



Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Monday, November 8, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:19 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, Alani Frias, Jiana Javier-Ramos, Lita Kavapalu, Nomin Khurelchuluun, Min Kyaw Myat, Sofiana Skinas, Susan Sun, Yoon Wadi Zaw

Members Absent: Senator Airu Chen

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

Others Present: CSM President Dr. Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza, CSM Vice President of Administrative Services Micaela Ochoa, Basilio Rico Serrano

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Minutes of prior meetings were not available. Hearing no objections, the item was tabled until the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARINGS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

REPORTS

President Morales shared information regarding an incident involving the college's cheer team. She reminded members of the Student Senate to be open to hearing concerns from their fellow students. Ms. Morales also said that members of the Student Senate should feel empowered to bring forward questions or concerns they hear so that they can be addressed.

Vice President Mahoney said that she has been in contact with Makiko Ueda, coordinator of the college's personal counseling services. Ms. Ueda will be providing information about how many students have been utilizing mental health services soon. In addition, Vice President Mahoney has been in touch with the coordinator of the Learning Center, who will be sharing updates on how the labs and centers are providing support for students who are out of the state or out of the country.

Student Life and Leadership Manager Schaefer said that he has been in contact with Acting Vice President of Student Services Kristi Ridgway regarding the status of religious exemptions for the COVID-19 vaccination requirement. Mr. Schaefer said that the Board of Trustees will be making a final decision regarding religious exemptions at its meeting on Wednesday, November 10. Members of the Student Senate said that they would like to see the religious exemption remain, especially if such an exemption will continue to be offered for employees.

Student Life and Leadership Assistant Hamadeh reminded members of the Student Senate that they must be enrolled in at least 6 units of credit for the spring 2022 semester to maintain their positions. In addition, Mr. Hamadeh said that the

ASCSM Winter Leadership Retreat will take place between Friday, January 14, 2022, and Sunday, January 16, 2022. Members of the Student Senate and the boards are invited to attend. Finally, Mr. Hamadeh said that President Morales and the other Associated Students presidents will be making their fall semester presentation to the Board of Trustees on Wednesday, November 10, at 6 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS

President Morales made the following appointments:

- Basilio Rico Serrano to the Student Senate
Motion to approve the appointment by Vice Chair Hong; seconded by Senator Skinas. The motion carried with 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

None.

DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS

None.

FALL 2021 CAMPUS REOPENING

None.

FUNDING TO ATTEND ACTIVE MINDS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Representatives of CSM's Active Minds Club shared information regarding the Active Minds National Conference, scheduled to be held in Washington, D.C., between February 11 and February 12, 2022. The event brings together representatives from across the country to discuss ways to destigmatize issues around mental health. The funds requested would help support sending six members of the club and an advisor to the conference.

Motion to approve allocating \$2,500.00 from the Club Assistance/ICC account (#5031) to support the Active Minds Club's attendance of the Active Minds National Conference by Senator Barquero; seconded by Senator Wadi Zaw. The motion carried with 13 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

At this time, CSM President Dr. Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza joined the meeting. Hearing no objections, the Student Senate suspended the order of the day and returned to Dr. Taylor-Mendoza's item under Reports.

CSM President Dr. Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza thanked the Student Senate for allowing her time at today's meeting. She said that she is interested in hearing how students are feeling about the religious exemptions for the COVID-19 vaccination requirement for the spring 2022 semester. As mentioned previously, the Board of Trustees will be discussing the religious exemptions for students at its upcoming meeting on Wednesday, November 10. Members of the Student Senate again expressed support for the exemptions and inquired as to how the requests would be evaluated. President Taylor-Mendoza said that she did not know all the details, but that a matrix is being developed that will allow the equitable evaluation of each request. The exemption requests will be routed to the vice president of student services on each campus. Members of the Student Senate said that they support the process for evaluating the requests and that it was good to see that the Board of Trustees and district are taking the needs of all students into consideration. President Taylor-Mendoza thanked the Student Senate for the feedback and said she looked forward to seeing the group again soon.

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

FUNDING FOR ASCSM BOARD MIXER/END-OF-SEMESTER CELEBRATION

President Morales said that a group met to begin planning for the ASCSM Board Mixer. Due to the timing of the mixer, the decision was made to combine it with the Student Senate's end-of-the-semester celebration. The combined event will take

place in lieu of the Student Senate meeting on Monday, December 6. The event will include food, icebreaker events, and other activities. Members of the Student Senate asked if attendance at the event is mandatory. Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Hamadeh said that it is not, but that attendance is highly encouraged. They both noted that the event is scheduled to take place during the normal Student Senate meeting time, so all the members of the Student Senate should be available.

Motion to approve \$1,750.00 from the Hospitality account (#5080) for the ASCSM Board Mixer/End-of-the-Semester Celebration by Senator Khurelchuluun; seconded by Senator Sun. The motion carried with 13 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Fall Festival/End of Year Event
- AB 540 Student Support
- Proposed Revisions to District Mission, Vision, and Values

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Vice President Mahoney announced that she will be leaving CSM at the end of the fall semester.

Senator Javier-Ramos said that the Public Relations Board will start working on the “Meet a Senator” posts at the group’s Thursday meeting.

President Morales said that the Student Senate will transition to Discord as its internal communication platform starting Monday, November 15.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 3:23 p.m. by Senator Sun; seconded by Senator Kyaw Mat. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Fauzi Hamadeh
Student Life and Leadership Assistant