GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

Monday, March 25, 2024 2:30 p.m. BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT – Autumn Alaniz-Wiggins, Christian Sullivan, Itzel Saucedo Dominguez, Sri Ramani Thungapati, Gia Monticello, Katie Chai, Dr. Joseph Morales, Kaylee McAllister-Knutson, Shari Anderson

MEMBERS ABSENT – Allison Wagner, Mia Arisman

OTHERS PRESENT – Kendra Wright, Dr. Chela Mendoza Patterson, Lexi Extein (recorder), Kyle Alsberry, Eliza Miller, Jon Simmons, Brooke McCall, Grace Skrentny, Mia Sanchez-Bejar, Imani Martin, Keith Crawford, Erika Romo, Holly Aiello, Seya Lumeya, Catina Swift, Ashley Gebb, Katrina Leach, Dr. Maleta Wilson, Jackie Hansen, Ember Funk, Janice Stryker, Mierra Haroldson

I. CALL TO ORDER – The Vice-Chair, Alaniz-Wiggins, called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

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

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Approval of the 3/25/24 regular meeting agenda as presented. Motion to approve the 3/25/24 regular meeting agenda, as presented (Chai/Monticello) 4-0-0 MSC.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Approval of the 3/4/24 and 3/11/24 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion to approve the 3/4/24 and 3/11/24 regular meeting minutes, as presented (Chai/Monticello) 4-0-0 MSC.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS –

VI. PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five 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.

Student Academic Senate (SAS) Committee – Arisman was not present.

   i. Approved the 3/8/24 SAS Agenda
   ii. Approved the 2/23/24 SAS Minutes

VIII. BUSINESS

A. Action Item: Approval of removal of Imani Martin as the Vice President of Facilities and Services Student Appointment and Michael Arredondo as the Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy Student Appointment from the Campus Engagement Council. Motion to approve the removal of Imani Martin as the Vice President of Facilities and Services Student Appointment and Michael Arredondo as the Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy Student Appointment from the Campus Engagement Council, as presented (Monticello/Chai) 4-0-0 MSC.

B. 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 Campus Engagement Council:
Vice President of Facilities and Services Student Appointment: Misti David
Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy Student Appointment: Mia Sanchez-Bejar (Monticello)

C. Action Item: Removal of Itzel Saucedo-Dominguez as the Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy (Chai/Monticello).

Wagner submitted a statement that Alaniz-Wiggins read of her behalf. It stated that Saucedo-Dominguez has been given multiple chances to get her council up and running but has not completed doing so. Sullivan entered the meeting at 2:37 pm. Saucedo-Dominguez said she didn't prepare much, but claimed she has replaced people after their open discussion last GAC meeting. Chai asked if we are looking to replace the person in the position if they remove Saucedo-Dominguez, given that we only have 6 or 7 weeks of school left. She said she wished she would have known sooner that Saucedo-Dominguez was struggling to offer her support. Chai feels like GAC didn't do enough to help. Chai said she may have been able to help during office hours; she doesn't understand with 6 weeks left, why they would remove her. She doesn't know the main event that Saucedo-Dominguez hosts, but she hopes that she can support when there is the opportunity to. Alaniz-Wiggins said it was presented at the last GAC meeting which herself and Chai missed due to CSSA. Alaniz-Wiggins said we would not be filling the seat if vacated. Chai said if they brainstormed to help just a week or two ago, there has not been enough time to actually make a change. Chai said she would like to see additional time before voting on it if they were looking to remove her. Sullivan said they talked over solutions and realized the solutions they presented do take some time and should have been addressed much earlier on. Monticello asked if the position is new? Wright stated the seat has remained the same but has changed titles many times, with being updated year over year. Monticello said she agrees they didn't give her enough time. She asked if Saucedo-Dominguez can put together what the next person can do to help the role thrive? Chai said she had the same problem and hoped there was more help for her early on. She understands Wagner oversees everyone and she wished Wagner had helped early on, and the issue be addressed early on. Wright stated that last semester this topic was addressed multiple times. Many Government Affairs professional staff have had discussions with her before this point. It wasn't public-facing until now. Wright said this doesn’t come as a surprise that she has limited time to change, it’s already happened. Saucedo-Dominguez said she didn't have enough time to make changes, and not enough one-on-one conversations with Wagner and she was only given the last week before spring break. She believes she tried her best in the last two and a half weeks she was given and tried her hardest. Alaniz-Wiggins asked her to share what else she has accomplished. Saucedo-Dominguez said last terms he had hot topics and hot chocolates, which she tabled. She didn’t get the committee up and running and that seemed to dominate her time. Sullivan said that he hopes she will address these struggles in her report in the future.

Action Requested: Motion to remove Itzel Saucedo-Dominguez as the Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy, as presented (2-2-0) tie, vice-chair voted in favor (3-2-0) MSC.

Saucedo-Dominguez exited the meeting at 2:53 pm.

