

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, September 22, 2021

2:30 p.m.

BMU 205

Members Present: Duncan Young, Taryn Burns, Kiley Kirkpatrick, Austin Lopic, Olivia Rosso, Tracy Butts, Ann Sherman, Tom Rios

Members Absent: None

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, Kristin Chelotti, Eliza Miller, Anthony Ruiz, Lauren Lathrop, Behnam Ardakanian

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Young, called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.
- II. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION** – The meeting was started with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition statement.
- III. **AGENDA** – Approval of the 9/22/21 regular meeting agenda – Kirkpatrick requested adding Discussion Item: California Indians Day, to the agenda. **Motion to revise the agenda to include Discussion Item: California Indians Day (Kirkpatrick/Lopic) 8-0-0 MSC. Motion to approve the 9/22/21 revised regular meeting agenda, as presented (Lopic/Burns) 8-0-0 MSC.**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes of the 9/1/21 regular Board meeting. **Motion to approve Minutes of the 9/1/21 regular Board meeting, as presented (Lopic/Kirkpatrick) 8-0-0 MSC.**
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Lopic said Happy Wednesday.
- 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 (GAC) – Burns reviewed the items approved and discussed at the meetings.
 1. GAC Actions of 9/8/21
 - a. Approved the 9/8/21 regular meeting agenda.
 - b. Approved Minutes of the 8/25/21 regular meeting.
 - c. Approved Consent Agenda – 2021-22 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments
Confirmation of appointments to Sustainability Affairs Council (SAC)
 - Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointments: Faith Churchill and Natalie PangilinanConfirmation of appointments to Legislative Affairs Council (LAC)
 - Commissioner of Legislative Affairs Appointment: Triston Haverty
 - Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointment: Mia Shew
 2. GAC Actions of 9/15/21
 - a. Approved the 9/15/21 regular meeting agenda.
 - b. Approved Consent Agenda – 2021-22 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments
Confirmation of appointment to Sustainability Affairs Council (SAC)
 - Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointment: Abhinav Reddy MeruguConfirmation of appointment to Bell Memorial Union Committee (BMUC)
 - Government Affairs Committee Appointment: Mujtaba AzamConfirmation of appointment to Associated Students Businesses Committee (ASBC)
 - Government Affairs Committee Appointment: Cole Cassidy
 - c. Approved the appointment of Delaney Love to the Commissioner of Community Affairs position, as presented.
 - d. Approved the appointment of Behnam Ardakanian to the College of Engineering, Computer Science and Construction Management Senator position, as presented.

- e. Approved the Revised Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Government Affairs Committee Meetings for the Academic Year 2021-22, as presented.
- B. Bell Memorial Union Committee (BMUC) – No meetings held. Kirkpatrick said they're at quorum and will begin soon, although still looking for students to join the committee.
- C. Associated Students Businesses Committee (ASBC) – No meetings held. Lopic said their first meeting will be held on 9/27/21. He said semi-final interviews for the VP IT position are being held; final interviews in October.

