we have created a database and whoever signs the declaration pledge, we ask permission about having their name and email put on our mailing lists. If they agree, then they receive announcements for events and such. We have an event coming up April 22 for youth poetry. We had that last year and over 430 people participated. We had selected seven youths to write poems about acts of kindness and compassion. That's what the schools can do if they have our program.



As students grow up they can become a leader that values acts of kindness in our society and that's our responsibility as adults to coach and direct kids. Education is noble and great, but education without act of kindness, is not that great.

The member said it sounded as though you are requesting that we as a university endorse your program, but is it also true that individuals can as well?

M. Jabbari said yes. This group can sign a declaration and, if you want to take it to the next step further, somebody would come and make a note of how many students have pledged to acts of kindness at your school. It is as simple as that. We don't have any follow up, we just want to bring it to the forefront that acts of kindness are really needed. Human nature, at heart is quite kind, unfortunately that gets clouded through media or through propaganda. We believe people will pledge and those who have signed the pledge, they think twice before they engage in an inhumane act. The member asked for the website, but United in Kindness only has a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/socoactsofkindness>. Basically, our vision is to promote acts of kindness that advance social justice, embrace diversity, and champion equity with respect for all. That type of language would be good for students to take to heart.

The Chair noted that the Japanese American Citizen League endorsed United in Kindness as an organization and signed on, and then we shared it with our members that we had signed on. As part of this we try to support the events that United in Kindness does. For example, the poetry contest last year we attended and one of the poems was actually really awesome. She was so impressed. We didn't have our individual members do a declaration, but they're certainly welcome to. It was just us as an organization and then we spread the word within the organization and tried to engage our members in the acts of kindness.

M. Jabbari said some of the organizations who have endorsed us called us into the organizations to talk to their members, especially if there's a congregation or a synagogue or church. We have attended many, many organizations and we have talked about how important it is to engage in acts of kindness, and there is no obligation for them to sign. Again, our mission is to propagate the message. There is no book, there is no red tape. It is just talking about it. To engage folks to think about it, engaging students to do acts of kindness at a school or of campus.

The Chair thanked M. Jabbari and P. Coleman for attending.

A member suggested to recommend to the President that the university signs off on the declaration. The Senate cannot sign off for the university.

The Senate Analyst said there is a resolution in the Executive Committee agenda packet. She worked with R. Eyler to get it in the right format for the Senate. The resolution says the Senate is signing on to this, so we can do that as well as asking the President to do it.

The Provost said the Analyst is correct. If the Senate wants to sign on the Senate could do that as a body. If the Senate wanted to include in that resolution, or have a separate request go to the President for the University to sign on, then, the Senate may be talking about two separate things, but the Senate could actually combine them in the same resolution. if you if you wish.

A member said she supported that and it makes so much sense to link such a resolution to our diversity, inclusion, and equity efforts. They are mutually highlighting each other and supporting each other and that makes a lot of sense.

A member said he liked the idea that the provost said about combining it with a request that the President has the university sign on, and so, in that sense, he didn't think this is ready. He preferred that we bring this up to the Senate, let the Senate write its own.

The Senate Analyst said the Senate can't write a resolution. We have to give them something. This could move forward and somebody could move at the Senate to add a resolved clause to also send it to President or whatever the Senate wants to do.

**The resolution was approved for the Senate agenda.**

#### **Vice President of Administration and Finance Report - M. Ahmed**

M. Ahmed said he had a couple of things. One is later this week the campus is the site for the Second Nature event. We are asking everybody to help us nominate people. We have 50 seats, and of course our Sustainability Committee is the forefront of it. Claudia Luke is helping, along with others to fill those positions and we want as many of us faculty, students, and staff to fill those positions. The other quick announcement as you are returning to the campus and trying to make the campus a lively place, he invited everybody to come and join in the home games for athletics. If you have a chance to stop by, students appreciate it.

