

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*This meeting was facilitated both in-person and via an online Zoom format, consistent with the Governor's Executive Order N29-20, suspending certain open meeting law restrictions*

**Wednesday, October 20, 2021**

**2:30 p.m.**

**BMU 205**

**Members Present:** Duncan Young, Taryn Burns, Austin Lopic, Olivia Rosso, Tracy Butts, Ann Sherman, Tom Rios, Melvin Quezada Haro

**Members Absent:** Kiley Kirkpatrick (excused)

**Others Present:** Jamie Clyde, Karen Bang (recording), Susan Jennings, Jon Slaughter, Tom Rider, Shar Krater, Hugh Hammond, Katrina Robertson, Katie Peterson, Leah Railey, Curtis Sicheneder, Thang Ho, Eliza Miller, Teresa Clements, Lauren Lathrop, Keith Crawford, Jaycob Arbogast, Kimberly Morales, Anna Paladini, Jade Tsao

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Young, called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.
- II. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION** – The meeting was started with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition statement.
- III. **AGENDA** – Approval of the 10/20/21 regular meeting agenda – **Motion to approve the 10/20/21 regular meeting agenda, as presented (Burns/Lopic) 6-0-0 MSC.**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes of the 10/6/21 regular Board meeting. **Motion to approve Minutes of the 10/6/21 regular Board meeting, as presented (Lopic/Burns) 6-0-0 MSC.**
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Lopic said Happy Wednesday! He advised that the VP IT and Chief Information Officer search is starting to wrap up and campus will announce who will be hired within the next several weeks.
- VI. **PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic - None
- VII. **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 10/13/21/21 – Burns reviewed the items approved by the GAC.
      - a. Approved the 10/13/21 revised regular meeting agenda.
      - b. Approved Minutes of the 9/29/21 regular meeting.
      - c. Approved requesting BOD to amend the Bylaws to lower the enrolled unit requirement to file for elected office to match the Chancellor's Office minimum requirements, as presented.
      - d. Approved not allowing a write-in process for uncontested positions appearing on the AS General Election Ballot and instead appoint those positions prior to August training, as presented.
  - B. Bell Memorial Union Committee
    1. BMUC Actions of 10/19/21 – Clyde said the Wellness Center project price went up more than expected, noting they received the PEWAF from FMS regarding the estimate of costs, which also includes a contingency buffer. She said we went back and forth with FMS, and with the help of Business and Finance were able to reduce down some of the percentages that would have normally been passed on to us. BMUC approved to increase the project up to \$1,750,000, which is about \$250,000 more than the AS originally estimated the project to cost. Clyde said increased costs are due to supply chain management, material costs and labor costs. • Clyde shared that a lot of feedback from students has been received regarding reduced WREC hours and basketball courts being closed for basketball. She said they used a calculated strategy to offer as many services to students as possible while doing so safely, noting the AS is short staffed for both student and career positions. Clyde said the hope is to extend services as soon as possible in an environment that is safe for employees and students. (Sherman joined the meeting at 2:44 p.m.). Regarding the basketball courts, Clyde said that students don't want to wear masks, which has caused basketball to be shut down.
      - a. Approved the 10/19/21 regular meeting agenda.

- b. Approved Minutes of the 10/5/21 regular meeting.
  - c. Approved increasing the previously approved budget of \$1,080,400 for the BMU Wellness Center project, for a total revised cost of \$1,750,000.
- C. Associated Students Businesses Committee
- 1. ASBC Actions of 10/11/21 – Lopic reviewed the items approved by ASBC, noted new merchandise in the bookstore is available, and that Bug Night is coming up. Lopic said continued supply chain issues are also affecting the bookstore and dining.
    - a. Approved the 10/11/21 regular meeting agenda.
    - b. Approved Minutes of the 9/27/21 regular meeting.

