



Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Monday, August 23, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:29 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Andrea Morales; Vice President Anna Mahoney; Finance Director Tania Farjat; Vice Chair Nicole Hong; Senators Brittany Arriharan, Tito Barquero, Nerissa Chang, Airu Chen (remote), Alani Frias, Jiana Javier-Ramos, Nomin Khurelchuluun, Min Kyaw Myat, Sofiana Skinas, Susan Sun, Yoon Wadi Zaw

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

Others Present: Lia Thomas, CSM Assistant Professor and Librarian; David McLain, CSM Acting Director of Community Relations and Marketing

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Senator Wadi Zaw; seconded by Senator Chang. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, July 26, 2021, meeting by Vice Chair Hong; seconded by Senator Kyaw Myat. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, August 2, 2021, meeting by Senator Skinas; seconded by Senator Barquero. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, August 9, 2021, meeting by Senator Khurelchuluun; seconded by Vice Chair Hong. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARINGS OF THE PUBLIC

Lia Thomas, assistant professor and librarian, extended a welcome back to campus on behalf of the CSM Library. Ms. Thomas said that the library is open for in-person and virtual services for the fall 2021 semester. The library's online services, such as online references, chatting with a librarian, and online instruction, are still fully staffed and continuing regular hours for the fall. In-person hours are limited to Monday through Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Technology pick-up is also available on Saturdays by appointment. Ms. Thomas said that the library space is open for students to work, to attend virtual classes, and to just get a change of scenery. Students may access computers, printing, and study spaces. In addition, the Makerspace has reopened, and the tool lending library has resumed operations. Students may also submit requests for 3-D printing and laser cutting. Library staff are on site four days per week providing reference services from 7:45 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and Friday and Saturday afternoons. Books are still being checked out for the entire semester and although the upstairs collection stacks are closed, librarians can pull anything that a student

may request. More e-books are also available through the library, and the film streaming service is open to students. Curbside pick-up services have been discontinued for the fall semester, but because parking is free and permits are not required for the fall semester, students have more opportunities to be able to come to the library in-person. Ms. Thomas commended the Student Senate for holding hybrid in-person and virtual meetings and expressed excitement at having students in the library again.

Vice President Mahoney asked for a reminder about what technology is available for students. Ms. Thomas said that laptop computers, Wi-Fi hotspots, scientific calculators, and headphones are currently available for students to check-out for the semester. Laptop computers and Wi-Fi hotspots must be requested through the student technology request form because those loans are managed by ITS. Ms. Thomas believes that additional items, such as webcams, will be available soon.

President Morales said that the laptop she borrowed last year did not work well and was not very helpful. Ms. Morales asked if there were discussions about distributing better laptops. Ms. Thomas said that when completing the technology request form, it is important to indicate if a student needs access to certain software. The Chromebooks that are primarily being distributed have limited capabilities, but if a student needs access to certain applications, a more capable laptop can be loaned out.

Senator Wadi Zaw asked if items like computer mice and keyboards are being loaned out. Ms. Thomas said that peripherals are not currently being offered, but that she will take that feedback to the library.

REPORTS

President Morales said that she had attended the college's opening day activities and delivered a speech welcoming faculty and staff back to campus on behalf of the Associated Students. Her speech also spoke about the Student Senate's goals for the year.

Aaron Schaefer, Student Life and Leadership Manager, reported that there is again an issue with collection of the student body fee. For the spring 2021 semester, the district was required to code all remote classes as "distance education" courses. This triggered the registration system to automatically exempt all students enrolled in those distance education courses from paying the student body fee. Because remote operations were continuing the Student Senate at the time decided to absorb the loss. To address this issue, the student life and leadership managers worked with the vice presidents of student services and the district to update Board policies and procedures to make sure a similar situation did not happen again. At some point, however, there was a discussion at the district level regarding waiving the health services fee and the student body fee for students receiving the California College Promise Grant (CCPG), formerly known as the BOG waiver. Approximately 40% of CSM's students receive the CCPG. These discussions took place without any input from the Associated Students or the student life and leadership managers. By not consulting the Associated Students, the district violated the California Education Code and Board policies and procedures. A similar proposal was made within the last three years, but the Associated Students could not support it because the district was unwilling to identify an alternative funding source.

