



## Student Senate Minutes (Approved)

Monday, November 20, 2017

College Center Building 10, College Heights Conference Room (Room 468)

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Colby Riley; Vice President Katrina Relos; Finance Director Mark Helsel; Vice Chair Spencer (Sitt) Paing; Commissioner of Publicity Natalia Gomez Torres; Secretary Jordan Chavez; Senators Jose Barajas, Mondana Bathai, Fatima Briones (*late arrival, 2:26 p.m.*), Andreas Langenbacher, Effy (Wenfei) Li, Yimin Li, Claire (Linfang) Liu, Aaron Meneses (*late arrival, 2:24 p.m.*), Farid Qobti, Mandy (Yaxuan) Wang (*late arrival, 2:26 p.m.*) & Vivian (Qingyan) Xu.

Members Absent: Senator Gabriela Topete Eng Goon.

Advisors Present: Fauzi Hamadeh, Student Life and Leadership Assistant.

Advisors Absent: Aaron Schaefer, Student Life and Leadership Manager.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Secretary Chavez remarked that legislative bills would have to be postponed until the next Senate meeting due to the absence of Advocacy Board Chair and Senator Topete Eng Goon.

Motion to approve the agenda with the above changes by Senator Bathai; seconded by Vice Chair Paing. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Motion to approve the minutes of Monday, November 13, 2017, meeting by Commissioner of Publicity Gomez Torres; seconded by Senator Bathai. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

### REPORTS

President Riley encouraged members of the Senate to continue their hard work towards the end of the semester, and assured them that the winter break would come swiftly. He reminded the Senate to fill out the dietary survey for the upcoming district student government mixer at Cañada College on Friday, December 8th. Mr. Riley remarked that he had met with CSM President Mike Claire to discuss the campus's Promise Program; this would allow eligible students to receive a stipend for food, monthly transportation, around \$750.00 for textbooks, as well as free tuition.

Vice President Relos thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and hoped that members would have a pleasant Thanksgiving holiday. Ms. Relos recalled the recent women's leadership conference she had attended with several other members from ASCSM, noting that the general organization of the conference was quite shoddy. Although she enjoyed different workshops, particularly the panels on cultural inclusion within women's leadership and privilege, Ms. Relos indicated that there were numerous issues with how the conference was run. Transportation to and from Loyola Marymount University, the conference's location, was difficult, and food other than snacks and beverages was not served

to attendees; Vice President Relos also conveyed that there had only been two or so workshops per block period, and that, for the price they had paid for admission, she expected a lot more.

Vice Chair Paing reported that the Writers' Ruckus had taken place the prior week, and urged interested members to attend the event next semester. Mr. Paing also stated that Business Club's Pitch Deck competition had closed, and that winners would be announced on December 1st; he then insisted that the Senate continue to promote applications for the upcoming leadership conference open to all students. Lastly, Vice Chair Paing indicated that there would be no Inter Club Council meeting that week due to the Thanksgiving holiday, and that, next semester, the first Inter Club Council meeting would take place on January 31st, with Club Fair the following Wednesday and Thursday, February 7th and 8th.

Secretary Chavez announced that the Center for Student Life would be closing at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday; thus, agendas would have to be submitted by that morning. He also insisted that Executive Cabinet members check their email to fill out a survey regarding future days and times to hold the Cabinet's meetings next semester.

Senator Bathai reiterated Vice President Relos's thoughts on the women's leadership conference at Loyola Marymount University, stating that, while she had enjoyed the workshops she attended, the conference needed better organization; she also expressed that the conference was not only for women, and that men would benefit from attending it in the future. Ms. Bathai expressed that the Programming Board would be holding a "Nighttime Treat Event" on Wednesday, November 28th, and Thursday, November 29th; the board will distribute different beverages, treats, and "care packages" to students who take evening classes. A SignUpGenius will be emailed to the Senate for members to volunteer for shifts. Senator Bathai told the Senate that the Center for Academic Excellence was seeking student volunteers to help out during the next flex day.

Student Life and Leadership Assistant Hamadeh revealed that Advisor Schaefer would not be present during the week, and reminded Senators that, because the Center for Student Life was closing early on Wednesday, they needed to retrieve their belongings from the Senate Office before closing or stay in the office after. Mr. Hamadeh also disclosed that plans for the winter leadership retreat were being finalized; the retreat will take place the week before classes resume, most likely from January 9th to January 11th. Advisor Hamadeh reminded the Senate to stay on top of their duties as part of ASCSM; they still had Senate meetings, committee meetings, board meetings, and other activities to partake in.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

None.

## **LEGISLATIVE BILLS**

None.

## **FUNDING FOR VAKATASI CLUB MUSIC EVENT**

Due to the absence of a representative from Vakatasi Club, this item was tabled for the next ASCSM Senate meeting.

