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**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, March 5, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Via Zoom

Members Present: Bre Holbert, Anthony Ruiz, Austin Lopic, Tracy Butts, Ann Sherman, Ella Snyder, Kaylee Biedermann, Sandy Parsons-Ellis

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jamie Clyde, Karen Bang (recording), Jon Slaughter, Thang Ho, Shar Krater, Leah Railey, Katie Peterson, Katrina Robertson, Hugh Hammond, Zahraa Khuraibet, Diane Vicente, Eliza Miller, Lauren Lathrop, Tom Rider, Curtis Sicheneder, Anastasia Schmeekle, Michelle Borges, Jennifer Mendoza, Keith Crawford, Angela Ostarello, Emily Bruns, Alejandro Alfaro Ramirez, Mattea Bertain, Alexander Smith, Taryn Burns, Nirvana Almada, Caitlin Morris

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Holbert, called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.
- II. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION** – The meeting was started with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition statement.
 - I. **AGENDA** – Approval of the 3/5/21 regular meeting agenda. Motion to amend agenda to make time certain of 10:50 a.m. for Business Item C. regarding increasing of scholarships for Elected Officer Senator positions (Snyder/Butts) 3-2-1 MSC. Motion to amend agenda, moving Strategic Plan up to be Item A. (Snyder/Ruiz) 6-0-0 MSC. Motion to amend agenda to include item regarding Election Policy for Graduate Students as Discussion Item I. (Snyder/Ruiz) 4-1-1 MSC. Motion to approve revised agenda (Snyder/Ruiz) 4-2-0 MSC.
 - II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes of the 2/19/21 regular Board meeting. Motion to approve Minutes of the 2/19/21 regular Board meeting, as presented (Ruiz/Lopic) 6-0-0 MSC.
- III. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Holbert welcomed Khuraibet and Vicente, the CSSA representatives, to today's meeting and thanked them for taking time out of their day to be with us.
- IV. **PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – (Parsons joined the meeting at 10:42 a.m. and Sherman joined the meeting at 10:44 a.m.) Smith, Alfaro Ramirez, Mendoza, Bruns and Burns expressed their support of the scholarship increase for elected officer senators and urged the Board to vote yes on this item.
- V. **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 2/24/21
 - a. Approved the 2/24/21 revised regular meeting agenda.
 - b. Approved Minutes of the regular meeting of 2/10/21.
 - c. Approved Consent Agenda
2020-21 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments
Confirmation of appointment to Events and Diversity Programming Allocation Council (EDPAC)
- Commissioner of Diversity Affairs Appointment: Allesandro Delpiano
 - B. Bell Memorial Union Committee – No meetings held (the 2/22/21 meeting was cancelled).
 - C. Associated Students Businesses Committee
 1. ASBC Actions of 3/1/21

- a. Approved the 3/1/21 regular meeting agenda.
- b. Approved Minutes of the regular meeting of 2/15/21.