At some point, ITS was instructed to update the registration system to implement the waivers. The Center for Student Life staff were made aware of a potential issue with the student body fee by the Cashiers Office staff. After investigating the matter and contacting the district, Center for Student Life staff brought the issue to the CSM administration, who were unaware of any change. There was also frustration because the district had not taken any steps to fix the issue and suggested that it was up to the colleges to find funds to reimburse the

Associated Students for the lost income. The matter was then taken to the districtwide vice presidents council where all three colleges expressed similar sentiments that the district needed to find a way to rectify the matter. The vice presidents then went to Aaron McVean, the vice chancellor for educational services and planning, who agreed and asked them to draft a memo that he could present to Chancellor's Cabinet. The item is supposed to go to Chancellor's Cabinet this week.

Mr. Schaefer noted that while the Associated Students has a sizeable reserve, the fact that the group is now facing budget shortfalls two semesters in a row is not sustainable. He also said that such a decision being made without any consultation with the student governments raises serious concerns. Mr. Schaefer pointed out that because students who received the CCPG have not paid the student body fee, they cannot receive a student body card, which means that they cannot participate in ASCSM-sponsored activities. Mr. Schaefer said that if the district does not come up with a solution that makes the Student Senate whole, the issue may need to go to District Student Council and the Board of Trustees. Mr. Schaefer is confident that members of the CSM administration will be strong advocates for the Associated Students. More information will be provided after the discussion at Chancellor's Cabinet.

President Morales pointed out that it makes encouraging students to get involved much more difficult if they are prevented from participating because of a problem caused by the district. Mr. Schaefer agreed but said that the group should proceed as if the district will address the problem and provide backfill funding to cover the loss of income. If the district chooses not to find a way to solve the issue, the Student Senate can then engage in a discussion about how to move forward, both with the district and the students who did pay the student body fee.

Fauzi Hamadeh, student life and leadership assistant, announced that Kristi Ridgway, the college's dean of language arts, has been named the acting vice president of student services. She will start her new role on August 26, if the Board of Trustees approves the appointment at their next meeting on August 25. Due to this change, the college will also embark on the search for an acting dean of language arts.

Mr. Hamadeh also announced that the district will be holding additional pop-up drive-thru COVID-19 vaccination clinics. The clinics will be held at Cañada College on August 31, at Skyline College on September 2, and at CSM on September 3, and will be open to employees, students, and the community.

Adding to his previous report, Mr. Schaefer announced that Mondana Bathai will be starting in the staff assistant position that supports Student Life, SparkPoint, and Promise Scholars on Monday, September 13. Ms. Bathai is a former ASCSM president and was involved with the Writers' Project and *The Labyrinth* newsletter. She will primarily be helping with the processing of paperwork related to the clubs.

Mr. Hamadeh also added that a communication has been sent out to all club advisors regarding the steps necessary to restart student clubs and organizations. He mentioned that the updated club information packet has been posted to the CSM Clubs website and asked members of the Student Senate who may be part of a student club or organization to work with the group to get their paperwork turned in. The first Inter Club Council (ICC) meeting of the semester is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 7.

Senator Wadi Zaw asked if there is a deadline for clubs to turn in the updated paperwork. Mr. Hamadeh said that there is no set deadline, but that groups may not hold any official events or activities until their paperwork has been turned in and approved. Mr. Hamadeh noted that clubs have the flexibility for the fall semester to meet in-person on campus, to meet virtually, or to meet in a hybrid mode. Groups that are meeting in-person must have a

college employee present to monitor their use of campus facilities. All groups will be required to restart on-campus meetings for the spring 2022 semester.

