



Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Monday, March 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 2:17 pm.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Enzo Ferreira; Vice President Brittany Shive; Finance Director Montse Morales; Vice Chair Ryan Luftman; Secretary Lianna Lim; Senators Jake Austin, Andy Cheng, Jasper Cheng, Marlo Cowan, Luana Ferreira, Ashley Phyu, Aidana Rysbekova, Antu Sosa, Eugene Teng

Members Absent: Senator Megan Sullivan, Paola Tagashira (excused)

Advisors Present: Student Life and Leadership Manager Aaron Schaefer, Student Life and Leadership Assistant Fauzi Hamadeh, Student Life and Leadership Staff Assistant Mondana Bathai

Others Present: Interim Vice President of Student Services Alex Guiriba

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Senator Cheng, seconded by Senator Rysbekova. Hearing no objections, the motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2024, meeting as presented by Senator Cheng, seconded by Vice Chair Luftman. Hearing no objections, the motion was carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2024, meeting as presented by Senator Teng, seconded by Senator Phyu. Hearing no objections, the motion was carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

REPORTS.

President Ferreria said that first-level interviews for the CSM President screening committee have concluded. He apologized for not being able to attend the recruitment event last week but said that he heard great things about it.

Vice President Shive said that there was a great turnout for the recruitment event.

Senator Teng noted that the ASCSM election is coming up and he hopes people will sign up.

Interim Vice President of Student Services Alex Guiriba said that the ANAPISI grant supported students attending a show called *Larry The Musical* in San Francisco last week. The musical is about the life and legacy of the Filipino American labor leader Larry Itliong. Mr. Guiriba noted that the nomination period for the Campus Life and Leadership Awards has closed. Plans are continuing for Commencement. Laurie Chin, the original keynote speaker, unfortunately has a conflict so the President's Cabinet is exploring other options. Interim Vice President Guiriba invited everyone to attend the President's Advocacy Council dinner on Thursday, April 11. The event is a fundraiser to help support innovation and student support on campus.

Student Life and Leadership Manager Aaron Schaefer said that the Student Life Office will be closed next week for spring recess. Mr. Hamadeh and Ms. Bathai will be off the entire week, but Mr. Schaefer will be on campus at least part of the

day on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Schaefer said that student ID cards are currently not available due to an issue with the computer. The new ID card printer and software should be installed soon.

Student Life and Leadership Assistant Fauzi Hamadeh said that finalist candidates for district chancellor have been chosen. Recorded interviews and biographies for each of the candidates can be found on the district website. Mr. Hamadeh encouraged members of the Senate to review the videos and provide feedback by this Friday at 11:59 pm.

Student Life and Leadership Staff Assistant Mondana Bathai noted that the Spring Health Fair will be held this Wednesday in College Center Building 10.

APPOINTMENTS

President Ferreira made the following appointments:

- Anthony Painavaskas to the Advocacy Board
Motion to approve the appointment by Senator Cheng; seconded by Vice Chair Luftman. Without objection, the motion was carried.
- Michael Llanell to the Student Senate
Motion to approve the appointment by Senator Rysbeskova; seconded by Senator Cheng. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

STATEMENT ON PROBATION AND DISMISSAL TERMINOLOGY

Student Success Program Services Coordinator Alicia Frangos presented a statement adopted by the Classified Senate pertaining to the language around academic probation and dismissal. An ad hoc group from across the district has been advocating to move away from the deficit language of “probation” and “dismissal.” An informal survey showed that students would be in favor of changing the language to something less punitive. In addition to the Classified Senate, the Academic Senate is considering a similar statement.

Vice Chair Luftman said he did not see any issue with changing the language, and that doing so might be a positive step. Mr. Schaefer said that he hopes the district will review the language in all its policies and procedures as it is very outdated. Ms. Frangos noted that the change in language would be specific to our district but there is a movement at the state level to change the dismissal and probation language in Title V. Senator Cheng said that he was concerned students may not understand the severity of being placed on probation or being dismissed if the terminology is changed. Ms. Frangos said students would continue to receive direct communication letting them know the seriousness of the matter.

Motion to adopt the statement on probation and dismissal terminology as presented by Vice Chair Luftman; seconded by Senator Austin. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

FUNDING FOR WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION

The Advocacy Board will be sponsoring an event in celebration of Women’s History Month, highlighting women in high profile leadership roles. The event will include interactive elements in addition to information boards and other educational material.

Motion to approve allocating \$5,000.00 from the Ethnic and Cultural Affairs account (#5050) to support an event celebrating women in leadership organized by the Advocacy Board by Vice Chair Luftman; seconded by Senator Rysbekova. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

FUNDING FOR EARTH FEST 2024 EVENT

No representatives from the district Sustainability Office were present for this item. Hearing no objections, it was tabled until the next meeting.

FUNDING FOR ASCSM PROMOTIONAL MERCHANDISE

The Public Relations Board would like to replenish the supply of ASCSM branded merchandise for the remainder of the semester. The board is recommending the purchase of tote bags, sticky notes, and water bottles.

