



Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Monday, November 15, 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; Vice Chair Nicole Hong; Senators Brittany Arriharan, Tito Barquero, Nerissa Chang, Airu Chen (remote), Alani Frias, Jiana Javier-Ramos, Lita Kavapalu, Nomin Khurelchuluun, Min Kyaw Myat, Sofiana Skinas, Susan Sun, Yoon Wadi Zaw

Members Absent: Finance Director Tania Farjat; Senator Basilio Rico Serrano

Advisors Present: Fauzi Hamadeh, Student Life and Leadership Assistant

Others Present: Aaron McVean, SMCCCD Vice Chancellor for Educational Services and Planning; Jackie Santizo, CSM Program Services Coordinator for CalWORKs and Multicultural Center

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Senator Kyaw Myat; 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 October 25, 2021, meeting as presented by Vice Chair Hong; seconded by Senator Barquero. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021, meeting as presented by Senator Khurelchuluun; seconded by Senator Wadi Zaw. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARINGS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

Hearing no objections, the Student Senate suspended the orders of the day and took up New Business Item A, Review of Draft Board Policies – District Mission and Undocumented Student Fee Waiver.

REVIEW OF DRAFT BOARD POLICIES – DISTRICT MISSION AND UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT FEE WAIVER

Vice Chancellor Aaron McVean presented a proposed new board policy that would extend the fee waiver to undocumented students who met certain criteria outlined in the California Education Code and in board policy. The new policy would expand opportunities for undocumented students in San Mateo County to continue to pursue higher education. The Student Senate was supportive of the new policy.

Program Services Coordinator Jackie Santizo reviewed the proposed drafts of the District Preamble, Vision, Mission, and Values statements. The updates are being proposed by the district's Antiracism Council. The drafts emphasize the district's commitment to antiracism, to providing liberatory educational experiences, and to achieving racial equity and economic justice in teaching, learning, and workforce development. The district will fulfill these commitments by being an antiracist and justice-centered community, by engaging in transformative resource allocations, and by establishing liberatory practices for economic health. The Student Senate was supportive of the draft statements. The group said that it was particularly

important to continue teaching and learning about the harmful impacts of systemic racism, anti-Blackness, and other forms of oppression. The group also said that the inclusion of liberatory language is important.

In terms of timelines, Mr. McVean said that the new policy on fee waivers for undocumented students would be reviewed again at the December meeting of the District Participatory Governance Council (DPGC). After incorporating any feedback, the policy will likely go to the Board of Trustees in February or March for review and hopeful adoption. Feedback on the updated district statements will be reviewed by the Antiracism Council and then sent to DPGC for final review prior to going to the Board of Trustees. It is likely the updated statements will go to the board sometime in the spring semester.

At the conclusion of this item, the Senate thanked Mr. McVean and Ms. Santizo for their time. The Senate then resumed the order of the day.

REPORTS

President Morales said that the issue she had previously reported regarding the cheer team has been resolved. Ms. Morales also reported that she had met with CSM President Taylor-Mendoza who said that the college will be hosting a small holiday desert party, which the Student Senate will be invited to. President Morales said that she discussed with Dr. Taylor-Mendoza plans for the Spring 2022 Welcome Week event. Dr. Taylor-Mendoza suggested having an open-house type event and bringing additional activities to campus. President Morales said that this would be a great opportunity for the Student Senate to partner with the CSM President's Office.

Additionally, President Morales met with Andreas Wolf, dean of kinesiology, athletics, and dance, for an update on the e-sports initiative. Unfortunately, Dean Wolf did not have an update to share but said he would report back to the Senate once he had new information to provide. President Morales said that starting today, the Student Senate would be moving to the Discord platform for internal communications. This includes all the ASCSM Boards. Finally, President Morales said that she and Vice President Mahoney presented an update on ASCSM's fall semester activities to the Board of Trustees, which was well received.

Vice President Mahoney said that she has been in contact with Makiko Ueda, coordinator of the college's personal counseling services. Ms. Ueda said that the personal counseling services are being well utilized and that there has been an increase in students seeking counseling services since the start of the pandemic. The district has also made available a remote counseling platform called TimelyCare, which provides online counseling and wellness services via an app. The service is not being heavily utilized, so the Wellness Center is trying to help promote it. In addition, personal counseling services are being extended to students who were enrolled in classes but have had to drop due to the pandemic. Ms. Ueda shared that the peer educators are doing outreach around suicide prevention, and plan to host a tabling event in the spring. Vice President Mahoney added that she also spoke with the manager of the Learning Center, who said that services continue to be offered to students who are out of state or out of the country.

Senator Javier-Ramos reported that the Public Relations Board is working with the Active Minds Club and the Transfer Club to develop a statement in support of students who are transferring. The statement should be ready by the deadline for UC transfer applications, which is November 30. She also said that the board has begun putting together the "Meet a Senator" posts for Instagram.

Senator Wadi Zaw said that she attended the Centennial Activities Planning Committee meeting and shared ideas that ASCSM has brainstormed with the committee. She said that the Planning Committee had asked if the Club Fair, which is scheduled for February 2022, could be rescheduled to align with the centennial events schedule. Mr. Hamadeh said that moving the Club Fair would undermine the intent of the event and that it may end up not being an "official" part of the centennial activities. President Morales said that there may be other opportunities to partner with the Centennial Activities Planning Committee. Vice Chair Hong said that the hope was to use the Club Fair as an opportunity to highlight some of the college's historic clubs, but that could be done as part of a separate event if necessary.