Due to the arrival David McLain, acting director of community relations and marketing, the Student Senate suspended the order of the day and took up New Business Item B, Centennial Update.

CENTENNIAL UPDATE

David McLain, acting director of community relations and marketing, reported that the celebration of CSM's 100-year anniversary will kick-off on March 31, 2022, with a gala at Kohl Mansion. So far, the college has established several committees to start working on different aspects of the centennial, including an events committee, a fundraising committee, and a campus events committee. The fundraising committee has set a goal of raising \$500,000 to support the Promise Scholars program, with a stretch goal of \$1 million. The events committee is focusing on planning the kick-off gala as well as several signature events throughout the year, such as resurrecting the Jazz on the Hill event and a homecoming event. There are also discussions about holding a "closing gala" at a larger venue to allow for more participation. The campus events committee will focus on identifying on-campus events that can tie in with the centennial and be co-branded. An overall budget is currently being formulated for the centennial celebration, but there is a hope that some funds will be set aside to support on-campus events sponsored by students, faculty, and staff. A marketing consultant is being hired to provide input and to help coordinate some of the events and activities. A professional writer who previously worked with Stanford on its 125th anniversary has also been hired to write 100 stories from CSM's past.

Mr. McLain encouraged members of the Student Senate to think about how they fit into the history of CSM and how their events and activities can tie-in with the centennial, and how they can add to the college's legacy. Finance Directory Farjat asked how students could join the campus activities committee. Mr. Hamadeh said that appointments would go through the Student Senate's established process. Vice President Mahoney asked how many students would be able to serve on the committee. Mr. McLain said that they are looking for two to three representatives from each constituency group. Vice Chair Hong asked if there were any other committees related to the centennial that students could serve on. Mr. McLain said that there weren't currently any other committees, but that there may be other opportunities outside of the committees to participate. He suggested that maybe the Student Senate could establish its own committee focused on centennial related activities.

President Morales asked what kind of input the centennial committee is looking for. Mr. McLain said that they are open to considering all ideas, including new events or events that are traditionally held but can be co-branded with the centennial. Mr. Hamadeh suggested that the Associated Students could sponsor a reunion of past student government members and invite them back to the campus for a special event. President Morales asked if the Student Senate's planned campus speaker event would be a good tie-in with the centennial, and Mr. Hamadeh said that it could be. Mr. McLain suggested that the group consider CSM alumni, past faculty, or other notable individuals connected with the college. He noted that former President George H. W. Bush had once visited the campus, and that Julian Edelman and Dana Carvey are among the college's notable alumni. Mr. McLain also shared that a recent discussion had focused on the possibility of inviting Dr. Jill Biden, the first lady and community college advocate, to speak at the college. Mr. Hamadeh suggested that this could be great idea for the commencement ceremony. President Morales asked how the Student Senate could support inviting the first lady to the campus and suggested sending a letter on behalf of students or developing a video message.

Regarding the kick-off gala, President Morales asked if tickets would be available to students as well as the community. Mr. McLain noted that Kohl Mansion is limited to 300 seats, which isn't ideal but due to the historical

connection between the college and the site, it was decided to move forward with the event. Mr. Hamadeh noted that President Taylor-Mendoza had stressed multiple times that she wants to see student involvement, and that she had committed to setting aside some free tickets to the gala so that students could participate.

Vice Chair Hong asked if the 100 stories are being posted and, if so, where they can be found. Mr. McLain said that the stories and more information about the centennial can be found at <https://collegeofsanmateo.edu/100>.

At the conclusion of this item, the Student Senate resumed the order of the day.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

None.

DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS

Mr. Schaefer asked for feedback regarding the recent on-campus leadership retreat. The members who attended said that it was a positive experience. He commended the group for their focus and presence during the retreat. Mr. Hamadeh said that he had heard both President Taylor-Mendoza and Vice President of Instruction Holtzclaw say how impressed they were with members of the Student Senate. Mr. Schaefer said it was challenging to transition to an on-campus retreat and that he is hopeful that the Student Senate will be able to hold its traditional off-campus winter retreat.

FALL 2021 CAMPUS REOPENING

Mr. Schaefer reported that the FDA had just granted full approval to the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. This full approval will likely lead to the removal of exemptions based on the emergency authorization status of the vaccines. This will leave only exemptions for deeply held personal beliefs and medical necessity. Mr. Schaefer noted that the district is developing a process so that students can provide proof of vaccination. He said that it is very possible that students and employees will have to continue to provide proof of vaccination until COVID becomes a manageable disease, like the flu.

Mr. Schaefer asked the members of the Student Senate if they would prefer to continue meeting in person. The original plan had been to alternate weekly between in-person and virtual meetings. However, given the interactions today and the fact that it is possible to hold a hybrid meeting, Mr. Schaefer asked for the group's feedback. The group overwhelmingly supported holding meetings in person while still providing the opportunity for members to participate remotely when necessary. Mr. Hamadeh asked that if folks must miss the in-person meeting, that they inform him, Mr. Schaefer, and President Morales in advance so last-minute adjustments could be made. Mr. Schaefer noted that the Student Senate may have to transition back to fully in-person meetings at some point due to the expiration of the governor's executive order that suspended portions of the Ralph M. Brown Act, which may occur as soon as September 30.

WELCOME EVENT FOR FALL 2021

Vice Chair Hong said that the welcome event will take place on Wednesday, September 1, and Thursday, September 2, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sandwiches, chips, sodas, water, and either boba tea or It's-It ice cream will be distributed. In addition, ASCSM "goodie bags" will be handed out on both days. The bags will contain ASCSM pens, highlighters, and other branded items. Face masks with the ASCSM logo will also be given out, in addition

to stress-relief items such as stress balls or candles. Mr. Schaefer said that the face masks have been ordered and will be delivered the day before the event. Vice Chair Hong added that yard games would also be made available for students to play and that a large piece of butcher paper would be displayed so that students can write down goals, inspirational messages, or drawings.

Finance Director Farjat asked if there were any plans to put up decorations for the event, such as a balloon arch. Mr. Hamadeh expressed concern that a balloon arch would be too difficult to put together. Mr. Schaefer suggested finding a company that will provide one for the event. Ms. Farjat suggested purchasing large wooden letters to spell out ASCSM so that students could take photos. Mr. Schaefer said that the Student Senate should look to purchase things that are reusable to cut down on the environmental impact of disposable items. He also requested that the task force produce a flier for the event as soon as possible.

ASCSM GOALS AND WELCOME STATEMENT FOR 2021–2022

The members of the Student Senate reviewed the proposed goals for 2021–2022. The welcome statement is provided as an FYI so that the Student Senate knows what is being sent out on their behalf. President Morales said that she would like to include a quote that defines ASCSM as a group for this year. The goals will be brought back to the next Student Senate meeting for approval.

ASCSM STAGE 1.0 BUDGET FOR 2021–2022

Due to the questions surrounding the student body fee, Mr. Hamadeh asked that this item be tabled. Hearing no objections, the item was tabled until the next meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- ASCSM Goals and Welcome Statement for 2021–2022
- ASCSM Stage 1.0 Budget for 2021–2022
- Campus Wayfinding and Directional Signage
- Club Incentives
- ASCSM Canvas Shell

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Schaefer encouraged members of the Student Senate to help recruit students for the ASCSM boards so the groups can start meeting. He also asked the board chairs to start determining their meeting days and times. President Morales suggested developing a flier that includes information about all the boards to help with recruitment.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:01 p.m. by Senator Wadi Zaw; seconded by Senator Barquero. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Fauzi Hamadeh
Student Life and Leadership Assistant