



Executive Cabinet Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Andrea Morales; Vice President Anna Mahoney; Finance Director Tanja Farjat

Advisors Present: Fauzi Hamadeh, Student Life and Leadership Assistant

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Vice President Mahoney; seconded by Finance Director Farjat. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

The minutes of the Wednesday, June 16, 2021, meeting were not available. Hearing no objections, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

REPORTS

Vice President Mahoney apologized for not being present for the Monday, June 21, 2021, Student Senate meeting.

Mr. Hamadeh reported that Dr. Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza, who previously served as the vice president of instruction at Skyline College and launched the CSM Learning Center as well as the Academic Support and Learning Technologies Division, started her tenure as CSM president on July 1. He said that the Academic Senate and Classified Senate are planning a welcome reception for President Taylor-Mendoza, and that members of the Student Senate will be invited. More information will be forthcoming. Mr. Hamadeh announced that the CSM campus is now open, however most campus buildings are not accessible to the public. While the campus is open, no final decisions have been made regarding the return to campus because guidance from groups like Cal/OSHA and San Mateo County is changing almost daily. The district is targeting August 2 as the return date for administrators and classified staff. Mr. Hamadeh reported that he and Mr. Schaefer are waiting for final confirmation that the Student Senate leadership retreat may be held on campus, as well as twice monthly on-campus Student Senate meetings. Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Hamadeh are also still waiting for information regarding on-campus club meetings and other student activities for the fall semester.

Vice President Mahoney asked if it is true that the district and college are trying to have 30% of classes on campus for the fall semester. Mr. Hamadeh stated that the district's initial recovery framework called for 30% of students to return to the campuses. However, because the fall semester class schedule has been set and almost all classes were categorized as online classes, it would be difficult and unfair to arbitrarily convert those classes to in-person classes given the impact on students. Therefore, the college has said that if any new class sections are added, the first preference is that those sections be taught in-person. If they cannot be taught in-person, the next preference is that they be taught as "hi-flex," or a hybrid of in-person and online. Finally, if the class section cannot be taught in-person or as "hi-flex," it will be scheduled online. Given that folks are still hesitant to return to campus, it may be challenging to reach the 30% threshold.

Finance Director Farjat asked if the Student Senate plans to meet twice a month on campus, why can't campus clubs? Mr. Hamadeh noted that when the Student Senate meets on campus, either he or Mr. Schaefer would be present. Similarly, a club would need to have their advisor on-campus to meet. Because some faculty and staff may be hesitant to return to campus, some clubs may not have an advisor available for them to meet. Unfortunately, Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Hamadeh would not be able to stand in as proxies for all the groups that may want to meet on campus. Mr. Hamadeh did note that the hiring process for the staff assistant to support Student Life, Promise, and SparkPoint has begun. Once this position is hired, it may help free up some time for Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Hamadeh. However, this is not a long-term solution and ideally groups would be able to find other faculty and staff who are on campus to serve as advisors. Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Hamadeh are exploring ways to help facilitate clubs holding on-campus meetings as well as hybrid meetings.

President Morales asked if there were any plans to hold the grand opening/open house for Building 17 that was canceled due to the pandemic. Mr. Hamadeh said he was aware of discussions regarding holding a rescheduled event, but he wasn't sure if it would take place in the fall 2021 semester or the spring 2022 semester, which is when the campus will be fully open. President Morales suggested reaching out to the Learning Communities and the Multicultural/Dream Center to explore opportunities to collaborate on events and activities.

APPOINTMENTS

President Morales said that three people have expressed interest in serving as co-chairs of the Programming Board. Mr. Hamadeh said that we traditionally try to avoid appointing co-chairs because doing so may lead to confusion and miscommunication. He indicated that co-chairs were appointed last year because of the unique challenges presented by remote operations and because each of the co-chair teams had prior working experience together. Because this year's group is so new, it may be better to start with appointing singular chairs and then revisiting the decisions later to see if co-chairs are needed. Mr. Hamadeh suggested conducting interviews with those interested in serving as chair of the Programming Board. President Morales indicated that all those interested in chairing the Programming Board have served on the board in the past and have expressed passionate interest in serving in the position.

Vice President Mahoney asked if there was anyone on the Student Senate who had experience with those interested in serving as chair to get their perspective. She also asked if any of those interested in serving as chair had been on any other of the boards. President Morales said at least two of those interested had also served on the Advocacy Board. President Morales asked if executive officers may serve as board chairs. Mr. Hamadeh said no because executive officers may only hold one position at a time. President Morales asked if those interested in serving as chair of Programming Board could be considered for other positions. Mr. Hamadeh suggested that President Morales reach out to those interested in serving as chair of the Programming Board to ask them to consider chairing another board.

Vice President Mahoney reminded everyone that she would only be at CSM for the fall semester. Mr. Hamadeh said that the official line of succession dictates that the vice chair become vice president, and that then a new election would be held to select a new vice chair. If the vice chair declines to become vice president, the Student Senate would hold an election from among themselves to select a new vice president. President Morales suggested letting the candidates for vice chair know that there is a strong possibility that they may be called upon to assume the vice president position. Vice President Mahoney and Finance Director Farjat supported this.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

None.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT STUDENT SENATE MEETING

The following items were placed on the Student Senate agenda for Monday, July 12, 2021:

- Update on Guided Pathways
- Review of California Brown Act

- Review of the Roles and Responsibilities of ASCSM Leadership Positions
- ASCSM Goals and Welcome Statement for 2021-2022
- Election of Student Senate Vice Chair
- Appointment of Student Representative to Campus Safety Committee
- Fall 2021 Campus Reopening
- Welcome Event for Fall 2021

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE EXECUTIVE CABINET MEETINGS

President Morales also asked if a future Executive Cabinet meeting could be devoted to talking about the expectations of executive officers. Mr. Hamadeh noted that what folks get out of their experience in student government will depend on what they put into it.

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

President Morales asked when members of the Student Senate may have access to their office in Building 17. Mr. Hamadeh said it would depend on the hours of operation for the Center for Student Life as well as the college's overall operating hours. Mr. Hamadeh said that he and Mr. Schaefer will work with the college administration to determine what kind of access members of the Student Senate will have. President Morales also asked about decorating the ASCSM Office. Mr. Hamadeh said that because the office is a shared space, the Student Senate can discuss customizing the space.

Mr. Hamadeh stated that the Student Senate leadership retreat would take place Thursday, August 12, and Friday, August 13, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. He encouraged folks to start making arrangements to be able to attend the trainings.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 3:05 p.m. by Finance Director Farjat; seconded by Vice President Mahoney. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Fauzi Hamadeh
Student Life and Leadership Assistant