



Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Monday, October 25, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:17 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, Airu Chen (remote), Jiana Javier-Ramos, Lita Kavapalu, Nomin Khurelchuluun, Min Kyaw Myat, Susan Sun, Yoon Wadi Zaw

Members Absent: Senators Nerissa Chang, Alani Frias (excused, Senate related business), Sofiana Skinas (excused, Senate related business)

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

Others Present: Mike Holtzclaw, CSM Vice President of Instruction; Kristi Ridgway, CSM Acting Vice President of Student Services; Leila Tamale

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Vice Chair Hong; seconded by Senator Kyaw Myat. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, October 11, 2021, meeting by Senator Khurelchuluun; seconded by Senator Barquero. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, October 18, 2021, meeting by Senator Khurelchuluun; seconded by Senator Wadi Zaw. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARINGS OF THE PUBLIC

Vice Chair Hong congratulated President Morales and Vice President Mahoney on participating in the San Mateo Rotary Club's Fun Run/Walk on Sunday.

Due to the presence of Vice President Holtzclaw, the Student Senate suspended the orders of the day and took up New Business Item A, Discussion of the Spring 2022 Class Schedule.

DISCUSSION OF THE SPRING 2022 CLASS SCHEDULE

Vice President Holtzclaw shared information about the spring 2022 class schedule with the Student Senate. He noted that 65% classes for the spring semester will be face-to-face (including on-campus, hybrid, or "hi-flex") while 35% will be solely online. Mr. Holtzclaw highlighted some programs, such as Architecture, will be completely online due to facilities availability (Building 19 at CSM is slated to be closed from January 2022 through January 2023 for renovations), while others, such as Geology, will be fully in-person.

Finance Director Farjat said that the transition to remote learning was a huge shift and required students to readjust their work and life schedules. Now that the transition back to in-person learning has begun, students may be feeling that they are again having to readjust work and life schedules around classes that may be in-person or online. She said that the uncertainty that remains around the spring semester is still disconcerting for students. Ms. Farjat also expressed her opinion that some

classes, such as Science classes, are better taken in-person due to the hands-on experience required. Ms. Farjat said that she feels there is a good balance of in-person and online classes being made available across the district.

Vice President Mahoney shared the experience of a friend who is majoring in the performing arts. Ms. Mahoney's friend feels that because all the courses being offered in the major are virtual, they are not receiving the best training possible. Mr. Holtzclaw noted that CSM does not offer acting or other performing classes, but that the major is offered through Cañada College.

Vice President Holtzclaw asked if there were any areas where students were asking for more in-person or virtual classes. He said that when he and the deans met to start developing the schedule, they made a conscious decision not return to the "normal," pre-pandemic model for scheduling classes. For example, pre-pandemic, CSM had the fewest online classes. Now, CSM is offering the most. Moving forward, the college wants to offer a balance of both online and in-person classes. Mr. Holtzclaw said that the pandemic has allowed some faculty and students to discover that they could be successful in online classes while others found they preferred in-person instruction.

Vice President Holtzclaw followed up with President Morales regarding a suggestion she had made that all in-person classes have an online equivalent offered. President Morales said that the schedule presented by Vice President Holtzclaw address many of her concerns. She did suggest that students be offered a streaming option for in-person classes so that they could attend lectures or other on-campus sessions virtually. President Morales clarified that she would like to see more classes offered in a "hi-flex" format. Vice President Holtzclaw said that the college and the district are working to clarify messaging and expectations around "hi-flex" classes. He also said that the college will be upgrading approximately 30 classrooms to better facilitate "hi-flex" learning and additional training so more faculty will feel comfortable offering "hi-flex" courses. Mr. Holtzclaw said that he expects more "hi-flex" classes to be offered in the fall 2022 and spring 2023 semesters and that the format will increase in popularity as more students become familiar with it.