## Vice President of Student Affairs Report - M. Young

M. Young asked L. Monje-Paulson to provide a COVID update. L. Monje-Paulson noted that the vaccine booster deadline was February 28th and students need to upload their verification. She offered a couple of insights and some tips that might help us ensure we're getting our students into compliance. We now have 60% of our students who will be in compliance as of Tuesday and that leaves 40% of our students who are eligible for boosters who haven't submitted their verification. They are using different kinds of notifications in different spaces and are seeing those numbers gradually improve from a compliance standpoint. About 200 of our students are by our definition fully out of compliance, more than half of those are students who had remote exemptions and are submitting for an additional exemption. They had to renew it for this semester. Many of those students are getting vaccinated. We have been reaching out directly to folks who are not compliant and not eligible for the remote exemption. We have even been making personal phone calls to students.

What would be helpful from the faculty would be extra diligence around checking the clearance indicator after the 28th. Having a professor check that clearance indicator at the beginning of class could be one of the best ways for them to have a one on one interaction and realize they're out of compliance. We recommend that if faculty are going to do that, to give their students a heads up, reminding them that the deadline is next week. If faculty can encourage folks to check those clearance indicators that helps us.

If our numbers don't improve, we have another other idea. We can strategically place Student Health Center folks with tables set up in places and spaces, where they would be most accessible. We're not done yet and hopefully we'll see those numbers again improve and we appreciate any help.

A member had a question regarding the clearance indicator. She has been checking the clearance indicators and there was one student who had a yellow screen. She thought he must be missing a form or something, so she told him to talk to student health and get that checked and then come back to class. The student never came back and she felt bad about it. What do we do in a situation like that, especially when a class meets after 5:00pm? She told the students that if they had to miss class, they could attend virtually via Zoom. She turned on Zoom on her laptop, but the student never showed up. She was wondering about the logistics for a class that's

outside of the normal business hours. Is that something that could get easily corrected?

L. Monje-Paulson said that situation is nuanced and it has a lot of different elements to it. Had you not even been able to offer Zoom, then the student just wouldn't have been able to come. That's a specific piece that some faculty are not going to be able to offer, and we are not encouraging folks to be able to offer those alternative options either. We will be paying attention to those classes that are after hours. We are working to have a few opportunities for specific staff to add extra hours to do specific COVID work. Incorporated into that approach is that we could essentially deploy those staff members outside of the nine to five hours, so that we have a little more availability for classes. Dinner time in the Kitchens, is another place where we have folks that could potentially be looking into the student's health records, resolving the issue and helping them quickly go back to what they were trying to do.

A member said she was worried about a Learning Community class that she is teaching that has almost 100 students in it. We have already run into issues and it's not that easy to be as flexible and go totally online. Could she find out how many students in that particular class will not clear after February 28th to be proactive and push ahead? We do check out the door, but students are not able to come back. L. Monje-Paulson said it is a possibility for you to find out. When we've had exposure notifications, our Risk Management colleagues have been easily able to provide that information because there's an immediate need. One of our other strategies was identifying instructors with courses that may have a high rate of non-compliance and doing a general outreach to those faculty and we talked about that a lot last semester. We thought we were borderline sharing too much information, and didn't want it to seem that we were hunting people down to get vaccinated. But if students are eligible, but unable to be boosted that helps us feel confident and moving toward these mitigation efforts. Yes, we can provide that information and will probably be looking at how to do that strategically next week.

It was clarified that Student Health Center staff could access medical records and help students understand what they need to do to clear their indicators.

A member asked who should she tell students that they should contact? She was also not sure about what all the indicators meant. L. Monje-Paulson said the short answer is if it's not green they shouldn't come in, and they need to call the Student Health Center. The different colors have meaning, but faculty only need to remember that green indicators mean they can attend class. Ultimately it's not your job to remember what every color means and all the nuances. It is your job to remember

that green is good and everything else, they need to call the Student Health Center. If it's after five and the Student Health Center is closed, they might not be able to get it resolved until the next day. From the Outreach space, we think we can say reasonably - you've had time to get into compliance, we have let you know you're not in a compliance. We've reached out all these different ways. It shouldn't be your job as the professor of the class to make that decision. We've tried hard to make sure that the students have had time to comply with the policies.

