

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

2:30 p.m.

BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT – Aaron Schwartz, Chris Sullivan, Dev Kachiwala, Madison Kelley, Aishwarya Gowda, Gia Monticello, Adin White, Humberto Partida, Shari Anderson, Kaylee McAllister-Knutson, Dr. Joseph Morales.

MEMBERS ABSENT – None

OTHERS PRESENT – Eliza Miller (Recording), Jon Simmons, Emily Berry, Kendra Wright, Kyle Alsberry, Brooke McCall, Keith Crawford, Katey VonMosch, Kyle Landrum, Windy Van Dam, Kendall Ross, Ginny Adorador, Diana Dwyre

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Schwartz, called the meeting to order at 2:31 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 9/11/24 regular meeting agenda as presented. **Motion to approve the 9/11/24 regular meeting agenda, as presented (Sullivan/White) 7-0-0 MSC.**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approval of the 5/6/24 regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion to approve the 5/6/24 regular meeting minutes, as presented (Sullivan/Kelley) 7-0-0 MSC.**
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Sullivan welcomed everyone to the first GAC meeting of the year. Schwartz kicked off introductions for all committee members.
- VI. **PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic –
- 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

No meeting held

VIII. BUSINESS

A. **Action Item: Approval of the Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Government Affairs Committee Meetings for Academic Year 2024-25. Action Requested: Motion to approve the Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Government Affairs Committee Meetings for Academic Year 2024-25, as presented (attached, page 5). (Gowda/ Partida) 7-0-0 MSC.**

B. **Discussion Item: California State Student Association (CSSA), what the president does, how to contribute as a team.** Sullivan presented to the team about what CSSA does and the work he has been doing with them. He explained that CSSA is an organization comprised of members from the Student Governments of all CSU Campuses. He shared with the group that, as president, he is our primary member, and the Commissioner of Legislative Affairs also attends routinely, serving as his alternate and representing Chico on subcommittees specific to legislation. He described the many committees and boards that comprise CSSA covering specific subject matter relevant to the CSU student experience. He described the primary meetings, conferences, and events that CSSA is responsible for hosting each year and how they differ. White asked what type of advocacy CSSA is carrying out each year. Schwartz added that CSSA is responsible for endorsing or opposing state and federal legislation that affects CSU system students. Sullivan described some of his experiences with CSSA so far. Over the summer he attended a number of meetings and conferences either hosted by or supported by CSSA. Sullivan passed the

presentation over to Humberto Partida to talk about his experiences attending CSUnity over the summer. Partida expressed that it was an amazing experience getting to see meetings run through Roberts's Rules of Order before his role started this academic year. Partida and Sullivan shared some examples of notes and recaps they took at the CSUnity conference that describe some of the bills, policies, and discussions that were happening at the conference. Sullivan requested that the committee share student feedback with him that they would like to see him take to CSSA to advocate for on a systemwide level.

C. Discussion Item: Collaboration Ideas: Focusing on events/diving into deeper goals for the team.

Sullivan shared that he would like to offer the committee the opportunity to share ideas as a team and perhaps combine efforts for events and opportunities due to the time constraints of the one-year term they all serve. Schwartz shared that this year is an election year, and he proposed that the team help advocate for voter registration. Kelley shared that she is in touch with Amy Magnus from Civic Engagement to coordinate voter registration events, and shared that all support would be great. White asked what Schwartz envisioned the other members doing to support voter registration. Schwartz shared that it could be any of many methods and that he personally planned to utilize his office hours to support the efforts through student interactions.

IX. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS—Sullivan shared that the next CSSA meeting is on September 21st. He also shared that he attended the grand openings for both the Black Student Resource Center and El Centro. He will be meeting with President Perez this Friday and can answer any questions the team has to ask him. He gave brief updates on the various committees he has been serving on.

-Partida shared a brief update on how the Campus Engagement Council recruitment is going.

-Monticello shared how her committee recruitment efforts are going.

-Kelley shared that she has a big voting drive coming up on September 17th in collaboration with Civic Engagement.

Gowda shared that she is working on her cultural heritage celebration tables.

Kachiwala shared a few updates from his various committee meetings and shared that SAS will start meeting on 9/17.

White shared some engagement opportunities that are coming up, including a creek cleanup, and updated the committee on some of the meetings he has been having with campus partners. He also attended the campus sustainability council meeting.

X. STAFF REPORTS – Anderson shared a wildcat weekend postcard that was recently mailed out to all first-year students' permanent addresses. This card shows all the great events and opportunities that are coming up on Wildcat Weekend.

McAllister-Knutson shared that SLL recently recognized more student organizations in one day at their recognition meeting than ever before. She shared that they recognized 162 general student organizations, 28 sports clubs, and 28 fraternities and sororities in that single meeting. They also hosted their largest club/tacular event in years. There are currently 685 events posted on Cats Connect from all our student organizations and campus departments.

Dr. Morales shared some updates from his office. Among these updates, he discussed the recent changes to time, place, and manner and how the campus is preparing for their effects.

XI. DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS REPORT—Wright expressed her excitement about the upcoming year and the upcoming Habitat for Humanity Day with the president's cabinet.

XII. CHAIR REPORT – Schwartz gave no report

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Monticello shared that marketing is ready to film promo videos.

XIV. PUBLIC OPINION—Ginny Adorador addressed the time, place, and manner changes. She shared that the requirements for departments to sponsor non-campus groups to table on campus violate students' individual rights. She pointed to President Biden's recent mandate for public organizations to increase access to voter registration. She shared some quotes from the Chico State addendum about the time and place of EO that demonstrate the hindrance these new regulations provide to student organizations' ability to collaborate and express their values. She requested that the student leaders around the table challenge this new eo and request that it be rewritten.

Diana Dwyre shared her history on campus and her service as an advisor to student organizations. She added to Ginny's statement that this new policy only adds hurdles to the process that allows student groups to book tabling space and makes it impossible for them to invite an outside organization to table on campus. She expressed her concern that this new policy only increases the challenges to reviving campus life post-pandemic and does not respect First Amendment rights. She added that shutting the campus off from our community partners is contrary to the mission of the campus to provide a robust student experience.

Kendall Ross shared that she was in attendance today because she saw events and collaboration efforts on the agenda. She has come to the committee to encourage feedback about what students want so she can provide assistance and introduce herself to the team. She also provided some context for the tabling policies discussed

by the two prior public opinions, as they are enforced by her office. The intention is to protect students on campus from folks who are not affiliated with campus and conduct some predatory practices.

Katey Von Mosch shared that CAVE applications are open, and spots are still available in their semester-long programs. Applications close this Friday, September 13th, at 12 p.m. They also have about eight one-time events called Weekend Wildcat that they would love to see the elected reps attend.

XV. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:41 pm