

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This meeting was facilitated both in-person and via an online Zoom format.

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

8:30 a.m.

BMU 205

Members Present: Autumn Alaniz-Wiggins, Johnathan Montes, Dr. Tracy Butts, Mia Arisman, Allison Wagner, Christian Sullivan, Jamie Clyde, Vincent Sy

Members Absent: Dr. Isaac Brundage

Others Present: Dr. Chela Mendoza Patterson, Jon Simmons, Eliza Miller (recording), Kendra Wright, Kyle Alsberry, Thang Ho, Katrina Leach, Leah Mercer, Anna Paladini, Keith Crawford, Katey Von Mosch, Amanda Dubner, Steve Novo, Christina Jewell, Windy Van Dam, Brooke McCall, Kristin Chelotti, Charlie Foor, Shar Krater, Curtis Sicheneder, Jasmine Saephan, Teresa Clements, Lexi Extein, Richard Oliver

CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Alaniz-Wiggins, called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

- I. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION** - The meeting started with reading the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement.
- II. **AGENDA – Motion to amend the 3/27/24 agenda, adding business item C (Wagner/Montes). 6/0/0 MSC. Motion to approve amended agenda (Sy/Arisman) 6-0-0 MSC.**
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – None
- IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**- None
- V. **PUBLIC OPINION** – None
- VI. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Action Items forwarded to the Board of Directors from the standing committees stand approved unless overturned by a 2/3 + 1 Board action.
 - A. Government Affairs Committee
 1. GAC Actions of 3/11/24
 - a. Approved the 3/11/24 regular meeting agenda.
– Wagner also discussed the removal of the Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy at the 3/25/24 GAC meeting; the official report will be shared at the next BOD meeting.
 - B. Associated Students Facilities Committee
 1. ASFC Actions of 3/14/24
 - a. Approved the 3/14/24 regular meeting agenda.
 - b. Approved Minutes of the 2/29/24 regular meeting, as presented.
 - C. Associated Students Businesses Committee- No meeting held.

VII. BUSINESS

- A. Info Item: Revised Pay Grades- Mercer shared the proposal for the new pay grades. She shared that we are moving from numbering to lettering and want to remove our lowest four pay grades. These new grades also have a wider spread between the minimum and maximum to allow more flexibility with compensation for individual employees. Mercer added that they looked at range penetration to determine how far into these new ranges the staff fall. She would also like to plan now for another pay grade revision in 2026. They are also looking at revising the pay rate for our custodial staff to ensure we are keeping up with the campus custodial pay. She concluded by expressing her desire to get this adjustment right and care for our folks who have dedicated themselves to serving the students. Alaniz asked if the GSI would affect red-circled employees. Mercer clarified that employees receiving a GSI would depend on BOD passing the new pay categories to

accommodate GSI's for those currently red-circled and for the budget to be passed with that salary increase included.