### **Modality for the Executive Committee for AY 22-23**

L. Morimoto said we had the first reading about the modality for the Senate and it may end up that people will want to coordinate these two. Based on the Senate Analyst's document for the Senate, she thought the same thing applies for the Ex Com.

A member asked do the bylaws or any documentation say anything about how we meet and the meetings of this organization. It was clarified that such language is not in the current by-laws. The member continued arguing that the Ex Com could meet at Sally Tomatoes then or any place we choose. Not everyone who's going to be on the Ex Com is here today because it's new membership every year. This is running into that problem about making decisions for future members. L. Morimoto said we always make decisions for future members. The member said some of those future members are sitting on the Senate, right now, and maybe they want to say in this. L. Morimoto said maybe they do and that's why we might need to coordinate this modality with the Senate.

The Senate Analyst noted that the realities of scheduling physical space on the campus are formidable. That is why she needed a decision as soon as possible.

The member said his understanding is there's no trouble finding space for committee this small. It really comes down to whether this committee wants to meet in person or not, and he agreed that with small committees it can work best by Zoom, but he didn't think space is an issue for this committee.

Time certain reached.

### **Special Report on Orientation for the Senate - G. Jones, A. Nguyen, J. Lillig, M. Balasek**

L. Morimoto said welcome to everyone and noted they are part of the steering committee for Orientation. They asked for some time because Orientation is going

to be a little bit different, some timings are going to be different and so before we share information with the whole Senate, she thought it was good to come here first.

G. L. Jones said thank you for allowing us to come in and present on our Orientation plans. We have a new model that we think that is going to get at improving the student experience, build all the excitement and momentum from Seawolf Decision Day, increase the number of high touches with students throughout the summer and then hopefully eliminate or drastically reduce summer melt. One of the points of Orientation is to increase the number of touches with students throughout the summer.

This all will begin as SeaWolf decision day.

- FTT Orientation (in-person and livestreamed)
  - Pre-Orientation Program (POP) @ Seawolf Decision Day on April 23 from 2:15 - 3:00 PM
  - Advising & Registration on May 12 - 13
  - Catch-all for late-ERD from June 20 - July 22
  - Welcome Week on August 16 - August 19
- FTFY Orientation
  - Pre-Orientation Program (POP) @ Seawolf Decision Day on April 23 from 2:15 - 3:00 PM
  - Presentation from Seawolf Service Center + Financial Aid to FYFY on June 9 from 9 - 10 AM
  - Advising & Registration from June 20 - July 22 (remote)
  - Welcome Week on August 16 - August 19 (in-person)

For the first time, we will have a session called Seawolf POP, which is the pre-orientation program, and that is designed to greet students who have already decided to come to Sonoma State by paying their deposit. We will greet them into the Seawolf family, so this is meant to be a festive occasion, while also highlighting what the different orientation programs will look like for the incoming transfer students and the first-time, first-year students.

Our plan is to offer the first-time, transfer student orientation on Thursday and Friday May 12 and 13th. The goal is for that to be a one stop shop. Students will come in and they will receive some nuts and bolts type things from our treasured advisor Erica Black. There will be an opportunity for learning about services, Financial

Aid and our Student Health Center. Then we will send students to be advised and to registration. We are asking for each school and faculty to be present on both days the 12th and 13th. Our goal is to allow students to self-select which session they attend and they will again be advised and register all in the course of those two days.

For the first-time, first-year orientation, our plan is to advise virtually all students during the time period of June 20 through July 22. The plan is for each student to have one hour advising in a registration session with a professional academic advisor as well as assistance from the chairs of the different department and that's a big pivot for us.

#### Welcome Week

- August 16 - August 19 for FTFY and FTT
- Introduction and presentations from campus resources and student life
- Coordination with campus partners to provide welcome programming (mapped to SLOs)

Welcome week will occur August 16 through the 19th. The plan is to bring all of the students to campus, and this will coincide with move in weekend. We're planning on having 2300 students attend Welcome Week. 1251 first-time, first-year students and 1051 transfer students. One of the things that was critical to building out this program is to engage with our different campus partners. We have met throughout the year with different faculty. We have collaborated with the Academic Advising subcommittee. They have built out the student learning outcomes for the advising and the registration piece. Those outcomes will be mapped to what the students learn during academic advising and registration. We've also engaged with the Student Affairs Committee to develop the student learning outcomes for Orientation and again those outcomes will be mapped to the Orientation program during Welcome Week.