Student Life and Leadership Assistant Hamadeh extended apologies on behalf of Mr. Schaefer for not being at today's meeting. Mr. Hamadeh reminded the group that the ASCSM Winter Leadership Retreat is scheduled for Friday, January 14, through Sunday, January 16, 2022. A link to the registration form will be sent out after today's meeting. Mr. Hamadeh asked that board chairs forward the link to their members. Mr. Hamadeh also reminded the group that members of the Student Senate must be enrolled in at least six units of credit for the spring semester to maintain their positions. Mr. Hamadeh said that there will be no Student Senate meeting on Monday, November 22, and that none of the boards would hold meetings the week of Thanksgiving. He asked that board chairs remember to send in their meeting agendas prior to Friday, November 26, at noon, and to discuss with their boards their meeting schedules for the spring semester. He reminded the board chairs to consult with Mr. Schaefer and him to make sure one of them can attend the board meetings. Mr. Hamadeh reported that the district is moving forward with requiring parking permits for the spring semester. However, there will be no physical permits. Instead, permitting will be done electronically and tied to a student's license plate number. More information should be coming from the district prior to the end of the fall semester. Finally, Mr. Hamadeh said that the deadline to upload the vaccination attestation information for those who took advantage of early registration for the spring semester is this week. He said those who have not yet uploaded their proof of vaccination should do so as soon as possible.

Vice Chair Hong asked if the vaccination attestation information will be good for all three colleges in the district. Mr. Hamadeh said that yes, once the attestation information is uploaded via WebSMART, a student will be cleared to register at all three colleges. Vice President Mahoney asked if there would be an Executive Cabinet meeting on Friday, November 19, in lieu of next week's Student Senate meeting being canceled. Mr. Hamadeh said there would be an Executive Cabinet meeting on November 19. Senator Skinas asked if students should expect to receive an email confirmation when their vaccination attestation is approved. President Morales said that students should receive an email when their information has been uploaded and when it has been approved. Mr. Hamadeh suggested that if a student has not received confirmation regarding their attestation information, the student should contact the district using the email address listed on the website. Mr. Hamadeh shared that the Board of Trustees did approve continuing to offer students religious exemptions. Students should receive confirmation that their request has been approved within 48 to 72 hours. Vice President Mahoney asked if students who have been dropped because they did not upload their vaccination attestation information could re-enroll in the same class. Mr. Hamadeh said he would find out.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

On behalf of the Advocacy Board, Senator Chang presented the following bills:

- AB 403 – Fair Access to College Textbooks Act
The bill would restrict community colleges from automatically charging students for access to instructional materials based on several criteria. The Advocacy Board recommends supporting this bill because students should not be charged for instructional materials without given adequate notice.

Motion to approve support for AB 403 by Senator Skinas; seconded by Senator Wadi Zaw. The motion carried with all members voting in favor.

- AB 967 – Special Education: COVID-19 Special Education Fund
The bill would provide additional funding to support special education programs to ensure minimal disruption during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion to approve support for AB 967 by Senator Khurelchuluun; seconded by Senator Sun. The motion carried with all members voting in favor.

DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS

None.

FALL 2021 CAMPUS REOPENING

None.

FUNDING FOR END OF SEMESTER EVENT

Senator Wadi Zaw said that the Programming Board is planning to hold an event to celebrate the end of the semester on Wednesday, December 8. The Programming Board will be partnering with several campus groups, including SparkPoint, Active Minds, Safe Zone Alliance, Multicultural Center, Phi Theta Kappa, and others. The event will include free hot chocolate, coffee, and tea, as well as snacks and giveaways such as fidget spinners, coloring sheets, and stress balls.

Motion to approve allocating \$6,000.00 from the Programs account (#5150) for the End of Semester event, by Senator Barquero; seconded by Senator Khurelchuluun. The motion carried with 13 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

SPRING 2022 TRANSITION BACK TO CAMPUS

Vice President Mahoney asked that members of the Student Senate discuss ways to support students as they return to campus for the spring 2022 semester. She noted that students may experience a “reverse culture shock” as they come back to campus after being away for so long. President Morales suggested that the Student Senate hold an event like Welcome Day to provide information and help build community. Mr. Hamadeh said that it may be too late to put on a full-on Welcome Day but suggested that the Student Senate explore ways to work with the Ambassadors or the Community Relations and Marketing Department to welcome students back to campus. President Morales said that the Student Senate could put together a series of videos that students can watch and learn about what to expect. It was suggested that a tour of the campus be incorporated into the videos because so much has changed on the campus. Vice Chair Hong suggested incorporating information about how to get involved on campus. Vice President Mahoney said that the Student Senate could encourage students to sign-up for on-campus classes at the end of the semester event. She also said that the Ambassadors could be deployed during the start of the spring semester to assist students. Mr. Hamadeh said that the Ambassadors usually stage “Operation Welcome Mat” during the start of the semester, which fulfills that function.

PLANS FOR SPRING 2022 WELCOME WEEK

The Student Senate discussed possibilities for the Welcome Week event for the spring 2022 semester. The group suggested doing events and activities to build community and welcome more students back to campus. President Morales said that the Student Senate could incorporate aspects of Welcome Day into the Welcome Week event. She suggested hosting workshops and other opportunities to let students know about the resources available. Ms. Morales said she would also like hold an event to welcome the campus community to Building 17. Mr. Hamadeh said that an open house was planned, but it was derailed due to the pandemic. There are discussions about planning a new open house sometime in the spring semester.

Vice President Mahoney suggested having live music during the Welcome Week event. The group also discussed offering additional ASCSM-branded masks and other giveaways, including custom T-shirts. Members suggested that the college’s mascot, the Bulldog, be brought out to welcome students. This information will be forwarded to the Programming Board for consideration and further discussion.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Welcome Week for Spring 2022
- AB 540 Student Support
- Proposed Class Cancellation Guidelines

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Vice President Mahoney reminded the group that there will be no meeting next Monday, November 22.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:02 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