- B. Discussion Item: Report on COLA Percentage – Leach shared that they calculated this total at 25% of 4 different cost indices to determine the COLA. Clyde asked if we tied the rate to CPI or the campus fee rate. Leach clarified that we used the CPI, not the campus calculation for the fee increase. Alaniz asked how the percentage increase would affect student fees. Clyde explained that while the fees change annually, the intention of the CPI adjustment each year is to keep the buying power of campus utilizing those fees the same year over year while adjusting for inflation. Montes asked what the 4% total represents. Leach clarified that this is to help us estimate how much more expensive things are when planning our budget.
- C. Discussion item: Chartwells Q&A- Rider offered the committee the opportunity to ask any questions about the proposal shared at the previous meeting. Wagner asked what the AS plans to do if we don't move forward with Chartwells. Rider answered that plans would be shared if we don't go with Chartwells, but the decision moving forward with Chartwells or not is prioritized at this time. He added that they did develop some ideas based on the feedback received during the Chartwells proposal process. Rider shared that due to the way we are currently set up, our dining services operate with our own overhead costs. Adding in the overhead costs of a contractor reduces the income that the AS would bring in from dining while not saving us any existing internal overhead. Rider shared that we have some time to explore more and do not need to decide out of desperation. Clyde added that the primary concern is the financials; essentially, the proposed contract would cost us an additional \$300,000 a year, which we don't have. Chartwells attempts to compensate for increased operating costs with a signing bonus and capital improvements. Leach's calculations show that the signing bonus against the additional cost each year results in a break-even scenario. Clyde shared that the final piece of the contract is the capital improvements proposed by Chartwells. They have allocated 3.8 million, but improvements may require funds beyond what Chartwells has proposed, which the AS would be responsible for. Other considerations Clyde shared are the effect the loss of income to pay for overhead would have on programming and the loss of autonomy we have over our dining services in our partnerships: for example, with Basic Needs or our ability to respond to the needs of the community as we did during the Campfire in 2018 and the pandemic in 2020. Rider concluded that he felt we had more to lose than just 3.8 million. Alaniz asked what the next steps are, and if we don't go with Chartwells, we will still be putting a new café into the new BSS building. Clyde and Rider confirmed that we would still do that. Leach confirmed that the budget includes an option for that café project. Clyde shared that she wants the Board to ask any questions. And that if they are leaning away from Chartwells, she does have some idea of what we would do moving forward but doesn't want to muddy the waters. Sullivan asked about the length of the contract. Rider shared that the contract is initially eight years with two five-year extension options, which will be part of a renegotiation process. Clyde shared that these contractors typically predict higher revenue numbers than are realistic, and in our process, we use realistic numbers for our campus. Clyde shared that any time we contract, the contractor answers to shareholders, and where our shareholders are students, theirs are not. They keep the savings from their negotiations, but we experience the same cost; when we negotiate those savings on our own purchases, we can pass those savings on to our students in one way or another. Leach answered Wagner's question about what it would look like if we stayed self-operated. She stated that we do have reserves that we could use to make our own improvements. Arisman asked what it would look like to work with a name brand on our own. Clyde shared that in her experience, she attempted to bring in Panera and Panda, and the biggest roadblock was the structure of our kitchen. After getting the numbers for restructuring our kitchen to make those contracts more attractive, AS proposed share of profits would not offset the costs, adding that most campuses where these concepts exist result in the union offsetting the cost of dining. Sullivan asked if we had a final contract. Rider clarified that the presentation at the previous BOD meeting was Chartwells' final offer.
- D. Director of Academic Affairs – Arisman shared that at the upcoming SAS, she has Financial Aid coming to talk and answer questions, and IT will attend the following meeting.
- E. Director of Social Justice and Equity Report – Sullivan shared that tomorrow is the Social Justice and Equity committee meeting, where they will discuss the support of the Global Student Society Ramadan event and the next steps for the already approved Basic Needs Cultural Food project.
- F. University Vice Presidents' Reports – Clyde shared that UBC recommended 5% cuts across the board; now, each division is looking at how they will make that 5% reduction and send their proposals back to the Cabinet. That process will happen over the next month. She shared that Two weeks ago, it was the USB

groundbreaking. Strategic planning is kicking off, and the VP of Business and Finance candidate campus visits are over the next two weeks.

- G. Faculty Representative report – Dr. Butts shared that summer session registration starts next week. Academic affairs have a couple of searches ongoing; the VP of ECC and Dean of the Library searches are continuing. Academic Affairs is reviewing budgets to accommodate the 5% reduction mentioned earlier by Clyde.
- H. Interim Executive Director’s Report – Dr. Patterson welcomed everyone back from spring break. She reminded everyone that FAFSA data is starting to go out, so if you haven’t done your FAFSA yet, do it soon. She also shared that Keith Crawford produced a workplace violence report and recommendations based on the survey that went out earlier this year, and those recommendations were presented to the directors this week. She also mentioned the numerous presentations to our standing committees from our services and programs and that those presentations have been a wonderful reminder of all the good things the AS does. Alaniz shared that she recently learned that there is no unified resource for student parents and wants to see us support our student parents better.
- I. President’s Report – Alaniz-Wiggins shared that she has been focused on internal policies and codes. She just met with Dr. Wilson about the code of conduct changes she is proposing and the possibility of a new commissioner role to represent IT and Technology concerns for the students.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Dr. Patterson shared that the time capsule ceremony is on April 23rd at 1 pm on the same day as the senior sendoff. Wright shared that the election is next week, so spread the word.

IX. PUBLIC OPINION – Anna Paladini shared that to promote the election, we have three events coming up to giving students the opportunity to chat with the candidates. One tomorrow, one on 4/3, and the election extravaganza on 4/4. On 4/1, Cats in the Community is happening, and she encouraged folks to celebrate Cesar Chavez. Brook McCall shared that 4/6 is Choose Chico, and she encouraged everyone to go out and connect with some potential future students.

X. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Alaniz-Wiggins, adjourned the meeting at 9:45 am.