



Student Senate Minutes (Approved)

Monday, December 4, 2017, 2:24 p.m.

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:24 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Vice President Katrina Relos; Vice Chair Spencer (Sitt) Paing; Commissioner of Publicity Natalia Gomez Torres; Secretary Jordan Chavez; Senators Jose Barajas, Mondana Bathai, Fatima Briones, Andreas Langenbacher, Effy Li, Yimin Li, Claire (Linfang) Liu, Aaron Meneses, Farid Qobti, Gabriela Topete Eng Goon, Mandy (Yaxuan) Wang, & Vivian (Qingyan) Xu.

Members Absent: President Colby Riley & Finance Director Mark Helsel.

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Senator Topete Eng Goon; seconded by Senator Liu. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, November 27, 2017, meeting Commissioner of Publicity Gomez Torres; seconded by Senator Briones. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

REPORTS

Vice President Relos encouraged everyone to come out and attend/volunteer for Programming Board's Relaxation Week and Nighttime Treat event; she also congratulated members on successfully getting through their first semester of the year.

Commissioner of Publicity Gomez Torres requested that members share the week's events via social media as she posts them.

Secretary Chavez reiterated Ms. Relos's point, also hoping that more members would get involved with preparation before events.

Senator Topete Eng Goon recalled her attendance of the recent College Assessment Committee meeting; she indicated that a student-led focus group was working on discerning the real-life applications of what is taught on campus. Ms. Topete Eng Goon, who had also attended the previous week's Institutional Planning Committee meeting, noted that a task force for the initiative on textbook would present on January 11th's flex day; in the future, CSM may be able to offer more affordable options for textbooks, as well as an online feature that would convey whether or not textbook costs were required for a particular class.

Senator Bathai pointed out that, although the upcoming flex day would take place during the ASCSM winter leadership

retreat, student volunteers were still being sought out; she asked members to contact herself or President Riley if they knew anyone interested in volunteering. Volunteers will be provided with food for the day, compensation for their service, and a letter of recommendation from a faculty member. Ms. Bathai insisted that Senators sign up for the Relaxation Week event, as well as the Nighttime Treat event, each event being held up until Thursday of that week.

Student Life and Leadership Manager Schaefer commended the Senate for their efforts during the first semester; he stated that, early on next semester, the Senate would have to review their performance and devise ways they could improve as a group. Mr. Schaefer instructed members who planned on attending the upcoming winter leadership to provide Advisor Hamadeh with their legal name and birthday; he stated that if they had sudden changes of plans that would affect their attendance of the retreat, they needed to be communicated as soon as possible. Advisor Schaefer announced that the Center for Student Life would be closed beginning December 20th, and would not reopen until January 12th; thus, members needed to take any of their belongings out of the office if they needed them during the break. Lastly, Mr. Schaefer told the Senate to show their support of ASCSM's last events of the semester, particularly the gingerbread house contest.

Student Life and Leadership Assistant Hamadeh reported that next semester's first Senate meeting would take place on Monday, January 22nd, at 2:15 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

On behalf of the Advocacy Board, Senator and Advocacy Board Chair Topete Eng Goon presented the following legislative bills and recommendations:

- **H.R. 3560 — GPA Act**

This bill will amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow borrowers of a Federal Direct Stafford Loan a one-year grace period before having to begin repayment of their loans. The GPA Act would thus enable recent graduates to be able to muster the means of repaying their student loans; this task is especially strenuous due to the difficulty of finding a job immediately after graduation, along with other contributing factors.

Recommendation from Advocacy Board: Support

Motion to support H.R. 3560, GPA Act, by Senator Langenbacher; seconded by Senator Briones. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

- **A.B. 204 — Community colleges: waiver of enrollment fees**

The purpose of this bill is to waive the \$46.00 enrollment fee per semester at community colleges; this bill will also encourage community colleges to review their minimum academic standards and progress standards, and evaluate whether or not their standards have had a disproportionate impact on specific classes of students. A.B. 204 also alleviates the constriction of eligibility requirements that some students may not meet for the Board of Governors fee waiver.