#### Engaging Campus Partners

- Faculty
  - SLOs for Advising & Registration from Academic Advising Subcommittee
  - SLOs for Orientation from Student Affairs Committee
- Campus Partners

- Registrar, Financial Aid, Seawolf Services, REACH, Facilities, Professional Academic Advisors
- Associated Students

We've also collaborated with different campus partners such as the Registrar, Financial Aid office, Seawolf Services and facilities. Our goal was to be as collaborative as possible and make sure that we are building out an orientation program that takes into consideration all of the different things that other folks have to do across campus. In terms of the Registrar, Financial Aid, and Seawolf services, they're very excited with this plan because it allows them to clearly communicate out what's going on with students and parents and it allows them to be very clear on when the different student payment deadlines are. For the welcome, we're going to back up that piece by having students engage with different faculty, campus members, and different departments to learn about the different areas that are going to support them in their retention throughout Sonoma State University.

One of the other high touch points that we are planning to do is that our Orientation student leaders, our Summer Bridge leaders and our Peer Success coaches, who will work and communicate with students throughout the summer. From Seawolf Decision Day, all the way through registration, all the way through Welcome Week, we will have students that are connecting with them to answer any questions and make sure that the excitement from Seawolf Decision Day continues, all the way through the start of the school year.

Another group that will be engaging on campus is Associated Students. We will be presenting to them next week, the same model that we have presented here.

A member said thank you very much for rethinking and restructuring all of this. She assumed the first three events with Decision Day and advising and registration in May is all face to face, is that correct?

G. L. Jones said everything except for the advisor and registration for the first-time, first- year students. That is the only component that will be remote. Everything else is in person.

The member asked for the June and July sessions, can you share more about how that will be structured and how individual departments and faculty will fit in so that we can plan?



M. Balasek said the idea is to work with each department and, hopefully Department Chairs are excited about partnering. 2300 students is a lot to support as they come in and this new higher touch model is going to required of all hands on deck. We're thinking departments would say based on the number of students we're bringing in, specifically FTES, we would like to either do one on one advising on these days or small group advising on these days. We would determine what the capacity is for that and then we would hope to fill in on the back end. In those sessions we're going to go through the basics. Here's how to register, here's what you need to know for your first year and then we're actually going to help them register, so that at the end of that session every student walks away with a full schedule.

J. Lillig said it's important to look at this as like an iterative process. This year we worked hard with SAC and AAS. The Faculty on SAC and all members of those two committees worked very hard on developing these learning outcomes for both the advisory registration piece, and for the overall orientation piece. The idea this year is to work on mapping the activities that lead to those learning outcomes and seeing how things go and then reassessing soon after it's over, so that we can get ahead of the scheduling. As a past faculty member, it always felt like we're always a little bit behind. But hopefully we can get out ahead of it, so that we're thinking years ahead, and we can approve the process in a fashion that doesn't feel like we're in a hurry.

S. Bosick said we're so impressed with the committee work that was done in SAC and AAS in putting together incredibly thoughtful learning outcomes for Orientation and thinking hard about the timing, what do students actually need to know now at the start of the semester and what can we wait on, and working to refine those over time. The Steering Committee is keeping diligent notes on what the hypotheses are, what we're trying, what are the things that we're changing this time around, so that we can assess what works and keep the things that work going into the next year and dump the other things. We continued to appreciate feedback and we're feeling very happy about the changes for this year.

A member asked will there be a way for individual departments and programs to reach all students, perhaps through a video, or some other method. That would be very important for a lot of departments, but especially for Modern Languages because we are connected to so many other programs and departments. Will faculty receive a stipend for their work during the summer? That has been a real problem to recruit people to work in the summer.

G. L. Jones said because we will be doing Orientation during May 12th and 13th, faculty won't have a need for compensation because faculty will still be on contract.

