

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

8:30 a.m.

BMU 205

Members Present: Johnathan Montes, Dr. Tracy Butts, Mia Arisman, Allison Wagner, Christian Sullivan, Jamie Clyde, Vincent Sy, Dr. Isaac Brundage

Members Absent: Autumn Alaniz-Wiggins

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, Cassie Flannigan, Joseph Fischioni, Nicole Hamzaeff, Sarah Wilson, Verlene Moreno, Ember Funk, Michael Masney, Stephanie Fabian.

CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Montes, 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** –Approval of the 4/10/24 Regular Meeting Agenda. Action Requested: **Motion to approve 4/10/24 regular meeting agenda, as presented (Sy/Sullivan) 6-0-0 MSC.** Mia Arisman arrived at 8:32
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of 3/13/24 **Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 3/13/24, as presented (Sullivan /Sy) 7-0-0 MSC.**
- IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS- None**
- V. **PUBLIC OPINION** – Michael Masney from Chartwells addressed the board about the decision ahead on the future of dining on campus. He summarized the four options he sees for this decision: Chartwells, hiring a consultant, hanging tight and waiting, or a new option he is proposing would be for Chartwells to essentially serve as day-to-day consultants with limited staff, a model recently explored by Cal Poly SLO. Stephanie from Chartwells also addressed the board to add to Michael's idea of utilizing Chartwells as consultants because they can assist with some new technologies and marketing resources to help dining implement changes quickly that are bigger than they can pull off alone.
- 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 3/25/24
 - a. Approved the 3/25/24 regular meeting agenda.
 - b. Approved the Minutes of the 3/4/24 and 3/11/24 regular meetings, as presented.
 - c. Approval of removal of Imani Martin as the Vice President of Facilities and Services Student Appointment and Michael Arredondo as the Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy Student Appointment from the Campus Engagement Council.
 - d. Confirmed appointments to Campus Engagement Council: Vice President of Facilities and Services Student Appointment: Misti David and Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy Student Appointment: Mia Sanchez-Bejar.
 - e. Removed Itzel Saucedo-Dominguez as the Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy.
 2. GAC Actions of 4/8/24
 - a. Approved the 4/8/24 regular meeting agenda.
 - B. Associated Students Facilities Committee
 1. ASFC Actions of 3/28/24
 - a. Approved the 3/28/24 regular meeting agenda.

- b. Approved Minutes of the 3/14/24 regular meeting.
- C. Associated Students Businesses Committee
 - 1. ASBC actions of 3/29/24
 - a. Approved the 3/29/24 regular meeting agenda.
 - b. Approved Minutes of the 3/8/24 regular meeting.

VII. BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Approval of Revised Pay Grades. Mercer shared that the proposal is the same as the previous meeting and primarily shifts all pay grades up about 10% and expands the range of each pay grade. Clyde shared that she has worked with the AS team on these numbers due to her unique situation. She added that there is no one way to achieve fair compensation. This model looks at our lower-paid employees and attempts to address their compensation, as well as looking to our higher-paid roles to ensure they are competitive to help retain talent. This vote will allow the AS to better match some large adjustments being made on the state side. She announced that she would be abstaining from the vote due to her becoming an AS employee again in a few months. **Motion to Approve the revised pay grades as presented (Sullivan/Arisman) 6-0-1 MSC.**
- B. Action Item: Approval of Recommendation for Future of AS Dining Services. Dr. Patterson read the memo presented to the BOD under separate cover. The recommendation presented in the memo was for the AS to stay the course with self-operated dining, hire an outside consultant, and utilize union funds to make capital improvements to the space. Arisman asked what the affirmative vote would do. Montes clarified that an affirmative vote would be a vote in favor of the recommendation made by Dr. Patterson. Sullivan asked if there was a proposed budget for hiring a consultant. Dr. Patterson clarified that, at this time, the decision is solely what our path forward is. Budgets would come back to the BOD after the decision has been made. Rider clarified that the consultant would be part of the budgeting for any improvements to dining. Clyde addressed Michael Masney in the gallery. Montes recognized him so he could share more information about the consultation offering from Chartwells. He shared that their buying power could help provide a cost-neutral model to have two primary consultants on board: one for operations and one for cuisine. This would also provide the AS access to their resources while remaining self-operated. Masney felt that this option was the best of both worlds. He used their role in the recent meal plan changes as an example of how this partnership could be beneficial. Clyde asked to confirm that this option would come with a 2% service fee. Masney confirmed and added that there are signing bonuses from Chartwells and the Chancellor's Office. Montes recognized Leach. Leach shared that there is a Chico Cash fund that would be available with this proposal that gives an annual amount back to the AS and helps offset the additional staff costs and 2% fee. Masney added that food and paper purchasing would go through Chartwells utilizing their networks and rebates. Montes asked how long the contract would be. Masney shared that it would be eight years. Clyde added that the AS only has a contract with the campus for ten years, so we couldn't hold any contracts longer than ten years. Dr. Brundage entered the meeting at 9:04. Wagner asked if the Chartwells consultation model presented today was new, and Dr. Patterson shared that this was her first time hearing of this option. Wagner asked if voting no was a way to ensure we address this new option. Dr. Butts asked if a yes vote would preclude the AS from exploring this new option. Dr. Patterson and Montes clarified that it would not preclude the organization from exploring this model. Dr. Brundage asked for some clarification on that 4th model as he arrived late. Clyde shared a quick summary of the proposal as had been discussed earlier. Sullivan asked if we could accommodate both Chartwells and a consultant. Dr. Butts summarized that a yes vote would put the previous proposal from Chartwells behind us but not limit us from utilizing Chartwells for this new consultation model or allow us to use another consultant. Clyde summarized by sharing that whatever decision is made after this will still have to go through BOD, whether it is a capital infusion from the union to dining or a contract for consultation with Chartwells. **Motion to approve the Recommendation for Future of AS Dining Services as presented (Arisman/ Sy) 8-0-0 MSC.**
- C. Info Item: Termination of Post-retirement Health Benefits- Mercer shared that the AS currently offers \$300 a month for retired staff with ten years of service over age 60 to contribute towards health insurance. Currently, nobody is using this option. She shared that we must have an actuarial study every three years to determine how much unfunded liability we need to hold. We currently have \$295,000 held for a benefit nobody is using. Her recommendation to the Board is to eliminate this health insurance benefit and contribute those held funds to the unfunded liability we hold for CalPERS which will save the organization money in interest. If we had a retiree between 60 and 65, they can still remain in our health enrollment plan, they would just not receive the \$300 a month to put towards it.
- D. Info Item: Revisions to the Records Retention Policy- Crawford shared that the Cal senate passed SB 533 requiring us to implement a workplace violence program that will cause the organization to generate new records, so we have