Recommendation from Advocacy Board: Support

Motion to support A.B. 204, Community colleges: waiver of enrollment fees, by Senator Langenbacher; seconded by Senator Barajas. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

- **A.B. 10 — Feminine hygiene products: public school restrooms**

This bill advocates for the provision of free feminine hygiene products in restrooms of public middle and high schools, particularly schools in which 40% of those enrolled fall at or below the poverty line. A.B. 10 will prohibit schools from charging students for the usage of these necessities, requiring that they have at least half

their restrooms stocked with such products.

Recommendation from Advocacy Board: Support

Motion to support A.B. 10, Feminine hygiene product: public school restrooms, by Senator Wang; seconded by Senator Meneses. By a vote of 13 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

▪ **A.B. 453 — Postsecondary education: student hunger**

This bill is to enact programs that constitute a “hunger-free campus” throughout California Community Colleges, California State Universities, and Universities of California. These programs include: a meal-sharing program in which students can donate their food credits to other students who may need them more, a campus pantry, and the employment of individuals who will organize such programs. A.B. 453 also encourages student workers to promote enrollment in these on-campus initiatives.

Recommendation from Advocacy Board: Support

Motion to support A.B. 453, Postsecondary education: student hunger, by Senator Barajas; seconded by Senator Bathai. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

▪ **A.J.R. 7 — Internet: net neutrality: access**

This bill will declare that state legislatures strongly support and implore the President of the United States and members of Congress to uphold and protect net neutrality. Net neutrality is the key to open Internet access, barring corporate interests from influencing accessibility of various sites, programs, and pages; this includes necessary Internet access for students in school. A.J.R. 7 will maintain that, along with other states, California will oppose efforts to disband net neutrality.

Recommendation from Advocacy Board: Support

Motion to support A.J.R. 7, Internet: net neutrality: access, by Senator Bathai; seconded by Commissioner of Publicity Gomez Torres. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

FUNDING FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2018 BY UMOJA CLUB

During the month of February, 2018, the Umoja Club and cohort is planning on organizing a campus-wide Black History Month celebration; the club has designated days of the week for specific events, including “Workshop Wednesdays,” “Movie Fridays,” a spoken word event, and on the last day, February 26th, a silent disco. A sum of \$1,000.00 would cover the spoken word event, \$200.00 would cover food, \$1,000.00 would fund the silent disco, and \$300.00 would cover workshops; a total of \$2,500.00 was proposed by the Umoja Club for the funding of Black History Month 2018.

Motion to approve \$2,500.00 for the funding of Black History Month 2018 by Senator Meneses; seconded by Senator Topete Eng Goon. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

FUNDING FOR AGS NEWSLETTER BY ALPHA GAMMA SIGMA HONOR SOCIETY

Each semester, CSM’s chapter of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society produces a newsletter showcasing the program’s volunteer work in the local community. This newsletter, which will be distributed throughout the campus, also promotes the chapter to students who may be interested in joining. Not only will this newsletter provide students with a glimpse of AGS’s purpose, but it will also be eligible for submission into national honors competitions for newsletters. A total of \$600.00 was proposed to fund the printing of 100 copies of the AGS newsletter.

Motion to approve \$600.00 for the funding of the AGS newsletter by Vice Chair Paing; seconded by Senator Liu. By a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

FUNDING FOR SPRING 2018 REBOOT WEEK BY PROGRAMMING BOARD

The ASCSM Programming Board will be hosting next semester's three-day Reboot Week from January 23rd, 2018, to January 25th, 2018; the event will be similar to last semester's, with a variety of games, food, and other activities to welcome students back from the winter recess. A total of \$10,000.00 was proposed to fund the Spring 2018 Reboot Week.

Motion to approve \$10,000.00 for the funding of Spring 2018 Reboot Week by Senator Briones; seconded by Senator Li. By a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, the motion carried.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Debrief of ASCSM Winter Leadership Retreat
- Debrief of Relaxation Week Event & Nighttime Treat Event

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:01 p.m. by Vice Chair Paing; seconded by Senator Langenbacher. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Jordan Chavez
ASCSM Secretary