For the summer months, we're asking for the Chairs of the departments to assist with orientation.

S. Bosick said we're trying to get to a cost free orientation or a low cost orientation. We can't do it this year because the fees were already approved and we can't make the changes so late in the season. We're inching toward a cost free orientation and we're trying to keep the cost down in the budget situation.

The member said it seemed to her that, for example, having a vibrant website with video presentations by individual departments who wish to do that, would work towards your goal.

The CFA rep said she wanted to remind everybody that we did have a grievance around summer advising for faculty. The outcome of it was that Sonoma State must comply with the CBA and that would mean that faculty would be paid at their daily contract rate rather than some arbitrary stipend.

The Provost noted how much she appreciated the thoughtfulness of the Orientation group, both for rethinking orientation, but also for rethinking orientation in very specific ways for starting with Seawolf Decision Day. The longer touch points over the summer will help with melt and it's important that we start where the committee has designed it. How valuable it is that we're talking about an hour long appointment for each student individually. We have never put that time into individual students during orientation because we couldn't. We didn't have a model for doing that and that is going to make students sure of their schedules. It's going to make sure that they get 15 units. It's going to help them plan better and it's going to help them feel like they know someone on campus when they come back for the Welcome Week. That Welcome Week is again a "just in time opportunity" to really help orient the students and get them get them accustomed to the campus. It is a model that we've talked about now for about four years. The orientation model is amazing, and the learning outcomes are indeed spectacular and that is a very important notion that orientation is a learning process, is a learning moment. She appreciated the thoughtfulness that went in to this refresh of Orientation and thanked the Orientation Committee for their great work, as well as to SAC and to AAS.

## **Return to modality for the Ex Com AY 22-23**

The Provost said we can find space for Ex Com, it was Senate that we were struggling with, but we are closing on an answer for a permanent location for Senate as well, and we'll have that information available next week.

The Senate Analyst said that her comment wasn't about whether to be in person or virtual. If the Ex Com is meeting in person next year, she would start scheduling rooms now. That is what she does, and she has to schedule rooms for almost every committee in faculty governance, not just the Executive Committee. That's why she needs to know sooner than later.

A member pasted in the chat from the Senate Constitution:

#### 1.10 OPEN MEETINGS

All meetings of the Senate, its committees and subcommittees, shall be open at all times to the Public with the exception of executive sessions.

#### 1.11 EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Senate and Senate Executive Committee meetings may be declared in executive session by a majority vote of the members present.

a. Executive sessions will be closed to all but the members of the body, and any special guests specifically invited to attend.

How are we going to have them open to the public? Are we going to advertise the Zoom link in the newspaper? If we can't have it open to the public, then he claimed that we're not following the Constitution, and then he claimed, we should not at Ex Com.

Posted in the chat: This is a statutory issue—the Brown Act. (*note: we researched this years ago and we are not under the Brown Act.*)

A member said he thought we've had enough discussion on this.

**Motion that the Ex Com meet virtually for the academic year of 22-23. Second.**

A member spoke against the motion because the two at-large members for Ex Com have not been elected yet.

A member suggested bringing to the Senate that both the Senate and Ex Com be virtual at the same time, and let them hash it out.

Another member said it seems a little strange for the larger body of the Senate to vote on how this particular meeting will function. Other subcommittees have probably determined in their subcommittee how they will meet next year.

A member said it does make sense for us to make that decision here. People won't know yet on what committees they will end up and what Senate committees or subcommittees they will end up on, so for that reason, we should make that decision.

The Senate Analyst announced that the vote was a tie and asked the Chair to vote.

**Vote on the Executive Committee being virtual for the 22-23 academic year - Yes = 5, No = 4. Approved.**

#### **Faculty Eligible for Emeritus Status and request for Distinguished Chair for Greg Sarris**

L. Morimoto asked if there was any objection to the list of emeriti eligible for Emeritus status. Then they would discuss the Distinguished Chair request.

The Provost suggested treating the special request separately from the approval of the names. Greg Sarris should be on the list to be approved as emeritus. There was no objection to the list of faculty eligible for Emeritus status.

