

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

Friday, February 14, 2025

12:00 p.m.

BMU 205

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

MEMBERS ABSENT – Madison Kelley

OTHERS PRESENT – Eliza Miller, Jon Simmons, Kendra Wright, Emily Berry (Recording), Bryce Ingersoll, Claire Best-Silva, Megan Kurtz, Seema Sehrawat, Luke Bagwell, Talia Vargasm Lindsay Briggs, Katey VonMosch, Rishika Tyagi, Keith Crawford, Brooke McCall, Ember Funk, Jackie Hansen, Cirilo Cortez, Sean Shanks, Jasmine Saephan

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Schwartz, called the meeting to order at 12:00
- II. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION** – The meeting started with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement.
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Approval of the 2/28/25 regular meeting agenda as presented.
Motion to approve the 2/28/25 agenda, as presented. (White/Partida) 5-0-0 MSC
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approval of the 2/14/25 regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion to approve the 2/14/25 regular meeting minutes, as presented (Kachiwala/Partida) 6-0-0 MSC**
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Sullivan said we have the University President Perez in the house today.
- VI. **PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, nine minutes for entire topic – Talia Vargas said she wanted to know if we were going to discuss Time, Place, and Manner and go into detail. Schwartz clarified we had an action item present on the agenda regarding this. Bryce Ingersoll wanted to state his distaste for the Time, Place, and Manner changes. This includes a harsh increase in penalties for multiple things like wearing a mask while protesting and legal ramifications like misdemeanors for not dispersing when campus police tells you to. Vargas said freedom of speech right is being taken away.
- 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
 1. SAS Actions: Approval of 2/27/25 Student Academic Senate agenda
 2. Approval of 2/13/25 Student Academic Senate Minutes
Kachiwala said they were joined by SLL to present on recognized clubs and they also discussed reimagining of Academic Affairs at Chico state.

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.

2024-25 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments

Removal of appointee to Associated Students Businesses Committee (ASBC) Government Affairs Committee Appointment: Kareena Sigantoria

Confirmation of appointment to Associated Students Businesses Committee (ASBC) Government Affairs Committee Appointment: Miguel Sueki

Removal of appointee to Community Affairs Council (CAC) Government Affairs Committee Appointment: Aliyah Hopkins and Christopher Palomino Macias

Confirmation of appointment to Community Affairs Council (CAC) Government Affairs Committee Appointment: Kendra Pepper, Elizabeth Maxine Limones, and Alexander Lopez

Removal of appointee to Social Justice and Equity Council (SJEC) Government Affairs Committee Appointment: Tia Saunders

Confirmation of appointment to Social Justice and Equity Council (SJEC) Government Affairs Committee Appointment: Maren Peterson

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

- B. Discussion Item: Community Agreements Presentation: Office of the President (attached, page 9) Perez said the community agreements historically come from a few years ago for audits and reviews across the CSU and across Chico State. Out of those reviews came a common recommendation of implementing policies clearly and effectively. He opened it up to discussion to see feelings on the proposed agreements. Kachiwala said the agreements are great and would want to sign on it. Sullivan asked if this was a final draft, to which Perez said no, they can always make changes. Perez clarified this is not a policy, it's more social norms. Partida asked if the "highest principles" under integrity were intended to be vague or if principles could be listed. Perez said it's subjective but we should hold each other accountable and ourselves accountable as well. Schwartz said there's a huge push against DEI by federal powers, and wanted to know if we were putting ourselves at risk of putting our DEI front and center. Perez clarified he does not have a political affiliation, but that things are happening to the campus and that it's our responsibility to respond to them. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are included and belong there. He said they received a Dear Colleague Letter. Schwartz asked how we're ensuring the merit and what steps are being taken for the action. Perez said the action is talking about it. Sullivan wanted to applaud students in the gallery for coming, and clarified the inquiry how do we get this across and as student reps how to get the message out there to agree on moving forward? Gowda said she thinks this is a pillar for integrity and respect, and suggested to put it in syllabi, etc to implement it. Schwartz said on the Community Agreements page on the website it said the subcommittee developed a draft with more than 300 community members providing feedback. He wanted to know if the plan was to come back to get our endorsement later, who has endorsed, and so on. Perez said the ultimate plan is to get a big display with all the signatures and affiliations, and also that the plan was either to agree and sign now, or to come back and discuss at GAC again potentially sooner. Wright said future conversations about this are on April 14th, 15th, and 17th for areas and opportunities to participate. Schwartz said we could hold out on signing until the students get to go to those meetings. Perez wanted to acknowledge Seema as this is also her last day serving as Chief of Staff.
- C. Action Item: Resolution regarding Interim System-wide Time, Place and Manner Policy (attached, page 10) White said this has little to do with the addendum. This was a policy that affects when where and how we engage on the campus. Ideally, this would be a place where marginalized communities could discuss tough subjects freely. The point of it is to clearly state the fact that the policy itself governs something as integral as freedom of expression.
Motion to open agenda item up for Discussion (Sullivan/White)

