



## Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Monday, September 13, 2021

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:18 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Finance Director Tania Farjat

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

Others Present: Dr. Jeremiah Sims, CSM Director of Equity

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Hamadeh requested that New Business Item A, Funding for Latin American Independence Day, and New Business Item B, Funding for the California Community Colleges Student Affairs Association (CCCSAA) Student Leadership Conference, be removed from the agenda. Motion to approve the agenda with requested changes by Senator Kyaw Myat; seconded by Senator Skinas. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

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

The minutes for the Monday, August 23, 2021, and the Monday, August 30, 2021, meetings were not available. Hearing no objections, the item was tabled until the next meeting. Mr. Hamadeh asked that members of the Student Senate refer anyone they know who may be interested in serving as secretary to him or Mr. Schaefer.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARINGS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

Due to the presence of Dr. Jeremiah Sims, Mr. Schaefer suggested the Student Senate suspend the order of the day and take up New Business Item C, Leading with Love. Hearing no objections, the Student Senate suspended the order of the day and took up the item.

### LEADING WITH LOVE

Dr. Jeremiah Sims, CSM's director of equity, engaged the Student Senate in a conversation about leading with love and infusing radical love into their leadership. He noted that his task is to look at ways to bring educational equity to the campus and to address the structural and institutional racism that is preventing hyper-marginalized students from succeeding in college. Dr. Sims highlighted the ways that oppressed people struggle against a system that is designed to keep them where they are. He did an exercise with the Student Senate called "The Game of Life" where each participant had a certain amount of "money" to allocate to various necessities. Participants could also use their money to pay for certain "upgrades," such as a college education, relocation to a

safer neighborhood, etc. Participants were then docked funds based on certain characteristics, such as race, gender, sexual orientation, etc. Ultimately, the exercise was meant to illustrate how some members of society start with a structural deficit in their lives and are always struggling to advance.

Dr. Sims noted that there are ways to advocate for equity without putting people on the defensive. He said that coming from a place of love can be a more effective way to communicate with people regarding sensitive issues. He said that it is important to always speak truth but doing so with love can yield better results while still addressing the underlying issue. Dr. Sims used a hypothetical situation involving confronting a colleague about microaggressions. Doing so in a very direct manner may put off the colleague from examining their behaviors, thus denying that person the opportunity to engage in antiracism work. However, if one is able to deliver the same message from a place of love, there is a better chance to invite that person into furthering the cause of antiracism.

Dr. Sims also told the Student Senate about the IDEAL program, an initiative he and others spearheaded with the Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges. The program, which stands for Initiative in Diversity, Equity, Antiracism, and Leadership, trains community college students to advocate for justice in the classroom and at the college policy level. Participants in the program identify an issue on their campus, conduct extensive research, and develop policy proposals. Dr. Sims said that he is interested in bringing the program to CSM and asked that anyone interested in participating contact him directly.

The Student Senate thanked Dr. Sims for his presentation. Dr. Sims said that he looked forward to working more with the Student Senate in the future.

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

## **REPORTS**

President Morales congratulated everyone on the success of the welcome event. Ms. Morales said that she has received positive feedback from many people, including CSM President Taylor-Mendoza. President Morales reported that the college is moving forward with plans to relocate the Wellness Center, which is currently located in Building 1, to Building 5. It is hoped that the move to Building 5 will make the Wellness Center more accessible to students. Finally, President Morales announced that there would be a “clean-up party” in the Event Prep Room after the next Student Senate meeting to tidy the space after the welcome event.

Vice President Mahoney echoed President Morales’ congratulations on the success of the event. She said that she was especially thankful that so many members of the Student Senate turned out to help with the event. Vice President Mahoney reported that she had attended the District Student Council (DSC) meeting last week. The group discussed implementing a system to compensate students who serve on college and district committees. The group also talked about masking issues being faced on each campus. President Morales said that she had also spoken to President Taylor-Mendoza about the masking issues and said she would follow up.

Aaron Schaefer, student life and leadership manager, said that the college administrations have taken the issue regarding the student body fee to Chancellor’s Cabinet and have secured an agreement that the Associated Students groups will be reimbursed for the lost income. The colleges are now working with the district to determine exactly how much that reimbursement will be. The district has provided numbers that seem lower than what the Student Life staff were anticipating. Mr. Schaefer said that he and Mr. Hamadeh have a meeting with Vice President of Administrative Services Micaela Ochoa scheduled for Monday, September 20, to discuss the matter. Mr. Schaefer suggested that Mr. Hamadeh work with Finance Director Farjat to develop the stage 1.0

budget for the year. He also suggested that the Center for Student Life resume printing student ID cards for students receiving the California College Promise Grant (CCPG). The Student Senate agreed with both suggestions.