President Morales said that now that she knows more about the spring class schedule, she is more in support of the college's plans. She said that it would be good if the college could provide this information to more students so they can understand the thinking behind the class schedule. Vice President Mahoney said that the return to campus is another big change for students, which may explain some of the concern. Mr. Hamadeh said that there are still many students enrolled at CSM have never been on campus. Finance Director Farjat said that students may also be eager to return to campus due to privacy concerns around test taking platforms such as Proctorio. Senator Wadi Zaw expressed concern about how the reduction in online classes will impact international students who may not be able return or come into the United States. Vice President Holtzclaw said that his office as well as the Vice President of Student Services Office is working with the International Education Office to make sure that international students have access to the classes they need. He said that rules regarding how many on-campus units international students must take to be eligible for visas continue to change. Acting Vice President Ridgway noted that the F-1 student visa requirements that were suspended during the pandemic have been reinstated. She said that a similar requirement is also a concern for student veterans who receive G.I. Bill benefits. Vice President Holtzclaw said that preliminary discussions about the fall 2022 schedule are already starting, and that the college will be taking what it learns from spring registration to help inform class scheduling for next fall. He also feels there will be less confusion and uncertainty at that time.

Vice President Holtzclaw shared that he is the administrative representative on an Academic Senate committee that is working to develop guidelines for faculty on matters such as using platforms like Proctorio and how to better define what constitutes an online class. He said that student feedback is important in this process to help inform the discussions about best practices.

President Morales suggested that information about health and safety should be communicated to students as they return to in-person classes. For example, she said that students should be encouraged to wipe down desks and tabletops in their

classrooms prior to the start of classes. Vice President Holtzclaw said that classrooms are equipped with cleaning supplies, and that masks are also being made available across the campus.

Vice President Mahoney asked what the most effective way for students would be to provide feedback regarding course offerings. Finance Director Farjat asked if there is a central location on the website that lists contact information for all the college's deans. Vice President Holtzclaw said that there is, but that advertising avenues for feedback is an ongoing challenge. He said that students have said that the college should utilize text messaging more, but that there are laws around users opting-in to receiving certain types of text messages. He also noted that students may begin to ignore texts from the college if they become too frequent. Mr. Holtzclaw said that suggestions from the Student Senate would be helpful in helping to address this issue. President Morales said that creating a webpage with all the information students may need would be helpful. She also said that the Student Senate can help promote the information via its Canvas page, which is under development. Vice President Holtzclaw said that the task force reviewing the student grievance/complaint process is trying to address this issue and that the college is currently looking into the establishment of an ombudsperson position to provide support for students. Acting Vice President Ridgway said that some new hires in the Community Relations and Marketing department may also help with communications. Mr. Hamadeh said that the college should look at ways to help support students in a more practical sense, such as reminding them to arrive on campus with enough time to find a parking space or on which public transit lines service the college. He said that employees should be reminded to continue to "extend grace" to students as the transition back to campus continues. President Morales suggested publishing a series of videos that will help guide students as they return to campus. Vice President Holtzclaw said that this would be a great project for the College Ambassadors.

The members of the Student Senate thanked Vice President Holtzclaw for his presentation and for speaking with the group. At the conclusion of this item, the Student Senate resumed the order of the day.

REPORTS

President Morales said that she had fun participating in the Rotary Club's Fun Run/Walk. She also reminded members of the Student Senate to volunteer to help at the Halloween event this week.

Vice President Mahoney said that she also had fun participating in the Rotary Club's Fun Run/Walk event.

Vice Chair Hong said that there are a lot of volunteers for the Halloween event, but that more are needed for the setup and clean-up shifts.

Senator Khurelchuluun said that she has setup the Discord server for the Student Senate. She will be sending out the invitations for members to join shortly. Channels on the Discord server will be setup for the Student Senate as well as the boards. An email will go out explaining how the transition from the group chat will to the Discord will be handled.

Senator Wadi Zaw said that members of Programming Board will be making posters for the Halloween event in the Event Prep Room after the meeting. She invited members of the Senate who are available to assist.

Senator Arriharan said that the Cultural Awareness Board is collaborating with the Programming Board and will be providing information about Dia De Los Muertos. She asked that members of the Senate help promote that portion of the event as well.