## VIII. BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Approval of appointment of Melvin A Quezada Haro to the Director of Social Justice and Equity position. **Motion to approve appointment of Melvin A Quezada Haro to the Director of Social Justice and Equity position, as presented (Rosso/Lopic) 6-0-1 MSC.** Quezada Haro was welcomed to the table and he expressed appreciation for the appointment.
- B. Action Item: Approval of revisions to Restated Bylaws of Associated Students of California State University, Chico regarding lowering the current GPA requirements to file for and hold elected office to match the Chancellor's Office minimum requirements – Burns said the hope in doing this is that it will allow students to run for office who often need the most representation and are also often the ones who are struggling the most in classes. She said they want to make it successful and equitable to students that deserve that representation. Slaughter confirmed this begins with the incoming officers of 2022-23. **Motion to approve revisions to Restated Bylaws of Associated Students of California State University, Chico regarding lowering the current GPA requirements to file for and hold elected office to match the Chancellor's Office minimum requirements, as presented (Burns/Rosso) 7-0-1 MSC.**
- C. Action Item: Approval of revisions to Associated Students Corporate Codes – Attendance Policy for Elected Representatives and Restated Bylaws of Associated Students of California State University, Chico to reflect the approved list of causes to miss scheduled orientations and trainings. The list being: personal or family illness, emergency, or Associated Students related business requiring a representative to be unavailable, at jury or witness duty, military service, internships (unit bearing or not unit bearing). Other causes not listed must go to the Board of Directors for approval by a majority vote – Burns said attendance at summer training has been an issue in the past, thus the suggested revisions. Clyde asked if this is regarding any part of training, or all training. Burns said any part and all, noting main issues in the past have been students who have had other jobs on campus. They are also addressing when training will happen to hopefully alleviate the attendance problem. Discussion was held. **Motion to approve revisions to Associated Students Corporate Codes – Attendance Policy for Elected Representatives and Restated Bylaws of Associated Students of California State University, Chico to reflect the approved list of causes to miss scheduled orientations and trainings. The list being: personal or family illness, emergency, or Associated Students related business requiring a representative to be unavailable, at jury or witness duty, military service, internships (unit bearing or not unit bearing). Other causes not listed must go to the Board of Directors for approval by a majority vote, as presented (Lopic/Burns) 8-0-0 MSC.**
- D. Information Item: Revisions to Restated Bylaws of Associated Students of California State University, Chico regarding lowering the enrolled unit requirement to file for elected office to match the Chancellor's Office minimum requirements – Burns said they are wanting to make running and holding office more accessible to students, noting this has been an issue in the past and especially last year due to students being online due to COVID and dropping classes. Bylaws would be revised to state that undergraduate students must be enrolled in six units while running for and earn at least nine units of credit per semester while holding office. Sherman asked if this will be permanent or temporary due to COVID and Burns said this would be permanent.
- E. Information Item: Employee hazard and COVID related performance compensation – Clyde said everyone was impacted in April of 2020 due to COVID, with little idea of what was happening in the world, which created a lot of fear and anxiety. She said during that time the AS took a really strong stance that we're here to serve students and that it was extremely important to offer services for our students as that's the reason we're here. She said we continued offering services that a lot of schools didn't offer such as the CDL, providing meals for residence hall students at University Village, as well as opened up the BMU for major events such as elections. Clyde said in the last year and a half the organization really stepped up and offered those services for students but at the same time we also asked our employees to take a risk and come out and still work which put them in

