

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

12:30 p.m.

BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT – Jade Tsao, Krystal Alvarez, Josh Rubinoff, Autumn Alaniz-Wiggins, Chloe Renner, Mary Wallmark, Jay Friedman, Mujtaba Azam, Gianna Echavez-LaRocca

MEMBERS ABSENT – Allison Wagner (excused)

OTHERS PRESENT – Kendra Wright, Karen Bang (recorder), Hugh Hammond, Curtis Sicheneder, Eliza Miller, Shar Krater

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Tsao, called the meeting to order at 12:30 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 11/2/22 regular meeting agenda. **Motion to approve the 11/2/2022 regular meeting agenda, as presented (Alvarez/Alaniz-Wiggins) 6-0-0 MSC.**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes of the 10/19/22 regular meeting. **Motion to approve the minutes of the 10/9/22 regular meeting, as presented (Alaniz-Wiggins/Renner) 6-0-0 MSC.**
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Tsao said Happy Wednesday.
- 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.
 - A. Student Academic Senate (SAS) Committee – Wright noted the approved items and said each senator updated on what they're doing in their individual colleges.
 1. SAS Actions of 11/1/22
 - a. Approved the 11/1/22 regular meeting agenda.
 - b. Approved the 10/18/22 regular meeting 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.*

2022-23 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments
Confirmation of appointment to Campus Engagement Council
- Commissioner of Legislative Affairs Appointment: Brenna Gossner

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented (Rubinoff/Alvarez) 6-0-0 MSC.
- B. Action Item: Approval of the 2023 Associated Students Election Procedures – Alvarez said she spoke to some students from other campuses regarding how they run their elections. She said for similar senator-type positions at Sacramento State they only allow students to vote within their own college; all other positions are voted on by the whole student body. Alvarez questioned if we could do this. Gossner said this makes sense. Alaniz-Wiggins asked about those that are undecided, or double-majors. Rubinoff said this could also be an issue for majors within each college that outnumber other majors within the college. Miller said she would

have to talk with the vendor to see if and how they would verify voters are voting within their colleges. She said Jon Slaughter might know more about this as well. Wright said undeclared students is a challenge. Wallmark suggested looking at how our senator positions are written – are they written to represent everyone, or just to represent only their own college? She said this might influence their thinking on how they run their elections. Alvarez said at Sacramento State that this was how they were able to do more outreach within their colleges, speaking at classes and talking with clubs within their own colleges. She said they also have an undeclared major officer position. Miller said she didn't think this item would affect the AS Election Procedures. Alaniz-Wiggins questioned if current elected officials can campaign for candidates. Krater said there are no rules that say any current elected representative should or should not throw their support behind another candidate; however, no campaigning is allowed within AS facilities. She suggested considering how they're utilizing their position and if campaigning for someone else do so as yourself, not as via your position. Rubinoff asked what happens if someone breaks candidacy rules and Krater said it's frowned upon but there are no legal ramifications to it. She also noted that AS staff members can't advocate for any student, they can only advocate to vote in the election. Wallmark said the website connection link under Item III.B. needs to be fixed and Miller will correct. **Motion to approve the 2023 Associated Students Election Procedures, as presented (Alaniz-Wiggins/Alvarez) 5-0-1 MSC.**

- C. Discussion Item: 9/30/22 Activity Fee Fund Budget vs. Actual – Robertson noted these are provided quarterly and said at this quarter end, expenses should be at 25%. She noted that total expenses were at 16.85% for all of Activity Fee. Robertson said there's a new process for collecting Activity Fees from campus. She said every quarter we now report to campus what we've spent and what our reimbursement is from these fees that they transfer to us. Robertson said student wages in Government Affairs will be revised mid-year, noting student wages currently at 107.78%, career staff at 13.70%.

IX. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS – Rubinoff said he attended an Associated Students meeting between community colleges, UC's and Cal State campuses and they discussed college affordability and streamlining transfers. He said it was very interesting to hear other perspectives. • Renner said the Hot Chocolate and Hot Topics tabling event went really well and they received a lot of great feedback from students. She said she is working on future programming events and will be attending a campus programmer's meeting to share results of last week's event. • Alaniz-Wiggins said the Chief Diversity Officer interviews/open forums are going well. The open forum for the third candidate will be held today at 2:30 p.m. She also noted that AS event planning is going well and DeStress Fest is being worked on for December, including guest speakers from CGS as well as psychologists regarding managing racial stress at a PWI. Alaniz-Wiggins said she had a Juneteenth meeting with Wallmark and others regarding what they learned at the CSU Juneteenth Conference, and what can be brought here, such as a climate assessment. • Echavez-LaRocca said she is working on filling her Sustainability Affairs Council and requested letting students know they can apply online or contact her. Wallmark suggested contacting Jennifer Rotnem, who is on the campus side of sustainability.

X. STAFF REPORTS – Wallmark said mid-term elections will be held soon and explained days/times voting can be done in the BMU next week. She said you don't need to show proof of i.d., can register to vote onsite, can get a duplicate ballot in case the original ballot was lost, can register and get a new ballot. She said completed ballots can be dropped off either inside the BMU or in the ballot box outside. She also reminded that if they don't have the time to review and vote on everything, they should at least vote for the things they do know and understand. • Wallmark said on Monday, 11/7/22, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. campus is holding a retirement reception for Jim Nielsen, the State Senator that represents our area. She also noted that Jim Gallagher, the sitting State Assembly person and Doug LaMalfa, the sitting Congressman who represents us in Washington, will be in attendance as well. She said the event is open for anyone to attend and said it's easy for politicians to discount the student vote, so requested students attend. Wright said this event is on their calendars and she looks forward to a response from everyone. She said this is a big deal and an opportunity for all to partake in something that is maybe bigger than experiences they've already been exposed to.

XI. CHAIR REPORT – Tsao had no report.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Alvarez said Happy Wednesday.

XIII. PUBLIC OPINION – None

XII. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Tsao, adjourned the meeting at 1 p.m.