VIII. BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Approval of Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Board of Directors Meetings for Academic Year 2021-22. **Motion to approve Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Board of Directors Meetings for Academic Year 2021-22, as presented (Rosso/Lopic) 7-0-1 MSC.** Sherman said she can't attend these meetings as scheduled and discussion was held. Bang will follow up regarding possibly rescheduling if necessary.
- B. Action Item: Approval of revisions to Associated Students Corporate Codes – Restated Bylaws of Associated Students of California State University, Chico – Slaughter said these revisions were approved by GAC regarding policies and procedures. He said today's approval by the Board is regarding going forward with the revisions to the Bylaws and some of the policies to change the names of elected officers to elected representatives and also the addition of the seven senators to the Bylaws. **Motion to approve revisions to Associated Students Corporate Codes – Restated Bylaws of Associated Students of California State University, Chico, as presented (Lopic/Kirkpatrick) 8-0-0 MSC.**
- C. Action Item: Approval of Pepsi contract modifications and extension – Lathrop asked if this would cause any changes for the bookstore and Clyde said only the contract extension of six months. **Motion to approve Pepsi contract modifications and extension, as presented (Lopic/Burns) 8-0-0 MSC.**
- D. Information Item: Audit Committee recommendation regarding 6/30/21 Audited Financial Statements and Report to the Audit Committee – Sherman said the AS Audit Committee met on 9/14/21 and our external auditor presented the financial statements and report. She said they presented an unqualified audit which means no problems were identified – this information will be submitted to the campus, then to the CSU as a whole. She said the recommendation of the Audit Committee is that the Board approve the 6/30/21 Audited Financial Statements and Report as presented. Sherman said there were a number of people at the meeting who expressed their appreciation for Jennings as this was her last Audit Committee meeting. Jennings said she emailed the Financial Statements and Report to the Board yesterday.
- E. Information Item: 2022 health insurance – Jennings reviewed the 2022 health premiums and explained the differences between the PPO, EPO and High Deductible Plans. She noted that cost savings are being seen for 2022 and compared the rates between this year and next year. Overall, the change is a decrease of 8.8%. She said in 2021 when we moved into the Auxiliary Organization Risk Management Alliant group and moved to Anthem Blue Cross, we saw a 13% to 25% reduction in premiums, depending on which plan was chosen. She said that currently the AS splits the monthly insurance premiums with employees at 85% AS, 15% employees. Discussion was held (Sherman left the meeting at 3 p.m.). Young asked if COVID affected costs and Clyde said if there's a significant increase to insurance, through our experience as a group we won't see it for at least another year. Jennings noted a \$125,027 decrease in premiums for 2022 (\$18,134 in employee savings, \$106,893 in AS savings). Clyde said the predecessor Board set a split of 85/15 and explained that this Board won't need to vote on this item as it's informational only. She said in the future if rates jump up, the Board could modify the percentage split.
- F. Information Item: New Associated Students Human Resources Policy – Telecommuting Policy – Clyde said this policy and the Vaccine Policy will be on the next Board agenda. She said the Telecommuting Policy will mimic what campus is doing. She said the directors' group is looking at more than telecommuting as it's not available for all jobs, and explained that they want to be as consistent and equitable as possible. Clyde said Sicheneder and Krater are tasked to look at as many creative and legal ways the AS can support employees with the ability to be flexible. She said for example, they can look at revising lunch hours to help employees shorten their day, which would be at no cost to the AS. An all-encompassing list is being created to keep employees happy. Clyde said Happy Talks (what makes you happy, why do you want to stay here and how can we keep you here?) were held three to four years ago and she and Railey met with every single AS employee regarding recruitment and retention. She said they did a lot of things that employees suggested. Clyde said now that we're living

through this pandemic and things have changed, employees are different and want different things. She said Happy Talks are coming back to ask questions to move forward and will be facilitated by December so the information can be presented to the Board in January regarding policies and funding for those items having a cost. Young said some companies are using telecommuting to say they're using less energy and more green. He said home energy costs employees when working from home and should be considered. Clyde said this is in the policy regarding cars and transportation and is a nod to sustainability. Kirkpatrick asked about stipends for employees for internet and Clyde said there is a stipend for internet and phone depending on which type of category the employee falls under.

- G. Information Item: New Associated Students Human Resources Policy – Vaccine Policy – Clyde said we're getting very close to where we need to be regarding vaccinations. She noted that Chico State unions have extended their due date to October 27 so the AS will stay within that same date, although we should be completed earlier. Clyde said regarding the exemption process, AS employees have either been approved or denied. There are only 9 employees left who have not yet self-certified. She said our policy will mirror campus policy. Lathrop asked about the bookstore's vaccination policy and Clyde said they'll fall under the Chancellor's Office policy and will also be using the same policy as the AS will. Clyde said outside groups will be required to be vaccinated when using rooms in the BMU, although currently not being checked. Young said this requirement should be in their contract with the AS and Clyde said Kelsey Torres and Sicheneder have been working on this. She said depending on the size of the group, proof of vaccination will be required.
- H. Discussion Item: California Indians Day – Kirkpatrick said she met with Rachel McBride regarding the significance of California Indians Day and this campus being located on Mechoopda Land. Kirkpatrick said she would like to explore a paid holiday for this day; however, she noted we can't make different holidays for every single group on campus. She questioned what it would cost the AS and said because this holiday occurs during the fall semester, it would cause various areas on campus to close, such as the WREC and the BMU. Young asked if Tribal Relations provided any alternative options to a paid holiday. Kirkpatrick said they would like and appreciate this holiday but also recognize the challenges. Lopic said Sales Force gives their employees paid volunteer time off and suggested the AS could do something similar. He said California Indians Day is the third Friday of every September and maybe we could have it occur on the first Saturday following, giving employees paid time to go out and volunteer within the community. Butts asked if this would affect AS Dining. Jennings said for those that have to work, such as Dining and the CDL, they would be paid double-time. Railey said we already observe Indigenous People's Day around the Christmas holidays, which are rescheduled from the actual days. Kirkpatrick said she spoke with Rachel McBride regarding the difference between these two holidays and was told that Indigenous People's Day recognizes all indigenous people globally, not specifically California. Krater said as a staff member and California Indian, as much as she appreciates the recognition, she is not in favor of a paid holiday for our staff. She said she would much rather see a campaign of giving back to the community, an educational opportunity. She said it's more regarding the education of it, it doesn't necessarily have to be incentivized. Krater also noted that our student staff wouldn't be paid for this holiday, which she said is also not good. Young said reaction people have to closures due to this holiday, such as the WREC, could build unintentional negativity. Butts suggested engaging some education around this and said she doesn't want it to be another opportunity for people to party and perpetuate stereo types about a particular people. She noted the need to think about unintentional bias. Clyde recommended creating an ad hoc committee involving community members in order to come up with some different ideas. She said she and Jennings can vet costs. Kirkpatrick said she likes the idea of something similar to Cats Give Back, a volunteer day, as well as forming a committee and hopefully establishing something for next year. Young said Katie Peterson suggested considering renaming Sutter Dining and they could also encourage the university that Sutter Hall be renamed. Regarding the ad hoc committee, he suggested putting something together on how we as the AS could better recognize the native peoples of this land and involve tribal relations and other folks that are interested.
- I. Director of University Affairs Report – Rosso said Tyler Jenkins was appointed to Academic Senate and EPPC. She said Ella Snyder was appointed to Academic Senate and FASP. She said they are still working on filling other University committees. Rosso said this week's SAS meeting was cancelled and she'll be training Behnam Ardakanian, the new College of ECC Senator. The Senator of College of Natural Sciences is working on a survey to go out to all the colleges regarding learning modality.
- J. University Vice Presidents' Reports – Rios said he spoke with Mary Wallmark regarding the various events held over the past few weeks and she told him there were 24 events, with over 6,000 unique engagements for new and returning students. He said he thought this was very good.