Mr. Schaefer also extended his congratulations for the success of the welcome event. He said that he has also received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the college administration and that folks are happy to see events happening on campus again.

Finally, Mr. Schaefer asked for a volunteer to serve on a task force that will focus on raising awareness and encouraging the campus community to get the COVID-19 vaccine at the pop-up clinics that will be held at the colleges through the remainder of the year. The task force will also help develop language to communicate to students that proof of vaccination status will soon be required by the district. Senator Barquero volunteered to serve on the task force.

Fauzi Hamadeh, student life and leadership assistant, said that President Taylor-Mendoza has asked that the college's transportation task force start its work again. In addition, the task force is being asked to look at transit options for communities on the coast, such as Half Moon Bay, Pacifica, and Montera. Mr. Hamadeh is asking for two student representatives to serve on the task force. In addition, Mr. Hamadeh announced that Mondana Bathai today started her role as staff assistant supporting Student Life, SparkPoint, and Promise Scholars.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

President Morales made the following appointments:

- Vice Chair Hong, Ashlyn Carias Hernandez, Michelle Aguilar, and Aaron Singh to Programming Board Motion to approve the appointments by Senator Skinas; seconded by Senator Chang. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

President Morales encouraged board chairs to move forward with scheduling interviews with potential members. She asked the board chairs to reach out to her with their interview schedules so that she can attend. Vice Chair Hong asked if the boards are ready to meet. Mr. Hamadeh said he believes that Advocacy Board has enough members to start meeting but that the other boards still need to have additional folks appointed. Vice President Mahoney noted that the all-student email encouraging students to get involved with student government hasn't gone out yet. Mr. Schaefer said that he would follow up with Community Relations and Marketing.

## **LEGISLATIVE BILLS**

None.

## **DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS**

### *Welcome Event for Fall 2021*

Members of the Student Senate reviewed the welcome event. They noted that the event overall went well, but that there were issues with the food, specifically mentioning that the It's-It ice cream began to melt. Vice Chair Hong suggested looking at other options for ice cream, such as pre-packaged ice cream cups. Senator Skinas pointed out that some of the sandwiches had pesto sauce, which potentially could impact folks with nut allergies. Vice President Mahoney suggested posting a list of the ingredients in the sandwiches. Mr. Schaefer said that a sign should be posted warning people about possible allergies. President Morales suggested increasing the amount of food ordered for future events. Mr. Schaefer said that a slow increase would be advisable due to the unpredictable

nature of this semester's student population. Mr. Hamadeh pointed out that in the past, students have been required to show their student ID card to receive food and giveaways at ASCSM events. He did not recommend reinstating that system for this semester but said that the group may want to consider it for the spring to encourage students to get an ID card. President Morales again thanked so many folks for participating in the event but asked that folks who are not able to make their shift to communicate if they cannot show up. Vice Chair Hong asked if staff members are allowed to get food at ASCSM events. Mr. Schaefer said they are generally allowed to, but that they shouldn't be sending folks to pick up food for an entire department. If food begins to run low, employees may also be told that it is being held back for students. Mr. Schaefer also noted that members of the student government should not expect to set food aside for themselves if they are not helping with an event. Vice Chair Hong said that the yard games were popular and that having ones that do not require supervision is helpful. Mr. Schaefer said that folks should keep an eye out for possible games to purchase and, if they find ones that they like, to put together a funding request. He noted that some games like volleyball do not work well, but other options are available. Vice President Mahoney said that she loved everyone's enthusiasm and commitment. She stressed the need for everyone to pitch in for things like setup and clean-up. Members of the Student Senate also liked the collaboration with Active Minds and SparkPoint. Mr. Schaefer commended the group for working together so effectively.

### **FALL 2021 CAMPUS REOPENING**

None.

### **ASCSM CANVAS SHELL**

The members of the Student Senate discussed the best way to utilize the ASCSM shell in Canvas. The group decided to use the shell to promote ASCSM events and activities to CSM students. Folks may opt in to join the shell. Posting to the shell will be managed through the Public Relations Board. Mr. Hamadeh will explore how to send out an invitation to all CSM students to join the shell. He will report back to the group with more information.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- ASCSM Stage 1.0 Budget for 2021–2022
- Replacement of event A-frames
- Funding for ASCSM Winter Retreat
- Funding for Hispanic Heritage Month event

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

Senator Javier-Ramos reminded the group that the election day in the governor recall election is tomorrow, Tuesday, September 14. She said that she will post a reminder to vote on the ASCSM Instagram account.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Submitted by,

Fauzi Hamadeh  
Student Life and Leadership Assistant