Sullivan said the distribution portion is his biggest concern, and wants to know what we'd like to see take place. Schwartz clarified verbiage and intention with Sullivan. Schwartz said he would be happy to send an email as chair of GAC to the students. White said the clause would be publicized. Partida's concern is this is more of a statement than anything else, and Schwartz clarified all we can do is use our voice to go so far as to condemn the TPM policy. White said it could be confusing for students who don't understand the policy, but it's their job and the administrative team who have distributed emails to do their best to explain and make people aware of it. Kachiwala asked if this was taken to any student orgs for endorsement, to which White stated no. Schwartz said this is in response to student voices at GAC and also vocally standing up against this policy across student campus. Sullivan wanted to add onto Kachiwala's statement by asking for clarification of language that we're more clear this is a system-wide condemnation. Schwartz said the second "Whereas" makes it clear that that's what it's talking about.

Motion to Amend Interim System-wide Time, Place and Manner Policy (Sullivan/Partida) 6-0-0 MSC

Wright clarified when a resolution is passed on behalf of GAC or BOD it is publicized on our website on student's behalf to advertise the advocacy and the statement that was approved. Not an email, but our AS channels showcase and highlight and ensure that they support all actions that get approved at our standing committees. They're also available as blogs. Schwartz asked if GAC could decide to disseminate this as a campus-wide email, and Wright said AS can't send it to all students. Schwartz said that could then be altered to have the President's Office to send the document out. McAllister-Knutson also said you can submit something to Student Announce which would go to every single student, and can also share with certain areas across campus. Wright wanted to ask who the policy is on behalf of, as GAC is the advocacy arm. White asked if this was an information item, to which Schwartz clarified this is an action item. White also asked what amendments need to be made. Monticello said it should also come from GAC rather than the Associated Students. Sullivan said minutes can be referred to for further information.

Motion to table discussion on Interim System-wide Time, Place and Manner Policy until the next meeting (Sullivan/Partida) 5-1-0 MSC

- D. Action Item: Providing Culturally Relevant Food Initiative at the Hungry Wildcat Food Pantry (attached, page 11-14) Schwartz read and reviewed the attached document.

(White/Sullivan) 5-0-1 MSC

- E. Information Item: Social Justice and Equity Committee Code Changes (attached, page 15-17) Schwartz read and clarified the changes documented on the attachment.

- F. Discussion Item: CDL Program Update (attached, page 18-25)

Jackie Hansen and Ember Funk introduced themselves. They are a learning laboratory school. She read from the slides to go over information including the purpose of CDL, their infrastructure, and further data. Funding sources were also reviewed, with multiple numbers included. Schwartz asked how many children were being fed breakfast, to which Hansen answered 52. They follow Title V Education Code, Title 22, and Head Start Performance Standards. They are a NAEYC Accredited program. They are also an Activity Fee program. Schwartz asked about the two functions, childcare and also student practicum, he wanted to know how many families got childcare, how many students come for practicum, and etc. They have about 52 children, 46 families total. Most of those are parenting students. One staff family. Interns a semester they serve about 8 in each classroom. They've also had music and nursing students come and work with the program. They do an annual survey and have been told they wouldn't be able to start or continue school without CDL. Low-cost care was clarified to them, at about \$31 a month low-cost. Schwartz asked if they were going to get hit by the changes to WIC, to which CDL clarified they do hope not. Gowda asked about the infrastructure side about kids from 3-4 years, but it's 2-3 year olds and then 4-5 year olds. Sullivan clarified that the Dear Colleague document was received by GAC via text. Monticello also said that she had to do something for her online class and she was able to come in and they provided a great resource for students. Schwartz said they mentioned security cameras up and working but he also noticed the facility is not secure and anyone can walk in. He wanted to know if that was a need CDL had or if they felt secure enough without it. Hansen clarified that they need a new facility

overall, but the ability to lock the doors card-access style is something they didn't have even a few months ago.

