

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Minutes

MEETING DATE July 14, 2025
MEETING TIME 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
LOCATION Hybrid: via Zoom or HH208

Members

Name	Role	Attendance
Edo Biagioni	Past Chair	Present
Marguerite Butler	Chair	Present
Jennifer Griswold	SEC Sec.	Present
Brendra Mishra	Member	Present
Camaron Miyamoto	Member	Present
Dan Port	Member	Present
Sarita Rai	Vice Chair	Present
Brian Richardson	Member	Present
Ann Sakaguchi	Member	Excused
Carolyn Stephenson	Member	Present
Michelle Tallquist	Member	Present
John Kinder	Staff	Present

Guests

Name	Role	Time
Wendy Hensel	UH President & Mānoa CEO	9am - 9:45am

Subject	Discussion/Information	Action / Strategy / Responsible Person
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order.	The meeting was called to order by Chair Butler at 9:02 AM.
Review of Minutes	1. The draft minutes of the 6/23/2025 Senate Executive Committee were circulated electronically.	1. Minutes were approved as corrected.
Chair's Report	<p>1. <u>SEC</u></p> <p>a. Housekeeping - John Closed out last year's budget Reviewing applications for student web designer Hybrid meeting equipment ordered</p> <p>b. chair, vice chair touched base w/admin, GEO - Sarita Bruno aloha lunch Laura Lyons Truc Nguyen to start as GEO director 8/1/25</p> <p>c. Began outreach to folks related to Gen Ed, transfer, articulation issues.</p> <p>2. <u>Manoa Administration</u></p> <p>a. Seeking update on EM searches, VPAE search cancelled, recently CNS dean search cancelled. Many changes as iProvost Symos steps into office.</p> <p>3. <u>Board of Regents</u></p> <p>a. Chad Walton appointed as interim VPRS</p> <p>b. Board elections - Regent Gabe Lee re-elected as chair, Regent Mike Miyahira elected as first vice chair, Student Regent Johsua Faumuina elected as second vice chair. Committee assignments expected at July 17th meeting.</p> <p>c. Testimony regarding MFS organization, how we can assist with consultation for BOR committees</p>	<p>1. Information only.</p> <p>2. Information only.</p> <p>3. Information only.</p>
Action Items	1. None.	