some jeopardy at that time. She said there were some different offerings that the state had, such as CPAL, leave that employees could utilize to stay home; however, that leave ran out rather quickly. Clyde said we made hard decisions about layoffs, and pushed forward services. She said the AS didn't offer hazard pay nor allowed more leave as there was a lot of uncertainty and questioning of possibly losing student fees. Across the board, all employees were treated the same. She said now that we're past that, things have changed for the better. Last year the CDL was given grants to support their employees and could be allowed as bonuses; however, at that time we did not give out bonuses as we wanted to treat all employees the same. She said the AS also received HEERF funds that we weren't expecting which supported the bookstore and we also renegotiated our Dining contract which allowed more bottom line dollars than expected. Clyde said looking back, we saw savings of expenses, and noted the importance of the AS to not only support the students but support those who have been supporting the students and not have the AS benefit off the back of our employees. She said she asked the staff directors to pull together and look at those of our employees who were front line employees as well as those that pulled together new programs and those that didn't take any time off during the last year and a half. She said they came up with three essential buckets: front line employees that came in to work on campus, all programmers that flipped their entire programs to online or something new within months, then administrative tasks that went along with all these duties such as creating a vaccine policy, creating a way to test, hiring 400 students at one time, etc. She said she is looking at different buckets and will come back to the next meeting with dollar figures regarding recognizing and awarding staff. She will come back with what each portion of the buckets will be and will send an email to the Board of the individual breakdown in order to protect individuals' privacy. Lopic said he is happy that we're supporting our employees. Clyde said student workers would also be a part of this. Burns questioned if this would include students that have left since the pandemic and Clyde said this only goes through June of this year, as that was the all callback. Regarding those that worked early on and were laid off, some were offered severance packages, and additional pay. For those that left voluntarily or were terminated, both career and student employees, Clyde said we don't have a mechanism for backpay. She said she is looking in terms of offering front line employees a particular dollar amount per hour worked, programmers and administrators at a flat rate.

- F. Discussion Item: 7/31/21 and 8/31/21 Activity Fee Fund Budget vs. Actual – Jennings reviewed with the Board, focusing on August as they're YTD reports. She noted a benchmark of 16.7% and said revenues are running behind because we typically have fewer expenses at the start of the semester, and goes up as the semester goes on. Overall at 13.95% for expenses.
- G. Discussion Item: 7/31/21 and 8/31/21 Combined Student Union and WREC/AO Summary Income and Expense Statement – Jennings said the Student Union has expensed 9.69% of the approved annual budget and generated 1.91% of projected income. She noted that they budget for full staff but rarely have all positions filled.
- H. Discussion Item: 7/31/21 and 8/31/21 Dining Services Financials – Lopic said Net Income for August was at (\$9,864) and \$300,546 YTD. He reminded that Dining Services has a net zero contract this year.
- I. Discussion Item: 7/31/21 and 8/31/21 AS Wildcat Store Financials – Lopic said income for July was \$16,143 and Net Decrease YTD was (\$9,757). For August, Income was \$107,303 with a Net Decrease YTD of (\$24,998).
- J. Discussion Item: 7/31/21 and 8/31/21 Follett Wildcat Store Financials – Lopic provided an overview of July and August, noting July ended overall at \$95,272 and August ended overall at \$867,873. Sherman said Follett Discover is something they've worked hard on the past two years, and was happy to see it paying it off.
- K. Discussion Item: Student Management Investment Fund – Clyde said she would like to find out the Board's thoughts about this item. Young said this creates learning opportunities for our students as long as the AS benefits from it and doesn't incur any losses. Burns said she is interested in supporting students; however, the AS needs to be careful with someone else handling our money. She questioned if a gift might be a better way to go than having them handle our money. Clyde said the discussion right now is whether or not the Board likes the project and then would discuss how it should be funded, such as a Board Designated Fund and investment of money, which comes with a lot more procedures, or look at it from a gift viewpoint done over multiple years, and tie particular requirements to the gift that is being provided. Clyde said she and Jennings can put together options for the Board so they have something definitive to vote on. Young said he's not interested in the gift perspective. Sherman said if funds were given as a gift, it wouldn't provide the advantage of a return on investment. She said keeping it in a trust or fiduciary responsibility is more likely to bring that money back plus additional funds and would keep it more real. Clyde said there would be fee costs since Chico State Enterprises (CSE) would be handling the funds. She also questioned how much the Board would want to spend. Burns said she'd like to see various scenarios regarding this item and Clyde said she and Jennings would put together two

or three different scenarios to bring back as an Information item. Arbogast provided some information regarding a CSE brokerage account.