IX. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS—

Kachiwala said he and Sullivan met with the Provost about reimagining Academic Affairs at Chico State. They also went to meet with the Academic Senate chair Jeff Trailer about turning 46 University Committees to 26. CFAC is today, they are going to be ranking their student-led ambassador programs.

White said the SFAC grant proposals were due today. There was also a desire to move the mural. Schwartz said commissioning a new mural would be more economic. He also went to the Campus Sustainability Committees and talked about consolidating committees.

Monticello said her members have been approved today and can start her meetings the week after next. She has been sitting on the UPPSIC Committee trying to brainstorm. Schwartz asked if there's been any traction on lighting and safety, and Monticello said she's partnering to try to get lighting placed on the bike path and on campus. Kurtz said it's about a 5 year plan out for lights and crosswalks. Simmons said it would go through the Facilities Committee.

Gowda said they've had 6 SJEC meetings until now. They've allocated money for the GSEC Drag Show and food pantry. They also had a presentation from the international prom and El Centro. She's been working on info graphics APIDA opening committees and UPPSIC meetings.

Partida said he'll be at the council meeting today at 2PM. There will be a mental health workshop soon. He also spoke at a panel yesterday. He's also spoken with Tyler Friend about the Civic Engagement event April 9th and asked him and Gowda to be part of that. There's a Town Hall Tuesday. He will also be at Choose Chico tomorrow. Sullivan said March 4th is Town Hall. March 7th the VP of Business and Finance want to have Jamie Clyde meet with the student reps. CHESS is happening next weekend. He's a part of the University budget committee and extended an offer to ask him questions about the budget. Dr Cortez, the director of Social Justice and Equity, and the Commissioner of Student Engagement and Advocacy are meeting about the concern of ICE on campus. Last is that he sits on the Graduate Student Panel and how they support graduate students. Choose Chico is this weekend.

X. STAFF REPORTS –

McAllister-Knutson said Choose Chico is tomorrow, and retention and recruitment are all of our jobs.

Dr. Morales said they're continuing work from last semester, he's building capacity for intercultural and interfaith dialogue. This will be included in discussions about free speech. Professor Kate McCarthy will be giving a talk. Dr. Morales went over topics being presented on at the discussion. Schwartz asked who was facilitating the discussion to which Morales stated he could provide names. The date for this is forthcoming. Partida asked who is open to attend and Morales said student, staff, faculty, alumni and community members. He's been working with White to discuss a grant program, Chico State Free Speech and Civic Engagement Program, where individuals can be funded and to come together and facilitate conversation.

Simmons said ice cream machine update for Estom Jamani it should be up next week. Budget is going through just fine, and there should be no issue for their funding. Their facility was slated to come down about 25 years ago and that never happened, but other work has been being done.

XI. DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS REPORT—

Wright said the run for office period to determine the fate of the 2025-2026 team has concluded on Wednesday. The next phase is for the students to declare by next Wednesday, and their orientation is on Thursday. Gowda asked if they need to be there, to which Wright clarified no, but current reps should plan to attend Pass the Gavel on April 23rd.

XII. CHAIR REPORT – Schwartz said don't miss the upcoming town hall.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – McAllister-Knutson said Giving Day is next week on March 5th.

XIV. PUBLIC OPINION— VonMosch said CAVE also has a Giving Day page. Also, Cat's in the Community is coming up on March 31st which is a big day of service to honor the legacy of the United Farm Workers, Dolores Huerta and César Chávez. Spots are first come first serve. White asked who the keynote speaker was, to which VonMosch clarified Dr Morales.

There is a Student Town Hall next week and they need to know by today who is coming since attendants are paired with a cabinet member.

XV. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:33pm