VI. BUSINESS

- A. Discussion Item: Strategic Plan Update – Due to time issues, Clyde said this item would be placed on the next Board agenda.
- B. Discussion Item: Presentation by California State Student Association (CSSA) President and Chair – Vicente, the Chair of CSSA, explained that CSSA is a student government that serves system-wide with a student representative from each campus on their Board of Directors. In addition, they have other committees that deal with both internal and external aspects of the organization. She said their voice is the primary advocate for all CSU students and CSSA is officially recognized by the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor and the government. Vicente reviewed what their Board is currently looking at and noted that discussions, resolutions and statements are sent to the Governor's office, Chancellor's Office and Board of Trustees and changes are often made at a state-wide level. She said they address all different aspects of student issues and reviewed the organizational structure. Vincente said their budget is made up of the \$2 fee charged to students systemwide, although students can opt out of paying this fee. Khuraibet, the CSSA President, shared her goals and noted she is creating a task force to talk about the University Police Department issues, opening this opportunity to students at large both inside and outside of CSSA. The application will be going out systemwide soon. She said she will be having her one-on-one with the Chancellor next week and if AS Chico has any pressing issues she should be aware of, to let her know so that she can share with him. She said she also provides an update to the Board of Trustees regarding what CSSA has been doing. A lot of her work is to be sure that students are involved in consultation and provide their voice. Khuraibet said the biggest thing she's working on is engaging and building relationships with individual ASI's. She said if anyone is interested in being a part of CSAA, follow up with her and she'll provide information regarding opportunities available. Snyder said she has a few items that she'd like to get to the Chancellor, and requested meeting with them. Snyder recognized Smith to speak and he asked when applications for the task force would be open. Khuraibet said they should be available by this weekend. Holbert thanked them for attending today's meeting.
- C. Time Certain: 10:50 a.m. Action Item: Approval to increase scholarship for Elected Officer Senator positions by 2.5% for four consecutive years effective with the 2021-22 term of office, as presented. **Motion to approve increasing scholarship for Elected Officer Senator positions by 2.5% for four consecutive years effective with the 2021-22 term of office, as presented (Snyder/Ruiz).** Snyder recognized Almada to speak. Almada said she is a current senator, and supports this increase. **Amendment to the proposal, to be a 3% one-time pay increase effective the 2022-23 academic year, to be reconsidered at the end of that academic year for additional pay increase (Lapic/Biedermann).** Lapic said there has been a downward enrollment trend over the past three years and expressed concern that students will be upset with the Board for approving a pay increase at this time. Snyder recognized Bertain to speak. Bertain, a current senator, provided a representation of a student senator's weekly schedule and said a pay increase would benefit students overall. Biedermann said she agreed with the amendment, especially based on the enrollment numbers and said if people hear that we're raising pay and not giving back fees, it doesn't look good. Regarding enrollment numbers, Sherman said that across the country, it is expected that it will be very difficult to increase enrollment over the next 8 years based on birth rates and traditional college age. She said Chico State is trying to maintain their enrollment but it will likely decrease over the next several years. She said if that's a factor in this decision making, we need to be aware of the impact it will have on the overall budget because about 45% of our budget comes from enrollment, tuition and fees so we need to be mindful about the financial obligations we're committing to for the future. Ruiz read a segment of a letter from last year's Student Academic Senate which said that they all agreed this should be passed, and encouraged the Board to approve it. Snyder recognized Morris to speak. Morris said it's important to look at the huge inequitable pay gap between senators and other

positions. She said if we want to show this is a valuable program, it's important to reflect that in the scholarships. Holbert reminded the Board that they're still on the amendment. Slaughter suggested that the word pay, be changed to scholarship. Snyder recognized Almada to speak. Almada said as a senator she wanted to point out this is not affecting current senators, but future senators. Ruiz noted that current and past senators are in attendance and this means so much to people. Snyder recognized Bruns who said she has a fundamental problem with people who have not spoken nor reached out to Academic Senate members regarding this item. She encouraged them to put themselves in the shoes of those running for these positions. Lopic said he's looking at this from a financial standpoint and looking at the cold hard numbers. He said he feels this is not a fiscally responsible time to do this, or if they do, it would be better to do a step by step process, looking at enrollment each year. Snyder said that she is in support of a senator compensation increase. She said this University values diversity, inclusion and equity, and the AS needs to show that through our policies as well as represent the students. Dr. Butts asked for confirmation that the proposal is to move senators to the same scholarship amount as commissioners, about \$2,300 difference each in scholarship to bring them up, as they do somewhat similar work. She asked if funds could be cut from other places to allow to reach this. Snyder said we have the money and should be able to allocate some money towards senator compensation. She said this increase is a very small number compared to the AS budget. Sherman said she's not opposed to the increase but noted that if this scholarship is part of a financial aid package of perhaps a number of items such as Work Study, grants and loans, that increasing someone's pay in this regard means the AS will pay out of our budget as opposed to it coming out of Chico's financial aid monies. She said that even with a pay raise, that doesn't necessarily mean that they're going to get anymore money. She said that in essence, they're voting on the AS paying more towards someone's scholarship or support than the school is. Discussion was held. Holbert requested a vote on Lopic's amendment. **2-4-2 Motion fails.** Holbert reminded that they were now back to the main motion. Snyder said they're concerned about the students that can't afford to be a senator and also meet their basic needs, noting senators are currently not receiving enough compensation to support themselves. Clyde noted the financial aid piece can be muddy. She said regarding the equitable discussion, that financial aid is individualized; the net effect is that somebody that actually requires more financial aid, such as 100% financial aid, no matter what we did with the scholarship, it would not change. She said the more financial aid you need, the less you actually get in scholarship funds. Discussion was held regarding how scholarships have affected student Board members. Dr. Butts said this sends a strong message to student colleagues in terms of how they navigate a world where they are asking people to pay them for the work they are doing, and if the AS is in a position to pay the \$17,000 over that time period, they could make it work. Sherman said if this vote is about making sure that there is equity in pay across the work that is being done, then the answer is clear that we should find a way to make that happen. **6-1-1 MSC.**