added those records to our records retention policy. Crawford shared that, simultaneously, he is proposing revisions to the length of time we are required to hold on to wavers, matching the standard practice of the Auxiliary Organizations Risk Management Alliance (AORMA).

- E. Director of Academic Affairs – Arisman shared that SAS is wrapping up their year. At the next meeting, VP Sendze and Scott Kodai are coming to show SAS an app they are working on for students so they can give feedback. They are also hosting an end-of-year celebration at Hatchet House.
 - F. Director of Social Justice and Equity Report – Sullivan shared that his committee meets tomorrow. He also shared that April is Arab Heritage Month, and the atrium display celebrating the month is set up. He is also sharing revenue-sharing allocation amounts and the deadline for redeeming them with our contract programs and clubs. He shared updates about International Festival on May 4th. Sullivan concluded by sharing that he just returned from a conference with the University of California Student Association, BSU, and UC student governments. The Conference focused on black student lobbying and advocating for black students in the CSU and UC.
 - G. University Vice Presidents' Reports – Clyde shared that her office is looking at the debt service ratio to get us in line with the Chancellor's Office's expectations. This year the AS did not meet their debt service ratio. Wagner left the meeting at 9:27 am. Clyde shared that she is working with Leach to address the issue, as it is not sustainable. This is also happening across campus, but the AS's number is currently a larger issue. She shared that the campus is piloting immediate access to textbooks with Follett in the fall. In theory, we would be ready in spring for everyone to join this program. Clyde shared that Choose Chico was an amazing day. Wagner returned at 9:31 am. Dr. Brundage shared that FAFSA is still delayed. We are starting to see larger batches come in, but progress is still slow. He asked for patience and shared that the financial aid office is hosting info sessions for students who are experiencing challenges. Montes asked if this was due to the new application, and Dr. Brundage confirmed that the delay is linked to the FAFSA Simplification that occurred last year. Dr. Brundage echoed Clyde's statements about the budget. Dr. Brundage shared that Impact Day is coming up and is an opportunity to partner with our regional community colleges. Chico State is signing five MOUs with area community colleges on impact day. To conclude, he recommended that enrollment management be invited to give a presentation ahead of budget conversations to provide helpful context to our budget conversations.
 - H. Faculty Representative Report – Dr. Butts shared that they are also looking at the budget on the academic side of the university. They are prioritizing class offerings to keep students on track for graduation. She reminded the room that the Book in Common author is coming to campus tomorrow and speaking at Laxson. She encouraged everyone to come in to see him speak and read the book if you haven't.
 - I. Interim Executive Director's Report – Dr. Patterson thanked everyone at the table in their role today at the meeting, with Alaniz-Wiggins out in DC and Montes willing to step in as chair. Additionally, she thanked the AS staff for being all hands on deck on a Saturday for Choose Chico. She has been meeting with candidates for VP of Business and Finance and Associate VP for Enrollment Management; they have shared amazing feedback about Chico State and our tight-knit community. She concluded by sharing that though times are challenging, they have been before, and we always get through it.
 - J. President's Report – Montes (serving as chair) thanked Michael and Stephanie from Chartwells for coming in today on this very important vote. He also thanked the committee for being present and asking questions. He concluded by welcoming Chris as the president-elect for 24/25 and reminding all the graduating representatives to get out and enjoy their last few moments on our beautiful campus.
- VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Krater shared thanks to Eliza Miller, Kendra Wright, and Anna Paladini for a successful election cycle. She also congratulated CAVE for hosting a great Cats in the Community. She shared that the international festival is on May 4th. McCall added that the Clint Smith Book in Common event is free for students; you just have to pick up tickets at the box office.
- IX. PUBLIC OPINION** – Michael Masney thanked the room for welcoming him and allowing him to engage in this meeting. He expressed hope that the new option he presented could be a continuation of the relationship between Chartwells and the AS.
- X. ADJOURNMENT** – The Chair, Montes, adjourned the meeting at 9:48 am.