GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

Monday, February 19, 2024       2:30 p.m.       BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT – Autumn Alaniz-Wiggins, Allison Wagner, Mia Arisman, Katie Chai, Christian Sullivan, Itzel Saucedo Dominguez, Sri Ramani Thungapati, Dr. Joseph Morales
MEMBERS ABSENT – Kaylee McAllister-Knutson, Shari Anderson
OTHERS PRESENT – Kendra Wright, Dr. Chela Mendoza Patterson, Lexi Extein (recorder), Kyle Alsberry, Eliza Miller, Jon Simmons, Johnathan Montes, Jasmine Saephan, Brooke McCall, Leah Mercer, Eran Zelnik

I. CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Wagner, called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

II. MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION – The meeting started with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Wagner asked for a motion to amend the agenda to remove Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Stella Villett, remove Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointment: Amber Cochrane and add Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Yash Madan on Business Item A. Consent Agenda, 2023-24 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments, Confirmation of appointments to the Sustainability Affairs Council (Arisman/Chai) 7-0-0 MSC.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Approval of the 2/5/24 regular meeting minutes. Motion to approve the minutes of the 2/5/24 regular meetings, as presented (Saucedo-Dominguez/Sullivan) 7-0-0 MSC.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

VI. PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – Eran Zelnik spoke in support of the document being presented to the committee during Business Item B. He is Israeli and feels that they should try their best to find a just solution in the future, and he believes that starts with calls for ceasefires.

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.

Student Academic Senate (SAS) Committee – Arisman went over the SAS actions.
   a. SAS Actions: SAS Actions of 2/9/24
      i. Approved the 2/9/24 SAS Agenda
      ii. Approved the 1/26/24 SAS Minutes

VIII. 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.

2023-24 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments

Confirmation of appointments to Sustainability Affairs Council
Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Stella Villett
Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Amber Cochrane
Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Makaiya Jones
Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Vaishnavi Akula
Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Sruthi Vobbilisetty
Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Miguel Cruz
+Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Student Appointment: Yash Madan

Motion to approve the students listed above to the Sustainability Affairs Council. (Chai/Thungapati) 7-0-0 MSC.

B. Action Item: Join the Call for Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution (Chai/Alaniz-Wiggins)
Alaniz-Wiggins said that she took all the changes and made them. She would like to update the document to show that 28,000-29,000 Palestinians are dead as of February 18th. University Communications looked at it and their recommended changes were made as well. Chai asked where this would be released? Alaniz-Wiggins said it would be posted on the AS channels. Arisman asked if senators wanted to send it out to their colleges. Alaniz-Wiggins said we would be the second CSU AS to call for the ceasefire. CSSA will also have a similar document to vote on as well. 7-0-0 MSC.

C. Discussion Item: Welcoming the Commissioner of Community Affairs - Gia Monticello
Monticello introduced herself; she works with EOP and CCLC and an after-school program. She is looking forward to being a connector to students and Chico State as a whole.

IX. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS – Alaniz-Wiggins said a statement was introduced this past CSSA, and it will be an in-person vote. The search for the next student board of trustee members is underway. They will hopefully hear in late April who that is. University Communications wants the students to help make videos between the Cabinet members and the elected representatives. Arisman said that SAS is happening this Friday. She encourages senators to bring a prospective senator. She is also kicking off one-on-one meetings. Chai said they attended CSSA on Saturday and she is excited for CHESS. Her council met last Wednesday. The BMU is having a voting station and they will be directing people. They want to partner with civic engagement to help voter turnout. Monticello said she had a meeting with facilities, and they are going to expand the Safety Stroll near Nord. Thungapati said she has a council meeting this Friday; they will be covering the Ozzi boxes. If anyone is still interested in joining please do. Saucedo-Dominguez will be hosting a meeting this week. Sullivan stated that SJEC approved the time and place, and at their meeting this week they are voting on a budget for a collaborative project with Basic Needs, EDI and CCLC. They plan to appoint another member to the committee soon. They have displays and will be discussing Victory in Unity. He is sitting on EDC and they have received a proposal regarding funding.

X. STAFF REPORTS – Dr. Morales said the things he reports on are not all the opportunities on campus. He stated Chico State is a Hispanic-serving institution. This academic year they positioned the university diversity council to position the campus on being able to become an AANAPISI. They have been collecting data on who is on campus and are developing actions for improvement. As a campus, we submitted a proposal, and it will support them in serving students and supporting staff and faculty. Dr. Patterson said that last Friday she was in a Zoom with other AS Executive Directors across the other CSU campuses; they always have discussions on personal and budgetary issues. They discussed the tuition increase and FAFSA issues. They talked about summer session fees as well, and it has shown mixed results. They will meet again next month and hope FAFSA will be out by then. Wright stated that at the end of last week, she sent an email with a hefty amount of opportunities. Student Affairs is developing its strategic plan and it helps affect how money is spent and decisions are made. They have a consultant who has completed their part and are now looking for student feedback this Thursday. There are 4 opportunities, some on Zoom. 8 am and 2 pm are on Zoom. 10 am and 3 pm will be in BMU 309 in person. Run for Office had a successful launch party, with over 230 students checking in. They had excellent participation across the board. This goes until February 28th. Students can apply online, and make an appointment with our Elections Supervisor, Eliza Miller. Wright is looking to the students to help recruit their next batch of student representatives. Moonlight Safety Stroll will be in two weeks, and they will be focusing on the West side of campus. They may head over by the Social and Campus Walk. Please join us, we will have free burritos! Wright said reminder to vote, there is a ballot box located here at the BMU. Their voting days will be on 4/4/2024, and they will have “Pet a Goat, Cast a Vote!” Revenue sharing is a byproduct of the elections and she encourages recognized student organizations and athletic teams to utilize it.

XI. CHAIR REPORT – Wagner said that in the upcoming GAC meetings, we will have contract programs present.
XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

XIII. PUBLIC OPINION – None.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Wagner, adjourned the meeting at 3:02 pm