L. Morimoto said now we can talk about the title: Distinguished Chair Emeritus.

A member said he did not have a problem with Greg Sarris, but thought this might be a slippery slope. We have lots of very distinguished people. Do we need this? It doesn't give him any special privileges, correct? It just makes him feel good and makes him feel special and he's more special than the rest of us? Is that really what we want to do?

The Provost provided a little bit of a rationale. The distinction here is that Greg Sarris has served as the first Sonoma State Distinguished Chair. We haven't had one of those before and he's the only one. It may be what you maybe are doing is perhaps deciding how to treat distinguished chairs moving forward. She understood the concerns. His is an endowed professorship. It's the only one. Would we not do this, perhaps for the next Distinguished Chair of Native American Studies and endowed

chair? While the argument is pitched for Greg Sarris, she thought the Ex Com ought to be looking at it as a precedent for how to treat these distinguished endowed chairs in the future. We do have titles like this for President Emeritus and in other words, we would we would likely do this for other special situations. Here we are making a choice about how to deal with this kind of this position, this particular position moving forward.

L. Morimoto said usually the emeritus list goes as an informational item to the Senate, but do we want this special request to actually go to the Senate for more discussion because it's different? We're making two decisions - the establishment of the position of Distinguished Chair Emeritus and that Greg should be granted that title.

**Motion to extend the meeting 10 minutes. Second. Approved.**

A member said if we're going to create a new position, he didn't think the Ex Com can just on its own create a new position. That's going have to go through governance.

The Provost said we're not creating a new position, the position exists. We're creating emeritus status for a distinguished chair.

L. Morimoto said do we create a separate category of emeritus and do we give it to Greg? She didn't know if the new Emeritus category has to go through governance or not.

A member said she didn't see any issue with doing this since he was already recognized in a special position before.

Another member said that emeritus status is the responsibility of the Senate and it's one thing for the regular faculty to be on the consent calendar, but this is completely new and he could see some Senators thinking that the Ex Com is making decisions without them.

L. Morimoto noted that the Senate Analyst put in the chat that we have an emeritus policy that might need to be amended, but not necessarily before voting on this.

A member said she wanted to bring up the fact that Greg Sarris has been polarizing on our campus and some faculty will not be terribly happy if this is pushed through

and the perception might be purchasing the status. Let's send it to the Senate to decide.

L. Morimoto asked if any other emeritus status had to go the Senate as a business item.

A member noted that there was a Provost who served 10 years as faculty that wanted emeritus status. That was quite controversial.

L. Morimoto asked should we have a motion of approving him for the special distinguished chair? The Senate Analyst said the Ex Com is approving whether to send this to the Senate as a business item. The regular list of faculty eligible for emeritus status typically goes on the consent calendar.

**The list of faculty eligible for emeritus status was approved for the consent calendar and the request for Distinguished Chair Emeritus status was approved for the Senate agenda.**

#### **From EPC: Memo about AB 928**

E. Asencio to put this item into context, and noted everyone received the draft memo about AB 928. This memo was drafted by the collective curriculum chairs across campus, and that is herself, Megan McIntyre who's the Chair of the GE Subcommittee as well as Sam Cohen, who is the Chair of the Overlay subcommittee and Melinda Milligan who is chairing our GEORGE Subcommittee, which is responsible for revising the charges of all of these curriculum committees.

We drafted this in response to a call for feedback from the CSU. We did consult with Wendy Ostroff and Richard Senghas as well, while we were constructing this. The call for feedback is really a campus wide response with regards to AB 928, and we need to have this to them by March 1, which is why we come here with our draft to Ex Com.

We are hoping if the Ex Com thinks it is appropriate, for Ex Com to endorse it, but with the understanding that our campus needs to set forth some type of response to this, or our voice won't be heard; we won't be represented. The curriculum chairs across campus are probably pretty well positioned to understand how this affects our curriculum. That's why we drafted this.

M. McIntyre said the only thing she would add is that we don't see this as precluding a Senate resolution and a number of Senates and a number of campuses have already passed versions of their own resolutions and she would be happy to work with whoever would like to draft that and bring it before the Senate, but given that the deadline for ASCSU request for feedback is March 1, we wanted to make sure to have a coordinated conversation and piece of feedback to give them, as well as potentially to work on further responses that we could do in the coming weeks.