<p>Guest(s)</p>	<p>Wendy Hensel (9am-9:45am)</p> <p>A reminder of our info request at May 12 meeting: In order that we can make progress on General Education, can you please share the problems with articulation (or other issues)? We would like to know more.</p> <p>It would be most helpful to identify the specific issues, whether they have to do with Gen Ed courses or courses counting toward the major, the evidence that we've identified the correct problem and its magnitude, and any proposed solutions?</p> <p>Points for Discussion: (names for question asking, to be removed for minutes)</p> <p>1. Vasilis Syrmos clearly has a grasp of research at UH, what are his qualifications for overseeing UH Manoa's academic operations? Can you confirm that he will move back into his OVPRI role following his interim position?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vasilis Syrmos has a strong understanding of UH research and was chosen from 70 nominations (narrowed to 10, then 5). His 30 years of research experience and reputation as a strategic thinker made him the top candidate. • Concerns were raised about his qualifications for overseeing academic operations and whether he will return to his role as OVPRI after a permanent provost is appointed. • The interim appointment is expected to last around two years. • Questions remain about how this affects the future Chancellor's authority and resources—any solutions 	<p>1. Information only.</p>
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	<p>will need to align budgets and positions appropriately.</p> <p>2. As you know the faculty senate passed a resolution for a Manoa Chancellor. How can we work together to make this happen in the coming year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The President is currently the Chancellor, no immediate plans for a search. We stated the position of the MFS resolution last May that we desire a search for a permanent chancellor this year and for that new chancellor to participate in the reorganization. <p>3. What is your vision for a 10-campus integrated General Education? Given that we are the R1 institution, and receive students from all of the other campuses, how do you envision bridging the differences in resources and complexity of degrees/perspectives/missions across campuses?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The President's Goal: Gen Ed courses should transfer seamlessly across campuses. Her concerns were that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students shouldn't need to retake Gen Ed courses after transferring. ○ Need clarity and specificity on the articulation problems and data. • Following up, the SEC asked for specifics and to be part of planning, and asked about the vision for a 10-campus Gen Ed framework. 	<p>2. Information only.</p> <p>3. Information only.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response: Emphasized a campus-specific approach based on competencies. Faculty will drive decisions. Aim is to avoid harm to students. ● When asked for data supporting claims that the current transfer process is harming students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acknowledged it's a national issue; UH is still collecting data. ● Asked when data would be available? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Early Fall. BoR wants a system in place by the end of the academic year. <p>4. How do you envision UH weathering the federal funding changes? If 15% indirects is not a feasible number, what is an acceptable indirect rate?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Asked if there is a minimum IDC rate UH would not go below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response: No magic number. 15% is unsustainable and locks UH out of future flexibility. Nationally discouraged. ○ APLU (Association of Public and Land Grant Universities) proposal suggests a flat 25% IDC rate—lower than desired but higher than 15%. There is also a proposal regarding what redefining counts as IDC. Overall, it could be favorable if passed. ○ UH is running models to prepare for different IDC scenarios. ● Planning includes reevaluating operations, scenario modeling, and risk management. 	<p>4. Information only.</p>
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	<p>5. What are your thoughts/plans to work more directly with faculty (including MFS) on your vision of UH being a leader in AI?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response: Data-driven decisions are necessary to determine growth vs. cuts. ● Key questions: Which programs are flourishing? How do budget constraints affect foundational programs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need for system-wide efficiencies and alignment of 1st–2nd year vs. 3rd–4th year programs. ● Demand gap analysis is underway to assess workforce alignment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Program development must be faster to remain relevant. ● Follow up in response to President’s comment about losing enrollment to online courses, access, and programs like ASU and WGU, the question was asked “ Do we really want to be all things to all people? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response: We must focus on student needs, maintain UH Mānoa’s R1 identity, and improve access across islands. ● Urged immediate access by SEC to the demand gap analysis. <p>6. Could you tell us why the dean searches are cancelled? This is in addition to the cancelled VPAE search.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Response: The Dean searches are not cancelled. When we know vacancies will happen in a year, we will go forward. If we have open seats with a current 	<p>5. Information only.</p> <p>6. Information only.</p>
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	<p>interim, we will hold off in interviewing as they are already interim.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim dean positions may be held off until new leadership (Chancellor/Provost) is in place. • For the VPAE office, hiring is on pause to avoid chaotic transitions. Continuity is the goal. <p>7. In what academic areas do you see opportunities for growth and expansion at the university, and in what areas might there be potential for cuts or restructuring? How will faculty, especially MFS, will be involved in UH's AI leadership plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response: Pulling together existing AI efforts across the system under the Aloha Intelligence Institute. No formal list yet, but some faculty have been tapped by chancellors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CIS and Academic Affairs will train faculty—soup-to-nuts—from beginners to experts. ○ Plans for New Office of Academic Technology and UHs first Chief AI Officer or Chief Academic Technology Officer. ○ Edify platform will integrate data sources for visual analytics. ○ UH aims to position itself for AI-related research funding and workforce development. • When asked for earlier and more visible faculty involvement, not just at the end. 	<p>7. Information only.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response: Faculty will be engaged, but early work needs flexibility. AI planning is intentionally fluid. Google’s MJ JaBoor (Chief Innovation Officer) will visit campus in the fall. ● NSF Grant Submission Concerns: Raised questions about the temporary pause in federal research funding. ○ Response: Proposal review panels are still functioning. Faculty should continue submitting proposals. ○ While uncertainty remains, it’s worth continuing efforts. Seek bipartisan collaboration. 	
MFS Committee Reports	<p>Committees are adjourned for the Semester except for CFS.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CAB (SR) – No report. 2. CAPP (DP) – No report. 3. CFS (BM) – No report. 4. COA (MT) – No report. 5. COR (MT) – No report. 6. CPM (CM) – No report. 7. CSA (JG) – No report. 8. GEC (MB) – No report 9. CEE – No report. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information only. 2. Information only. 3. Information only. 4. Information only. 5. Information only. 6. Information only. 7. Information only. 8. Information only. 9. Information only.
Other Reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pilina Support Team – No report. 2. Grad Council – No report 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information only. 2. Information only.

Unfinished Business	1. None	1. None
Business	<p>1. Discussion of SEC priorities</p> <p>2. Carryover Items</p> <p>a. Follow up from B. Richardson's Space Survey - Space Committee draft resolution from Brian for consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Suggested space allocation issues should go to CAB. Questioned if this is a Faculty Senate matter. ● Proposed giving Deans and Chairs more control over space decisions. ● Not all space matters fall under Deans' purview. ● An ad hoc committee could signal that faculty governance should have input on space decisions. Suggests requesting annual review of space decisions. <p>3. Draft Survey for Manoa Faculty "Suggestions for the Manoa Faculty Senate" Please comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposed - sending a survey to senators and committee members to gather input on key issues and communicate importance. <p>4. Consider a standing invitation to regents to attend SEC meetings: chair of student success, institutional success committees?</p>	<p>1. Discussion.</p> <p>2. Information Requested</p> <p>3. Information Requested.</p> <p>4. Extend an Invitation to the Board of Regents.</p>
New Business	1. Unfunded HERS pension - Attachment	1. Ask UHPA for update.
Adjournment	The next regular meeting of the Senate Executive Committee will be convened on (Monday), July 28, 2025 at 9:30 am - 11:30 am via Zoom	Chair M. Butler adjourned the meeting at 11:03 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Griswold, SEC Secretary.

Approved unanimously on July 28, 2025.