Classified Senate Notes

September 26, 2023

The first meeting of Fall quarter for classified senate met on zoom on Tuesday, Sept 26 at 2 PM.

The icebreaker and community building event asked each person attending to introduce themselves, tell where they worked and what they needed from a team environment.

President, Adriana Garcia, welcomed everyone and emphasized the casual nature of the meeting. She especially welcomed new colleagues joining the meeting for the first time. She also welcomed Stanley, the CSCA representative and introduced the executive council for senate.

Adriana announced that the senate still has vacancies for president elect and treasurer. She also shared the website, showing the standing committees and list of senators with their areas of focus. She reminded attendees senate is still seeking nominations to fill positions.

In response to a question from Alex, Dennis explained the purpose and goals of the megaproject task force, and said it should be renamed on the senate site to its new name, the measure G task force.

There was some discussion about whether there was a current representative on the budget advisory committee and Adriana said the budget advisory task force is seeking a classified rep to serve as tri-chair. Two people are also needed on RAP, because Adam stepped down as secretary and Bidya is on leave this Fall and should be temporarily replaced. Dennis clarified the secretary for RAP does not need to be a classified person.

Adriana explained that the nominations process involves a person being nominated, accepting that nomination and the senate voting on that person's appointment.

There was some confusion about whether Sushini, who had agreed to serve as proxy for Bidya on RAP was doing so, since her name was listed on the RAP website. Adriana will double-check.

Later in the meeting, Claudia agreed to fill in for Bidya on RAP if nobody else can do it.

The dining services RFP , Dennis explained also needs classified representation.

Adriana announced the executive council decided instead of senate meeting twice monthly for two hours, it would now meet weekly from 2 to 3 PM on Tuesdays. It is felt shorter, more frequent meetings will encourage more involvement.

Adriana said her planning committee for encouraging more representation was hoping to create a list of all shared governance committees , what the classified rep's role is expected to be plus how often they meet and how long meetings run. This project is still in process.

Debee clarified that Caring campus was not a shared governance committee per se, but rather an initiative wholly run by classified staff. Adriana will however keep it on the list of committee appointments.

Adriana discussed the payroll deduction form, encouraging those who do not already donate to do so. She said a contribution can be as little as $2 a month. The form has been revamped and made fillable and accessible.

Adriana reported that Friday from 9-10 everyone is invited to join a group brainstorming ways to increase senate attendance and participation. She allowed a few minutes also in this meeting for people to brainstorm the topic. Two suggestions were to reach out to co-workers and welcome them to come to a senate meeting and also for staff to speak with their supervisors and deans about senate's need for more participation.

Adriana will email out the academic calendar, list of senators and their roles, the payroll deduction form as well as the updated bylaws. She hopes people will review the bylaws and be prepared to vote on their proposed changes.

She also asked for volunteers to coordinate a welcome activity/social event. Claudia agreed to help and hopes others will join her.

Claudia also asked about the document that will be collaboratively created during that brainstorming session, and Adriana says she will share it so those who cannot attend will be able to still add their ideas.

Closing with affirmations, the meeting adjourned at 3 PM.

Links mentioned in the Chat

Measure G Task Force

https://deanza.instructure.com/courses/32219

Classified senate home page:

http://deanza.edu/gov/classifiedsenate/