- K. Faculty Representative Report – Butts said most conversations have been about getting everyone to self-certify. She said students have been contacted in a number of ways, including emails and phone calls, with texting beginning soon as the next phase of the campaign. She said they're trying to get everyone self-certified by 9/30. • Butts said the spring 2021 class schedule is being worked on and campus is trying to maintain at least the same percentage of 60% to 65% of in-person course offerings. She explained that they had hoped for fully on campus classes but that's not happening. She said they are helping students to progress through their grades. Young questioned the possibility of increasing the number of in-person classes due to an approximate 90% vaccination rate and Butts said it will vary. She said they are still seeing instances of students/faculty/staff testing positive and noted that in classes that work closely together, there are a lot of instances of COVID and they may need to go hybrid. She said we need to be mindful so we don't create a bigger situation. Butts said 65% live classes college wide is the baseline, but it may need to be revised. Lopic said for those graduating in the spring, they were hoping classes would be fully in person, with a minimum of more hybrid classes offered as they'd really love to attend in-person classes. Discussion was held. Kirkpatrick asked when they'll know what graduation will look like this spring and Butts said it would be decided as we get closer to the date.
- L. Executive Director's Report – Clyde said as COVID numbers are going down, we're keeping a close eye on what this means to the AS in terms of employees. She said all AS supervisors are reaching out to their student employees regarding vaccination self-certification. • Clyde said they are wrapping up the Financial Services Office Director interviews and should be making their decision by Friday (Rosso left the meeting at 3:50 p.m.).
- M. President's Report – Young commended Ella Snyder for being awarded the Kathy Kaiser Service Award by Academic Senate. He said this is the first time a student has ever been awarded! • Young welcomed Delaney Love and Benham Ardakanian to the Government Affairs team. • Young provided a COVID update, noting the deadline for students has been extended to 10/8 if they have submitted proof to the Registrar's Office that they have received their first dose prior to 9/30. Otherwise, they will be dropped from classes. Lopic said beginning the week of 10/11, those students that go to the Registrar's Office with their vaccine card and fill out paperwork, along with approval from their instructor to return to in-person classes, then the week of 10/18 there's an appeal process. Young said staff/faculty self-certifications are required by 10/28 due to Union negotiations and those folks will have to begin testing starting 10/1, approximately 700. Those with exemptions will have to continue testing. He said those who do not get an exemption or self-certification by the deadline will be processed out. It was noted that students cannot test every week as an option. Discussion was held. Young said 1,952 students still need to do self-certifications, although a portion of these are students who are purely on line. He said 93 students are in medical exemption, with 42 validated so far. There are 616 religious exemptions, 400 so far have been validated. Young said 1,060 of these aren't on campus. Fake vaccine cards will eventually also be validated. Butts said as of yesterday, 162 faculty and 65 staff remain to be certified. He noted a call campaign is being done to the last 2,000 students and currently there are only 31 active reported COVID cases.
- IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Lopic reminded regarding student self-certification that not only will it affect their enrollment status, but also their financial aid status, as well as the amount of money they will receive from HEERF III. Burns said Mary Wallmark would remind that students can possibly win \$3,500 with three clicks.
- X. PUBLIC OPINION** – None
- XI. ADJOURNMENT** – The Chair, Young, adjourned the meeting at 4 p.m.