



Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Monday, August 9, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:23 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Andrea Morales; Vice President Anna Mahoney; Treasurer Tania Farjat; Vice Chair Nicole Hong; Senators Brittany Arriharan, Tito Barquero, Nerissa Chang, Airu Chen, Nomin Khurelchuluun, Min Kyaw Myat, Sofiana Skinas, Yoon Wadi Zaw

Members Absent: Senators Airu Chen, Alani Frias, Jiana Javier-Ramos, Susan Sun

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 Dean of Kinesiology, Athletics, and Dance Andreas Wolf

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

The minutes from the Monday, July 26, 2021, and Monday, August 2, 2021, meetings were not available. Hearing no objections, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARINGS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

REPORTS

Student Life and Leadership Manager Schaefer reminded the group that they now have access to the ASCSM Office in Building 17. He mentioned that parking permits are not required for the fall 2021 semester and that students may park in the lot adjacent to the building.

In addition, Mr. Schaefer shared that he and Mr. Hamadeh had just learned that due to an error at the district level, the student body fee is not being assessed of a significant number of students for the fall 2021 semester. This follows the loss of student body fee income for the spring 2021 semester due to classes being coded as distance education courses. Currently, students who are receiving the California College Promise Grant (CCPG, formerly the BOG waiver) are being automatically exempted from the student body fee. This error has been traced back to a miscommunication regarding an update to Board Policy that was supposed to remedy the issue that emerged in spring 2021. The change to Board Policy was implemented by ITS without going through the appropriate governance process, and the district has again expressed that the shortfall in income will be up to the colleges to address. Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Hamadeh have a meeting with Vice President of Instruction Mike Holtzclaw and Vice President of Administrative Services Micaela Ochoa scheduled for Tuesday of this week to discuss the

situation. The Student Life staff at Cañada College and Skyline College are doing the same. Mr. Schaefer will provide an update at the next meeting.

In recognition of Dean Wolf's time, Mr. Hamadeh asked that the Student Senate take up New Business Item A, CSM E-Sports Program. Hearing no objections, the Student Senate suspended the order of the day and took up New Business Item A.

CSM E-SPORTS PROGRAM

Andreas Wolf, CSM Dean of Kinesiology, Athletics, and Dance, greeted members of the Student Senate and thanked President Morales for inviting him to today's meeting. Dean Wolf said that the idea for an e-sports program at CSM was initially born out of the student e-sports club. The president of the club approached Dean Wolf about implementing a broader program on campus. Despite not being familiar with gaming, Dean Wolf was drawn in by the passion and the commitment of the students in the club. As discussions progressed, Dean Wolf began exploring the possibility of securing a permanent space on campus for e-sports. The request was integrated into his department's annual program review evaluation and resource request. From that, it was suggested that the former KCSM TV studio might be a viable option. There are currently three components being developed as part of the e-sports program: The student club component, the intercollegiate component, and the career and technical education (CTE)/degree component. A course outline has already been taken through the college's Curriculum Committee, so an intervarsity class in e-sports can be offered in the future. Being in Silicon Valley, CSM is well-situated to offer a pipeline for students from the classroom to e-sports companies in the area.

Dean Wolf stressed that e-gaming and e-sports is an effective way to enhance student engagement and student success. By having a dedicated facility on campus, students will have the opportunity to remain on campus and hopefully find other ways to become connected to the institution. Dean Wolf said that the athletics program also teaches discipline, desire, and hard work as part of their curriculum, something students don't necessarily get inside a classroom. Being able to offer this training to students outside of a typical sports setting is an opportunity that Dean Wolf is excited about.

The next step in developing this program is outfitting the facility with equipment and furnishings. In the future, Dean Wolf hopes that the Associated Students will consider partnering with the institution for the initial purchase of computers and other equipment. The second phase of the buildout would hopefully be done in partnership with the Strong Workforce program, but to tap that funding, the institution needs to have a certificate or degree program in place, which is currently in development. Dean Wolf also sees the opportunity for partnerships with local e-sports and e-gaming companies in the future and has already had some initial meetings with representatives that are excited about the possibilities.

Vice President Mahoney and Finance Director Farjat thanked Dean Wolf for sharing this information with the Student Senate and expressed excitement at the possibility of moving forward with the development of the program. Dean Wolf noted that there are a broad range of opportunities connected with e-sports that range from engineering and programming to announcing and script writing. Mr. Wolf acknowledge that given Mr. Schaefer's announcement earlier regarding the student body fee that opportunities for support may be limited in the near-term, he hopes that the Student Senate will consider providing whatever support they can. Dean Wolf said that one of the strengths of the e-sports and e-gaming worlds are their accessibility and how open they are to a broad range of folks. President Morales said that this is an opportunity for the Student Senate to contribute to a space that is inspired by students and directly supported by students. Dean Wolf said that he has had conversations with

a CSM alumnus who is now working in the competitive e-sports industry, and that there is broad interest among CSM alumni to see something like this come to fruition.