- D. Discussion Item: AS Election Ballot Addition – Peterson explained that every year there is an Advisory Measure on the election ballot which needs to go through the Board. She said last year they put together an opportunity for recognized student organizations to encourage voting and created a Get Out the Vote Challenge. If organizations could get students to sign up, and encourage people to vote, the organization that gets the most number of students motivated to vote would have their Revenue Sharing doubled. She reminded that Revenue Sharing is a part of our AS election process. Peterson said she is coming to the Board today to see if they have any concerns about including on the ballot a question regarding, "Did any of the following organizations motivate you to vote today?" The Board had no concerns about this request, so Peterson will move forward with having this item added to the ballot.
- E. Discussion Item: Next phase for compensation and compression from Employers Group – Clyde said this would be moved to the next agenda due to time constraints and additional information she received earlier this week.
- F. Discussion Item: 1/31/21 Activity Fee Fund Budget vs. Actual – Moved to next upcoming agenda.

- G. Discussion Item: 1/31/21 Dining Services Financials – Moved to next upcoming agenda.
- H. Discussion Item: 1/31/21 AS Wildcat Store Financials – Moved to next upcoming agenda.
- I. Discussion Item I: Election Policy for Graduate Students – Snyder said it has come to her attention that the AS Chico Election Policy is significantly different regarding Graduate students than the overall CSU policy that is supposed to set a baseline for campuses in general. She said Graduate students who are interested in running for a position have reached out to her as they're currently unable to do so due to our policy requiring a large number of units in order to run for a position. She explained that our Election Policy requires 12 units completed at Chico State in order to run for office, but she said this isn't equivalent to Grad units. She said the CSU Policy requires Grad students to have completed three units. Also, CSU Policy says that Grad students can't have more than 50 units completed and our AS Election Policy says they have to have a minimum of 45 units completed. Snyder said she would like to vote on this now so that Grad students could be included in the upcoming election. Ruiz agreed with Snyder, noting a lot of Grad students only go part-time at 6 units, or full-time which is 9 units. He said Grad students don't take 12 units per semester. Sherman said until the MBA took off, many of our grad students were represented by Unit 11, as a collective bargaining agreement and perhaps they were represented that way. Slaughter said not necessarily. He said the history behind the 12 units and 45 units was that at the time when it was put in our Bylaws, it was thought a student who is going to represent the students of Chico should have experience at Chico State. Those who would be on a Board position should have a deeper understanding of Chico State, and that's where the 45 units come in. He said it's not friendly to Grad students that haven't done undergraduate work at Chico State. He said the challenge they have at this particular time is that if qualifications are changed they would have to reopen filings. **Motion to table this discussion to the next Board meeting (Lapic/Biedermann) 4-2-0 MSC. Motion to adjourn the meeting (Lapic/Biedermann) 6-1-0 MSC.** Meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.