Acting Vice President of Student Services Ridgway said that additional student services departments continue to reopen. She said that Counseling is now open for in-person drop-in appointments on Mondays and Tuesdays with by-appointment availability throughout the week. This includes general counseling as well as counseling for students in the Promise Scholars program. The Wellness Center is also open on a by-appointment basis. Information on the services availability webpage will be updated by next week. Ms. Ridgway thanked the Student Senate for feedback on the COVID-19 pop-up vaccination clinics. She said that the clinics have been moved to Tuesdays and will be held on November 2, November 30, and December

21, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Beethoven Lot (Lot #2). Finance Director Farjat asked if the clinics will be offering vaccine booster shots, and Acting Vice President Ridgway said they would. It was noted that only adults with pre-existing medical conditions who have received the Pfizer vaccine are currently eligible for booster shots. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson booster shots are currently under review but will likely receive authorization soon.

Acting Vice President Ridgway said that information regarding the vaccination attestation process for students has started to go out, and she asked that members of the Student Senate help communicate the information to their peers. An email with detailed information about the attestation process will be going out to all students on Friday, October 29. She noted that students will be dropped from their in-person classes if they do not upload their attestation process by the deadline. Students will be dropped on a rolling basis, like the process for non-payment. Vice Chair Hong asked if students would be dropped from “hi-flex” classes as well as in-person classes. Acting Vice President Ridgway said that she believes the “hi-flex” classes are being counted as in-person classes, so the drop policy would apply. Finance Director Farjat asked what would happen if a student were in-between vaccine doses. Acting Vice President Ridgway said that students must upload proof of receiving both doses (for Pfizer and Moderna) for the attestation to be considered complete. Finance Director Farjat suggested making a QR code available so that students can be linked directly to WebSMART. Senator Javier-Ramos asked if the digital proof of vaccination provided by the California State website would be accepted. Acting Vice President Ridgway said she believes it would.

Finally, Acting Vice President Ridgway said that she has been working with her executive assistant, Deborah Laulusa, and Mr. Hamadeh to make sure that masks are available around campus. She said that masks should be available at the front counter in Building 10 as well as in the Student Life area. Vice President Mahoney suggested that the masks be made available on top of the desk rather than hidden behind the counter. Ms. Ridgway said that there was a miscommunication with the folks who staff the front desk about storing the masks when the desk is not being staffed and that it has been clarified.

Student Life and Leadership Manager Schaefer said that he and Mr. Hamadeh have been in contact with Vice President of Administrative Services Micaela Ochoa regarding the Student Body Fee issue. The challenge is to find a source to reimburse the Associated Students that are not Fund 1 monies, which have restrictions on how they may be spent. The district is exploring the option of using funds from the foundation. Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Hamadeh suggested using Fund 1 monies but restricting their use to allowable expenses. The issue will be discussed at the District Student Council (DSC) meeting this week and there may be a meeting scheduled with District Chancellor Claire.

APPOINTMENTS

President Morales made the following appointments:

- Yun Chen and Aodan Walsh to the Cultural Awareness Board
Motion to approve the appointments by Senator Wadi Zaw; seconded by Senator Skinas. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.
- Senator Khurelchuluun volunteered to serve as the nominee for the at-large student representative to the District Participatory Governance Council (DPGC).
Hearing no objections, the appointment was approved.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

None.

DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS

None.

FALL 2021 CAMPUS REOPENING

None.

FUNDING FOR VAKATASI HALLOWEEN MOVIE MARATHON EVENT

On behalf of the Vakatasi Club, Leila Tamale explained that the group is planning to hold a drive-up movie marathon event on campus. The marathon will consist of horror movies by Pacific Islander, Black, Indigenous, and people of color directors and creators. Attendees will be an admission charge, which will be utilized by the club to support leadership activities. The requested funds are to purchase a blow-up screen, an audio adapter, and snacks for the event.

Motion to allocate \$1,400.00 from the Club Assistance/ICC account (#5031) to support the Vakatasi scary movie marathon by Senator Javier-Ramos; seconded by Senator Wadi Zaw. The motion carried with 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- ASCSM Budget Update
- Transfer Mental Health Statement

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 3:42 p.m. by Senator Khurelchuluun; seconded by Senator Wadi Zaw. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Fauzi Hamadeh
Student Life and Leadership Assistant