At the conclusion of this item and hearing no objections, the Student Senate moved back to Reports so that CSM President Dr. Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza could provide an update.

Dr. Taylor-Mendoza thanked the members of the Student Senate for the ice cream social welcome event held on Thursday, August 5. She said she had the opportunity to meet President Morales and Vice Chair Hong in person, and she enjoyed getting to know them more. Dr. Taylor-Mendoza noted that the college had sent out a communication regarding student services and learning center hours for the fall semester, including a link to a website that lists the office hours for many departments. She asked if members of the Student Senate had any feedback on the communication or the website. Dr. Taylor-Mendoza said that the website will be routinely updated and will evolve as the return to campus ramps up and that there may be opportunities to expand or scale back service hours based on demand. Vice President Mahoney said having all the information about service hours in one central location is extremely helpful. Dr. Taylor-Mendoza mentioned that there will be approximately 2,000 students attending in-person classes for the fall semester. Mr. Hamadeh pointed out that the service hours webpage is not linked from the college homepage, which would make it more accessible. Vice President Mahoney suggested including a reminder about the service hours website in an upcoming edition of the Bulldog Bulletin. Finance Director Farjat said she appreciated the reminders about the COVID-19 drive-thru pop-up clinics that were included in the email communication from the college. President Taylor-Mendoza said that further clarification from the district regarding the vaccine mandate for students and steps for providing proof of vaccination status will be forthcoming. She said the college and the district want to be sensitive to those who may still be hesitant about getting the vaccine. Finally, Dr. Taylor-Mendoza said she looks forward to joining the members of the Student Senate at their leadership retreat later this week.

Regarding the vaccine requirement for students, Senator Skinas asked President Taylor-Mendoza if accommodations would be made for individuals hesitant to get the vaccine to do personal negative experiences with health care. Dr. Taylor-Mendoza said that there need to be further discussions regarding situations like this, and that those discussions are ongoing at the president and chancellor levels within the district. President Taylor-Mendoza said she would provide an update when a decision has been made.

At this time, the Student Senate resumed the order of the day.

APPOINTMENTS

President Morales made the following appointments:

- Finance Director Farjat to the hiring committee for the director of community relations and marketing. Motion to approve the appointment Vice Chair Hong; seconded by Senator Wadi Zaw. Hearing on objections, the motion carried.
- Senator Arriharan as chair of the Cultural Awareness Board. Motion to approve the appointment by Senator Wadi Zaw; seconded by Senator Chang. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.
- Senator Chang as chair of the Advocacy Board

Motion to approve the appointment by Senator Barquero; seconded by Vice Chair Hong. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

- Senator Wadi Zaw as chair of the Programming Board

Motion to approve the appointment by Senator Chang; seconded by Senator Kyaw Myat. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

None.

DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS

None.

FALL 2021 CAMPUS REOPENING

Mr. Schaefer announced that the classified staff bargaining unit, CSEA, and the district have reached a tentative agreement on a memorandum of understanding (MOU) regarding return to work. Once the MOU is officially approved, the college will move forward with opening services for the fall semester. Mr. Schaefer noted programs may have very different operating schedules and that students should always check with the website President Taylor-Mendoza spoke about earlier. In addition, programs may scale their availability based on student demand. Mr. Schaefer also mentioned that folks can still refuse to be vaccinated against COVID-19 because the vaccines are currently available under emergency approval. Once the vaccines are given full approval, however, that exemption will most likely be eliminated. Mr. Schaefer stated that the Center for Student Life will be purchasing a supply of disposable masks that will be made available to folks coming into the office. The Center for Student Life also has feminine hygiene products available for students. Additionally, the hiring process for the staff assistant that will support Student Life, SparkPoint, and Promise should conclude shortly, at which point there will be a third member of the Student Life staff to hopefully help extend availability.

Vice President Mahoney asked if it would be possible to setup stations around campus with free masks for students. Mr. Schaefer said that it would be a challenge to offer masks campus wide due to funding and because of staffing availability through Student Life. He said that the college may be able to implement something on that scale, but that Student Life cannot manage it at this point. Mr. Schaefer said additional supplies, such as masks and feminine hygiene products, may be available through the Wellness Center, but that the center may not have fully reopened yet.