E. Asencio said Wendy Ostroff mentioned earlier that a Senate resolution might be a good thing, and that can certainly come forth separately and can include pieces of this or not. All of the people who participate in this draft are happy to help with a draft of a Senate resolution.

L. Morimoto said for this you're not asking for it to go the Senate, correct?

E. Asencio said there's really not time for that. Our hope is that we might be able to get an endorsement from Ex Com.

L. Morimoto said at one of her chair chats somebody provided a handy chart about the differences between the UC pattern and the CSU and then some other things that people have raised. The other Senate chairs are pushing to try to preserve the lifelong learning, but in the end the UC doesn't have to accept the changes. Basically, it's just the CSU saying, this isn't cool.

A member said we're being asked to do yet more GE reform and we're still doing what we did before and it's overwhelming, and please stop asking us to do more. He was on board with the memo.

M. McIntyre said we are being given a very short timeline to do it, so AB 928 includes a requirement that by December 2023 the three systems agree on a shared lower division GE curriculum. If the three systems cannot agree, there's then a year, where some set of folks are going to decide what system will be imposed upon all three systems, what lower division GE pattern will be imposed on all three systems with a requirement written into the law that for the fall 2025 first-time, first-year class the catalog has to reflect the changes required. So, the law includes a timeline that is rude along with the rest of the challenges.

**Motion that the Executive Committee endorse the memo from EPC regarding AB 928. Second.**

A member said the chart says "Languages other than English, UC students only." Is that saying that they have a requirement in the UC for languages other than English, but we do not? It concerned her. She would like EPC to consider the possibility of languages other than English as being something important for our students. It concerned her that it wasn't put in there before, and if the UC has it, it seems that this should be a discussion we should have here and throughout the CSU.

M. McIntyre said the member was right. That is a point of departure between the three systems, the Community colleges, the CSU and the UC. We don't have that requirement. She encouraged all of the faculty who have disciplinary councils to have part of this discussion with their disciplinary council. The English Council has it on their agenda for us to discuss CSU English Council response. The Councils weren't invited as far as she could tell and weren't invited by ASCSU in particular to provide feedback. However, it would be appropriate for us to talk to our disciplinary councils. The forum for feedback from the ASCSU is also open to anyone on campus. This memo is structured this way is because the first three questions asked respondents to rank order which pieces of GE should stay in which pieces of GE we're okay getting rid of. The conversation has been framed in very problematic ways which is we haven't yet had to have discussions, such as a language requirement.

E. Asencio said that is how we crafted the memo because we felt that responding to the survey was suggesting that there were parts of our GE program that could and should be cut and that we were capable of making that decision right now and respond to the survey. This memo is our response to the survey, instead of going through and starting to rank order things that we feel should be dropped.

**Motion to extend five more minutes.**

**Motion to end debate.** The Senate Analyst noted that the motion to end debate cannot be made in a small committee. Only at the Senate. Robert of Robert's Rules thought small groups should keep talking until they figure it out.

A member expressed her concern about the lack of a language requirement in the CSU and hoped that EPC and others on our campus would take up that discussion in the near future.

**The Executive Committee voted to endorse the memo regarding AB 928.**

## **Senate Agenda**



Report of the Chair of the Faculty – L. Morimoto

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

**Consent:** Faculty Eligible for Emeritus Status

**Special Report:** Orientation - Gerald Jones TC

**Business:**

1. Proposal for Senate meeting to remain virtual AY 22-23- Second Reading - L. Holmstrom-Keyes, L. Morimoto
2. From EPC: MA Education Revision - First Reading - E. Asencio -  
<https://sonoma.curriculog.com/proposal:2355/form>
3. Resolution re: United in Kindness - First Reading - M. Jabbari, P. Coleman TC
4. Request for Distinguished Chair Emeritus for Greg Sarris - First Reading - L. Morimoto

**Adjourned.**

*Minutes prepared by L. Holmstrom-Keyes with help from Zoom transcript*