



## Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Monday, September 28, 2020

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:18 pm.

### ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Joseph Nguyen; Vice President Dyana Huaraz; Finance Director Anthony Frangos; Vice Chair Andrianna Pellini; Senators Zaina Abdelrahman, Janice Cheung, Kyle Guanzon, Mele Ikahihifo, Suzy Ito, Jessie Liu, Anna Mahoney, Andrea Morales, Megha Rai, Natalie Zamora

Members Absent: Secretary Livienna Lie; Senators Htet Thiri Naing, Hayden Noe, HaoNan Ye

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

Others Present: Teresa Morris, Chair, CSM Curriculum Committee

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Senator Ikahihifo; seconded by Senator Abdelrahman. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

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

Due to the lack of prepared minutes, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

### REPORTS

Senator Ikahihifo thanked those members of the Senate who attended the Cultural Awareness Board's Native American Day event.

Student Life and Leadership Manager Schaefer congratulated the Cultural Awareness Board on their first event of the semester. Mr. Schaefer also stated that, going forward, members of the Senate are going to be asked to have their video feed turned on during meetings.

Student Life and Leadership Assistant Hamadeh reported that the Board of Trustees decided at their meeting last week that the District would continue in remote operation for the spring 2021 semester.

Mr. Hamadeh also asked that the order of the day be suspended, and the Senate take up Addition of Ethnic Studies Class to A.A./A.S. Graduation Requirement. Hearing no objections, the order of the day was suspended.

### ADDITION OF ETHNIC STUDIES CLASS TO A.A./A.S. GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

The Senate engaged in a conversation with Teresa Morris, instructional librarian and chair of the CSM Curriculum Committee, to discuss the possibility of adding an ethnic studies class prerequisite to the A.A./A.S. degree requirements. Ms. Morris noted that this discussion has come up at different points during her time as chair of the Curriculum Committee. Mr. Hamadeh and Mr. Schaefer also noted that conversations around this topic have taken place over the years, but that there were always shut down because "the College" didn't want to move in that direction.

Members of the Senate stated that there seemed to be a consensus among students that it was time for the requirement to be added for A.A. and A.S. degrees. Vice President Huaraz commented that being educated about cultural sensitivity is particularly important in areas like administration of justice. Senator Zamora said that she had taken an ethnic studies class and found a great deal of value in learning about other cultures. Senator Guanzon observed that curriculum across the college, especially in the STEM fields, would benefit from diversification.

It was mentioned that both Cañada College and Skyline College have an ethnic studies requirement for their degrees. Ms. Morris pointed out that each college made the addition at different times and for different philosophical and academic reasons. It was also mentioned that the CSUs had recently implemented a requirement that students complete an ethnic studies class before graduating.

Ms. Morris urged the Senate to work through their representative on the Curriculum Committee, Senator Guanzon, to advocate for this change. She pointed out that the change would take time to implement because curriculum requirements have to be set well before an academic year actually starts. There would also be the need to provide faculty with professional development and to explore which courses would fulfill an ethnic studies requirement.

On a separate note, Ms. Morris encouraged members of the Student Senate to reach out to the Library to find ways to partner on events and activities. The Library has many resources that it can use to support student initiatives, and they are always looking for ways to work with students.

At the conclusion of this item, members of the Senate thanked Ms. Morris for her time and wisdom. Ms. Morris thanked the Senate for inviting her and for the discussion. The Senate then resumed the order of the day.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

President Nguyen made the following appointments:

- Secretary Lie, Senators Ito, Liu, Zamora, Nicole Hong, and Julia Ruch to the Programming Board  
Motion to approve the appointments by Senator Ikahihifo; seconded by Senator Mahoney. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.
- Senator Ito to the Technology Advisory Committee  
Motion to approve the appointments by Senator Ikahihifo; seconded by Senator Mahoney. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

## **LEGISLATIVE BILLS**

None.

## **DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS**

None.

## **PROMOTION OF STUDENT BULLDOG BULLETIN**

Due to a scheduling conflict and hearing no objections, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

## **FUNDING FOR SOCIAL MEDIA ADVERTISING**

Motion to approve \$500.00 from the Publicity account (#5151) to be used to “boost” social media advertising for the fall 2020 semester by Senator Zamora; seconded by Senator Liu. The motion carried with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Ways to communicate and connect with students
- Club challenges

- Update on Club Fair
- ASCSM Ask a Senator on webpage
- Advocacy Board Voter Registration Drive

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

Vice President Huaraz reported that she had met with Academic Senate President Arielle Smith to discuss ways to improve the student complaint process. Academic Senate President Smith recommended that Vice President Huaraz put together a group of students so that they could have a broader discussion on the topic.

President Nguyen asked anyone interested in serving on a task force to develop goals for the Student Senate for 2020-2021 to contact him directly. Senators Guanzon and Mahoney expressed interest.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 3:31 pm by Senator Mahoney; seconded by Senator Ito. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Fauzi Hamadeh  
Student Life and Leadership Assistant