WELCOME EVENT FOR FALL 2021

Vice President Mahoney said that the planning task force met to discuss the welcome event. The group would like to have the in-person event on campus across two days to cover both the Monday, Wednesday, Friday students and the Tuesday and Thursday students, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The task force is also recommending giving out pre-packaged sandwiches and soda on one day and either boba or It's-It ice cream sandwiches on another day. Activities would include field games such as cornhole, mini-golf, and other low-key interactive games. Students would also receive giveaway bags for following the ASCSM Instagram social media account. In addition, the group would like to hand out items such as stress-balls or candles to help students relax to help manage their mental health.

President Morales asked if it would be too late to order reusable face masks with the ASCSM logo to distribute as part of this event. Mr. Schaefer said that it will depend on the timing of the event. He also said that we may

already have a stock of other giveaway items, such as bags, highlighters, and pens. Mr. Schaefer said that the group should look at the last week of August or first week of September for holding the event and suggested doing activities on a Wednesday instead of Monday. He also recommended that the group utilize an RSVP system to get an estimate of how many students may participate. Vice President Mahoney asked if it would be possible to donate any left-over food to local food banks. Mr. Schaefer said that it would be up to the food bank and that some organizations do not accept certain food due to the risk of spoilage and foodborne illness. Mr. Hamadeh suggested also contacting the SparkPoint program to see if they can accept left-over food.

Mr. Hamadeh pointed out that President Taylor-Mendoza mentioned that there will be approximately 2,000 students on-campus taking in person classes. He is going to try to confirm that number. Mr. Schaefer said that he usually sends an email to all students talking about opportunities to get involved and that if there is enough information, he can include the welcome event in the email. However, he needs the information ASAP as there is usually a seven-day turnaround time to get the email out through the marketing department. Vice President Mahoney said the group also wants to include information about support programs in the giveaway bags. Finance Director Farjat suggested partnering with the Active Minds club to include information about mental health support programs. President Morales said that the QR codes for the board applications can be integrated into a promotional flier. Vice President Mahoney said that the group also discussed distributing plants and providing materials so students can decorate the pots. Mr. Hamadeh said that the Student Senate had done something similar in the past and it wasn't very successful.

Mr. Schaefer noted that masks can be ordered through CustomInk, which is the vendor we normally use, and be delivered in two weeks. He recommended allocating \$6,000.00 to fund the welcome event, with a portion of that money going to custom face masks.

Motion to approve \$6,000.00 from the Program account (#5150) for the fall 2021 welcome event by Senator Chang; seconded by Vice Chair Hong. The motion carried with 8 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 voting to abstain.

ASCSM BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mr. Hamadeh provided an overview of the ASCSM budget, including the sources of income and major expense accounts. He noted that the Student Senate's major source of income is the student body fee, which as was noted earlier has been impacted by errors by the district over the past two semesters. He also mentioned that the Student Senate has the largest discretionary budget on campus. Mr. Hamadeh said that once the issues with the student body fee have been addressed, he will work with Finance Director Farjat and the rest of Executive Cabinet to develop a budget recommendation for the Student Senate.

CSM CENTENNIAL UPDATE

Because Mr. Hamadeh was not able to confirm a presenter for this item, he requested that the Student Senate table it until the next meeting. Hearing no objections, the item was tabled until the next meeting.

SUSPENSION AND MODIFICATION OF ASCSM BYLAWS

Mr. Hamadeh explained that due to the shift to remote operations last year, the Student Senate suspended the portion of the bylaws dealing with eligibility to serve on the Student Senate and to be a club officer. The change modified the unit requirement for members of the Student Senate to include distance education units. For club officers, the unit requirement was changed to one for-credit course at College of San Mateo. All other eligibility

requirements remain the same. Because remote operations are continuing, the Center for Student Life is recommending that these changes be extended for the fall 2021 semester only.

Motion to approve the suspension and modification of the ASCSM Bylaws for the fall 2021 semester by Senator Skinas; seconded by Senator Barquero. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

ASCSM GOALS FOR 2021–2022

Due to time constraints, Mr. Schaefer suggested tabling this item until the next meeting. Hearing no objections, the item was tabled until the next meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- ASCSM Goals and Welcome Statement for 2021–2022
- CSM Centennial Update

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Schaefer said that Mr. Hamadeh will be sending out information regarding meals for the retreat. Please be sure to reply with your preference. Mr. Schaefer also said that he will be sending out information regarding the Meyer-Briggs assessment and asked members to complete the assessment prior to the start of the retreat on Thursday.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 3:59 p.m. by Senator Skinas; seconded by Senator Chang. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Fauzi Hamadeh
Student Life and Leadership Assistant