## **ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CIVIL RIGHTS UNITE DAY BY CULTURAL AWARENESS BOARD**

Due to the weather last week, the Cultural Awareness Board was unable to hold their Civil Rights Unite Day on Wednesday, November 15th; instead, the event was postponed until Wednesday, November 29th. Senator Barajas told the Senate that additional funding for the event would be needed for the board's partnership with EOPS Club; the club will promote their services to students, as well as provide games and activities and other information during the event.

A total of \$2,400.00 was proposed to be taken out of the 5050 Ethnic and Cultural Affairs account to fund the Civil Rights Unite Day event.

Motion to approve an additional \$2,400.00 for Cultural Awareness Board's Civil Rights Unite Day event by Senator Bathai; seconded by Senator Qobti. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

### **FUNDING FOR NIGHTTIME TREAT EVENT BY PROGRAMMING BOARD**

Senator Bathai announced that the Programming Board will be holding an event to enhance inclusion of evening students in ASCSM affairs; the Programming Board will be handing out hot drinks, sweet treats, prizes, and care packages with various items and words of encouragement for pending final exams.

A total of \$1,500.00 from the 5150 Programs account was requested to cover the purchase of prizes, goodie bags, drinks, and sweets.

Motion to approve \$1,500.00 to fund Programming Board's Nighttime Treat Event by Senator Langenbacher; seconded by Vice Chair Paing. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

### **FUNDING FOR RELAXATION WEEK BY PROGRAMMING BOARD**

In addition to the Nighttime Treat Event, Programming Board will also be holding a three-day Relaxation Week event from Tuesday, December 5th to Thursday, December 7th. An array of activities will be offered to students throughout the week; on Tuesday, Massage Envy will have masseuses work massage chairs for students, on Wednesday, an animal rescue petting zoo will be brought to campus, and on Thursday, cookie-decorating and a gingerbread house decoration contest will be held.

A total of \$8,000.00 from the 5150 Programs account was proposed to cover Programming Board's Relaxation Week.

Motion to approve \$8,000.00 to fund Programming Board's Relaxation Week event by Senator Barajas; seconded by Senator Liu. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

### **FUNDING FOR NEW ASCSM SENATE OFFICE PRINTER**

Student Life and Leadership Assistant Hamadeh told members that the printer in the Senate Office (12-213) needed to be replaced; the current printer was already 10 years old and had started to demonstrate decreasing efficiency. Mr. Hamadeh indicated that a new printer was needed for better capabilities geared towards the needs of the Senate.

A total of \$1,500.00 from the 5181 Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment account was proposed for the purchase of a new printer for the ASCSM Senate Office.

Motion to approve \$1,500.00 to fund a new printer for the ASCSM Senate office by Vice Chair Paing; seconded by Senator Effy Li. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

### **SKYLINE EQUITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

In response to the recent blackface incident that took place at Skyline College, members of the college's faculty and student government devised a list of recommendations that would help mitigate and prevent future issues of race and cultural insensitivity. These recommendations were brought to the SMCCD board on August 23rd; however, action has yet to be implemented throughout the district, and thus, the recommendations will be brought to the board again on November 29th for review. These recommendations have also been brought to all three AS councils throughout the district, as well, for endorsement. The recommendations were as follows:

- Course on race relations required for all SMCCD graduates
- Flex Day workshop on race and racism attended by all faculty and staff (Fall/Spring)
- Development of districtwide Cultural Proficiency Institute (participation considered in tenure review and staff evaluation)
- Establishment of Ethnic Studies programs on all SMCCD campuses
- Creation of Multicultural Centers on all SMCCD campuses

Concerns were raised in regards to the addition of required race relations courses; discussion on the usefulness, convenience, and implementation of requiring a culturally sensitive course component for graduation ensued. Unlike Skyline College, College of San Mateo does not require a component on ethnic studies or race relations for a class in order to graduate; this topic has been highly debated throughout the district already.

The timeline for execution of these recommendations is under the jurisdiction of each college; numerous factors play into the implementation of individual recommendations, and must be treated separately for fulfillment. Overall, the level of urgency on each campus may determine when and how long these recommendations are carried out.

Motion to approve the endorsement of Skyline College's equity recommendations by Senator Barajas; seconded by Senator Meneses. By a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 3 abstaining, the motion carried.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Funding for Vakatasi Club Music Event

#### **FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

Vice Chair Paing encouraged members to attend Phi Theta Kappa Club's upcoming health forum; food and drink will be served at the event.

Vice President Relos announced that, now that she had all the members filmed for the ASCSM statement video, it would be released soon.

Student Trustee Olguin, Jr. asked those who were interested in receiving district board agendas to give him their contact information.

Advisor Hamadeh reported that the Community Relations & Marketing Department was interested in conducting a project that would include filming members of the Senate for a video to be promoted on campus. This video will entail information on ASCSM, its members, activities, goals, etc. More information on the project will be forwarded to the Senate by Mr. Hamadeh within the next few weeks.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:59 p.m. by Senator Bathai; seconded by Senator Meneses. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Jordan Chavez  
ASCSM Secretary