D. Discussion Item: Office of Equal Opportunity and Dispute Resolution Presentation- Erika Romo stated that they are working to create a slogan for their office. They are hoping to take the slogans out to the campus community. Chai said she liked the first one a lot. Monticello also said she likes the first one and she also likes the third one but doesn’t like the fourth one. Ashley Gebb said they are going to share a survey, but if they would like to brainstorm more ideas that are approachable to students please let them know. Monticello said they do not have a slogan currently. Gebb said they will send out the survey in the next week or so. They will have a larger rollout. Alaniz-Wiggins also does not like the fourth option, but likes the first and third. Monticello said she thinks students will pick the first or third choice. Sullivan said he likes the third, as it has more weight to it. The first one is more personalized.

E. Discussion Item: Child Development Lab Presentation- Jackie Hansen, Ember Funk, and Janice Stryker presented on the CDL. Their main service is providing child development care. Dr. Patterson asked how many children they serve? Funk said they have 8 little ones and then 16 in the preschool rooms. Alaniz-Wiggins asked if most of the children are from Chico State students? Hansen said yes mostly, but the program mandates even if the parent graduates they are still mandated to keep them until they age out. Funk said that childcare is extremely expensive, and they are at an extremely decreased rate not to pass $80. Alaniz-Wiggins asked where parents go to find a list of childcare services. Funk said that they get a lot of recommendations from the Basic Needs office. Alaniz-Wiggins asked if there is a one stop shop for parents to
get information? Funk said no, but it would be great. Alaniz-Wiggins said that she learned much more after attending CSSA about this. Funk said they are serving between 45 and 50 families. They also have a waiting list. Wright said that their reputation is exceptional in the world of childcare. Wright said what they do on the daily is known and appreciated and it is top-notch quality care. She thanked them for all they do. Monticello said that as a student she has come in and got to work with the children as well and it’s what made her choose Chico State.

F. Discussion Item: Reviewing Community Agreement- Seya Lumeya and Catina Swift, joined the table alongside Dr. Wilson online. Lumeya said this is their first stop to present the community agreement they’ve drafted. He said this community agreement would be the human aspect that bridges the gaps between policy. He said that they had created this as a response to the Cozen report’s findings. Dr. Wilson said as they move forward as a restorative justice campus their language is extremely intentional. He said any feedback now we are great but he is open to hearing from them later. Alaniz-Wiggins had some questions regarding the integrity part. She would like a backstory on it. Alaniz-Wiggins said what’s true for us isn’t always true for others. Dr. Wilson said that they noticed they don’t have any language in their policy to address AI such as academic integrity. Dr. Patterson said that she would like the context of where it originated. Lumeya said that this has nothing to do with his office, it’s from the implementation team following the Cozen report. This subcommittee focuses on the conduct of concern. Dr. Morales said that a community agreement like this can be important, especially with an election coming and the First Amendment must be protected. He said that this protects “just because you can say something doesn’t mean that you should.” It embodies some of the values the university stands for. It’s not legally binding but still important. Alaniz-Wiggins said they would be asking all to abide by it respectfully. Alaniz-Wiggins likes the idea of having a tagline. Monticello agrees with what Alaniz-Wiggins said and says a small tagline could help with understanding. For example along the lines of "you belong here, racism doesn't" and it resonates with them. She likes the idea of making an Instagram post or something else along those lines. Chai said she doesn't know what the Chico State's Instagram can post but this could be the best way, delivering via social media will most likely be more successful. Sullivan said that showcasing our approach and showing the intention. Alaniz-Wiggins said she looks forward to seeing the final draft.

G. Discussion Item: Budget Preview – Wright stated that this a super important topic. These student representatives are here to do just that, make decisions on behalf of the students. This is just an overview of how budgets work. The proposed budget goes from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025. She touched on revenue, expenses, contract program allocations, corporate services, operational costs, government affairs, annual program allocations, campus programs, community programs. Wright shared the project income 2024/2025 is $2,178,960 with 13,600 students. Proposed expenses 2024/2025 is $2,524,211. That would be a proposal of going into reserves $345,251. Alaniz-Wiggins said it’s an easy budget to learn and encouraged all to go to Wright with any questions.

IX. Elected Representatives Reports – Monticello is working with CAVE to do the Cats in the Community event. She is working with Megan Kurtz regarding the downtown updates. Chai is planning an event April 4th from 12-2 pm “floats and votes” and civic engagement to share information regarding voting. Her and Landry are partnering. Sullivan said they will have a committee meeting from 4-5 pm, with lots on the agenda. May 4th is official date for International Festival. He is telling everyone about revenue sharing. Thungapati said she is having her meeting this Friday regarding Earth Day and International Festival.

X. Staff Reports – Wright said please read her email with everything and Outlook invites. They have 3 tours with candidates for VP to choose from.

XI. Chair Report – Alaniz-Wiggins said they Partnered with GSS for Ramadan. She also will be recording remarks.

XII. Announcements – None.

XIII. Public Opinion – None.

XIV. Adjournment – The Co-Chair, Alaniz-Wiggins, adjourned the meeting at 3:48 pm.