Motion to approve allocating \$7,975.00 from the Publicity account (#5151) to purchase ASCSM branded materials for upcoming events and activities by Senator Phyu; seconded by Vice Chair Luftman. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

FUNDING FOR 2024 SPRING FLING EVENT

The Programming Board is planning to hold the annual Spring Fling event on May 1, 2024, from 11:30 am to 2 pm. The event will include carnival games, food trucks, snacks, free giveaways and prizes for games, and other activities. The event is a major undertaking, and the Programming Board will need a lot of support and assistance to make it happen.

Motion to approve allocating \$28,000.00 from the Programs account (#5150) for the annual Spring Fling event by Senator Cheng; seconded by Senator Austin. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

FUNDING FOR AAPI HERITAGE MONTH KICK-OFF EVENT

The AAPI Leadership Development Program is requesting funding for an event on Tuesday, April 30, to kick-off the celebration of Asian American Pacific Islander History Month and Mental Health Awareness Month. The group is also looking for funding from the APACC program.

Motion to approve \$4,002.95 from the College Program Assistance account (#5032) to support the AAPI Heritage Month Kick-Off event by Senator Phyu; seconded by Vice Chair Luftman.

Mr. Schaefer noted that the group will need funding to have Facilities setup for the event. Senator Phyu and Vice Chair Luftman agreed to a friendly amendment to increase the funding to \$5,200.00 to include costs for setup. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

ASCSM OFFICE REFURBISHMENT DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK

Senator Ferreria said that she and Mr. Schaefer will be meeting with Marie Mejia, the director of capital projects, to discuss what options are available to refurbish the ASCSM Office. Vice Chair Luftman said that it would be nice to see some more color and other decorations in the office. President Ferreira said that the group probably does not need all four of the computers. President Ferreira also suggested adding fake plants to make the room less sterile.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Several students addressed the Senate about the silence of the College and the Associated Students regarding the conflict in Gaza. The students feel that the statement published by the district in October 2023 was vague and inadequate. In addition, there has been no follow-up statement or other action taken by the College since then. Many believe that what is taking place in Gaza is a genocide and the silence by the College is very telling. The students felt compelled to reach out after a Ramadan posted was published on the ASCSM Instagram account. They felt it was disingenuous to ask folks to celebrate Ramadan when people in Gaza are being killed. Another student said that the student government organizations at Skyline and Cañada have adopted statements in support of the victims in Gaza. The students are wondering why ASCSM has not done the same.

Another student urged the Student Senate to advocate for the district to stop doing business with organizations that support the genocide in Gaza. The students feel that they are not supported by the College and that if they wanted to hold an event to educate the campus that it would not be approved. The students noted that during an on-campus protest last

semester, members of the Public Safety staff were taking pictures, which they saw as an intimidation tactic. One of the students, who identifies as Muslim, said that ASCSM should be serving as a bridge between the student body and the administration to voice such concerns. While she does not disregard the Jewish lives lost, she feels that Muslim students and their allies are not being heard. At this point in time, it is undeniable that what Palestinians are being put through is not justifiable. She asks why teachers are barred from speaking on these issues and the protests stopped. The good intentions behind the Ramadan post felt like a slap in the face. Ramadan is a holy month for Muslims, but many Muslims believe that there is nothing to celebrate. ASCSM has chosen to be a bystander. They have chosen a culture of silence. The death toll for Palestinians in Gaza has reached in the thousands. She asked how many deaths would be enough for the College to speak out.

One of the students thanked everyone for listening to them speak. She is Palestinian and she believes that a lot more can be done. Another student said that she felt the Ramadan post was performative. She thanked ASCSM for inviting her to speak. She brought a diverse set of people from different backgrounds to show that there are people who want more from ASCSM. She noted that she used to work for Paws for Coffee in Building 10. However, the operation of the coffee stand has been taken over by Pacific Dining, which means international students can no longer work there. Many immigrant students and POC students feel a lack of support from CSM and that their cultural communities are an afterthought. She noted that last fall, CSM had an opportunity to speak about the wildfires in Hawaii but instead just posted “Maui Strong” signs during the Block Party event.

One of the students said they feel there is a hostile environment for Palestinians at CSM. She said the Instagram post was shallow and it takes away from the opportunity to share events or ways to help Palestine. This post would have made more sense if CSM had put in more effort to help Palestinian students. Nobody is buying into the performative acts from CSM. There are no sides to the genocide. She encourages the school to think more about the stories from her friends. A lot of people want more voice about the cultural issues on campus and the issues with Palestine.

Senator Cheng announced that the Advocacy Board would be changing the date for the Women’s History Month event.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 3:24 pm by Senator Sosa; seconded by Vice Chair Ryan Luftman. Hearing no objections, the motion was carried.

Submitted by,

Lianna Lim
ASCSCM Secretary