



## **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

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

**Friday, December 5th, 2025**

**2:30 p.m.**

**BMU 205**

**MEMBERS PRESENT** – Kureha Takayama, Gia Monticello, Kaylee McAllister-Knutson, Beatrix Teaney, Zion Fozo, Mahraya Davis, Matt Beale, Shari Anderson, Tia Saunders, Dr. Cirilo Cortez, Dr. Joseph Morales

**MEMBERS ABSENT** – Sarah Lanum

**OTHERS PRESENT** – Eliza Miller, Hugh Hammond, Emily Berry (Recording), Kendra Wright, Autumn Garrison, Brooke McCall, Luke Bagwell, Jasmine Saephan, Molly Heck

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Teaney, called the meeting to order at 2:30PM
- II. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION** – The meeting started with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement.
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Approval of the 12/5/25 regular meeting agenda as presented. **Motion to approve the 12/5/25 regular meeting agenda, as presented (Fozo/Davis) 6-0-0 MSC**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approval of the 11/14/25 meeting minutes as presented. **Motion to approve the 11/14/25 regular meeting minutes, as presented (Beale/Takayama) 6-0-0 MSC.**
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None.
- VI. **PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, nine minutes for entire topic – None.
- VII. **STUDENT ACADEMIC SENATE (SAS) REPORT** – Action Items forwarded to the Government Affairs Committee from the Senate stand approved unless overturned by a 2/3 + 1 Committee action.
  - A. Student Academic Senate Committee  
SAS Actions: Approval of 11/13/25 Student Academic Senate Agenda  
Approval of 10/30/25 Student Academic Senate Minutes  
The SAS code has not been updated in years and Takayama asked for students to look and provide feedback. She states she's looking forward to advocating for students next semester.
- VIII. **SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY REPORT** – Action Items forwarded to the Government Affairs Committee from the Senate stand approved unless overturned by a 2/3 + 1 Committee action.
  - A. Social Justice and Equity Committee  
SJEC Actions: Approval of 11/05/25 Social Justice and Equity Committee Agenda  
Approval of 10/22/25 Social Justice and Equity Committee Minutes  
Appointment of Vice Chair  
Davis stated Board was the same day as the last meeting so there will be an unofficial meeting next week to discuss schedules.
- IX. **BUSINESS**

A. Consent Agenda

*All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and are enacted by one motion without discussion. A member of the committee who desires a separate discussion of any item may pull that item from the Consent Agenda.*

**2025-26 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments**

Confirmation of appointments to Legislative Affairs Council

-Commissioner of Legislative Affairs Appointment: Wendy Taliaferro

Confirmation of appointments to Sustainability Affairs Council

-Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointment: Alex Thomas-Rochin

Approval of the Consent Agenda. **Action Requested: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. (Saunders/Beale) 6-0-0 MSC.**

B. Information Item: 2025-2026 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments – Resignations

Resignation from Sustainability Affairs Council

-Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointment: Maya DeHoyos

Resignation from Community Affairs Council:

-Executive Vice President Appointment: Savanna Dupart

C. Information Item: GSEC Presentation

Autumn Garrison and Molly Heck introduced themselves. GSEC was founded in 1971 as the AS Women's Center. They are currently student-run. They also are an identified activist space on campus. They have had 1,735 office visits this semester. They aid in protests like the No Kings rally and also partner with groups like CCLC, El Centro, Nor Cal RESIST, and more. They've had a total of 280 students attend events. They also have 8-12 interns per semester. They are requesting an increase from \$36,000 to \$50,000 annually from the AS. This would allow them to increase staff hours, salaries, and better manage higher costs in goods and services.

**X. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS**

A. **President Report** – Saunders congratulated everyone on their year so far. She also stated that it may be necessary to make a statement for the loss of Alexandra Wynter recently. Luke Bagwell will also be aiding her in being more present and available to assist members of the government affairs team.

B. **Commissioner of Community Affairs Report** – Fozo thanked everyone at the table. She was unable to host the last meeting due to quorum. The Moonlit Safety Stroll is now being planned for Spring, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7 PM. She also wanted to wish everyone good luck on finals.

C. **Commissioner of Legislative Affairs Report** – Monticello stated her council meeting was unable to be held due to quorum. She's been meeting with legislators, she just met with a representative from Megan Dahle's office and brought them onto campus as well. This will help get meetings for CHESS. CSSA has been working on a white paper for AI that the chair of the committee is writing. They're also looking for a new student trustee.

D. **Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy Report** – Beale stated he was unable to hold a council meeting but he is working with his council members to figure out a schedule for next semester. He's also been working on the time capsule event. He also wanted to thank everyone for an amazing semester and wished everyone a splendid winter break.

E. **Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Report** – Lanum was not present.

**XI. STAFF REPORTS** – McAllister-Knutson passed around documentation for Anderson. This is about the Regional Transportation Funding Townhall upcoming December 11 from 5:30-7:00PM. She went on to thank everyone for coming out to the tailgate and takeover and there were over 700 people there for the basketball game. Clubs are wrapping up for the semester and if anything is needed they are in BMU 220.

Dr. Cortez stated they continue to support students. Five students made it to NASPA regional, a conference for those interested in student affairs. They also took seven students to the Young Men of Color conference. They are also preparing to launch a second year for the Student Hall of Fame.

Dr. Morales showed a Name Change Checklist that went over steps for how to change ones name to avoid being deadnamed. He also encouraged individuals to participate this Thursday at 12PM for the What to Do and What to Say immigration workshop. This can be signed up for on CatsConnect. This helps guide people through their rights and what to do if immigration is on campus. The diversity certificate program is this coming Friday at 2PM, which is also on CatsConnect. This semester they are focusing on Anti-Semitism.

**XII. DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS REPORT—**

Wright told everyone great job. As students look into the spring semester, Wright asked that they also email Eliza by next Wednesday with potential timeframes for council and committee meetings. Office hours are over today, but the Fishbowl is still available for elected reps.

**XIII. CHAIR REPORT –**

Teaney reiterated that everyone has come a long way thus far. She also talked about Alexandra Wynter and how tragic her loss was. She stated that a statement could be made about resources available for students going through similar situations.

**XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS—**

Takayama wanted to show appreciation about the takeover event. Monticello stated the alumni office has an engagement survey out right now about appreciation/opportunities but also enter participants into a raffle for free swag. Fozo stated tomorrow the Hub is having puppies on campus. She also stated late night breakfast is on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 8PM at Estom Jamani. Teaney stated that she'd like to bring an information item to discuss leftover food from catering as students pay for the meals, but they cannot bring leftover food home. The last Cool Cat Closet is on Tuesday from 11-1 on December 9<sup>th</sup> on the Gauntlet. Takayama stated that tonight is the Winter Celebration event at Sylvester's from 6-8PM. The event focuses on exchange students who do not have an official graduation ceremony.

**XV. PUBLIC OPINION—**

None.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT –** Teaney adjourned the meeting at 3:34PM.