- L. Director of University Affairs Report – Rosso said senators have their own councils within each college and they want to standardize councils, adding into the Student Academic Senate (SAS) Code. She said senators are looking at what this would look like for their college and a workshop will be held. Burns urged Rosso to be mindful that each position has different requirements. Rosso said more student involvement within the colleges is the goal. • Rosso said Patrick Newell, ex Librarian, spoke to SAS about a \$25,000 Student Learning Fee grant, hoping to get input from students A survey will be sent out regarding what students want to see in the library. • Rosso said Jason Nice, Chair of the Curriculum Advisory Board, spoke with SAS regarding equity gaps in GE. He said it's being reviewed for antiracist practices and requested student feedback. She said a student focus group will be formed to go into different organizations and start conversations as well as a survey.
- M. University Vice Presidents' Reports – Sherman said the UPD Chief search has begun and they're working with a search firm who specializes in this. A campus wide call for input for the position description has been done and a committee met this week to incorporate this information and prepare an overall strategy. • Sherman said last week the HEERF funds for students were distributed. • Sherman said deconstruction of the original science building is being done and the new BSS building will be built at that site. This will be going to the Board of Trustees on November 9 and 10 for their review. • Rios said he learned during last week's Greek Week that Chico State has 33 fraternities and sororities, and about 12% of students are involved in Greek life. He said last week they donated 305 units of blood in their blood drive, collected over 5,500 cans of food for the Wildcat Food Pantry and also raised over \$25,000 which went to Basic Needs. He said they're doing a tremendous job in terms of contributing to our community. Out of the 33, he said 13 of them are part of the multicultural Greek council. He said if you look at national literature, often will see that students of color who are involved in multicultural Greek organizations tend to have a greater sense of academic and social sense of belonging on a campus, a stronger sense of purpose for why they're on campus, as well as they also seem to be more involved in giving back and contributing to the community. He said as an institution we need to spend more time conducting assessment to see if national research about multicultural Greeks plays out on our campus as well.
- N. Faculty Representative Report – Butts said as a faculty advisor to a multicultural Greek organization, she is glad to hear about the good things they are doing. She said as Dean, she has been seeing a lot of drop requests, to the point that it is becoming concerning. Butts said they teach a lot of freshmen in HSA and it speaks to the exhaustion that everyone is experiencing during this semester and pandemic. She requested everyone to check on their peers, and noted financial hardship, health reasons and mental health reasons have been given for dropping classes. She said if they're not doing well, we need to help them to find the necessary resources to help them. • Butts said she met with the HFA ambassadors yesterday and they want a count down clock to count down to the end of the semester, which might help people to push forward. She suggested perhaps adding it to the BMU marquee. (Rosso left the meeting at 3:49 p.m.).
- O. Executive Director's Report – Clyde said student clubs and organizations numbers are significantly down, as well as councils and committees. She noted that people are feeling overwhelmed and agreed that it's important to check in with peers and those you work with and help comfort them and help them hang on. • Clyde said AS vaccination self-certifications are now at 100%, which is awesome (Sherman left the meeting at 3:51 p.m.). Campus vaccination rates were discussed.
- P. President's Report – Young welcomed Quezada to the Board, which he said brings us to a full Government Affairs team. He also welcomed Tsao, the Chief of Staff. He will be working with her to develop better committee reporting, to better understand who is on every committee, and build a data base. She'll also be supporting Rosso's efforts with SAS. • Young said Monday's Town Hall went really well and the information is posted on the Government Affairs wall for a week or so. After the Town Hall he attended the UPD Police Chief Hiring Committee meeting and he's providing information collected from students at the Town Hall regarding language they'd like to see included in that job description.
- IX. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Lathrop said she received an email from President Hutchinson that the Chancellor will be here on November 2 and the president requested a discount that day in the Bookstore as a sort of Spirit Day. Lathrop said they'll be offering a 20% discount next Thursday in the Wildcat Store.
- X. **PUBLIC OPINION** – None
- XI. **ADJOURNMENT** – The Chair, Young, adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.