

STUDENT ACADEMIC SENATE

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

9

Tuesday, January 30, 2025 8:00 a.m.

BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT – Dev Kachiwala, Ashley Arce, Tawny Bolinas, Gaia Villani, Flor Ibarra, Maggie Farlow, Chris Sullivan, Alex Goslawski, Mary Cox, Jeff Trailer, Ellie Ertle, Jose Gonzales-Ayala

MEMBERS ABSENT – Tia Saunders

OTHERS PRESENT – Michael Pratt, Eliza Miller (recording)

CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Kachiwala, called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

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

II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Approval of the 1/30/25 regular meeting agenda. **Action Requested: Motion to approve the 1/30/25 regular meeting agenda, as presented. (Farlo/Arce)9-0-0MSC**

III.

~~**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes of the 12/03/23 regular meeting. **Motion to approve the minutes of the 11/17/23 regular meeting, as presented (No vote taken.)**~~

IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Farlow requested the senators ask their students about their experiences with SOLE, and she will be bringing the topic officially at the next meeting.

V. **PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – None

VI. **BUSINESS**

- A. Information Item: Board of Directors Designated Fund Committee.- Kachiwala shared the policy for the BDF with the senators and shared that he will be serving on the committee. Sullivan added that there is up to \$168,000 available to spend on a special project on campus. He and Kachiwala are looking for ideas from their student peers on how to make the biggest impact in the limited time we have. COGS rep asked how he might go about presenting an idea to the committee. Sullivan provided some clarification.
- B. Discussion Item: Women in STEM event (Feb 11, 2025)- Kachiwala opened up to Arce, Villani and Bolinas to talk about the event they are planning. The event is hosted on Women and Girls in Science Day. They are hosting a meet and greet with refreshments and a student-led faculty panel. They asked the team to spread the word!

VII. **REPORTS: MEMBERS** –

Behavioral and Social Sciences – Absent

Humanities and Fine Arts – Farlow shared that HFA sent out first newsletter. There is tentatively an HFA club fair on 2/13, she will follow up with more details.

C. Business – Goslawski shared that COB had a couple of events last week. COB Core meetings begin next week, and they are looking to do a COD volunteer day similar to Cats in the Community. They are still looking at the options from CAVE.

Natural Sciences – Bolinas shared that she published her January newsletter, and if you have anything to share, let her know so she can include it in a future issue. NS has also become SLF committee meetings
Communication and Education – Villani has established a time and location for her college committee to meet with the deans. CME is also in their SLF process.

Engineering, Computer Science, and Construction Management – F. Engineering, Computer Science, and Construction Management- Arce shared that ECC hosted coffee with the clubs last week. SLF is also in review for ECC.

Agriculture – Ibarra shared that her winter social had about 100 students out at the farm. The line dancing club is moving over to the barn at Meriam and opening up to the public.

D. AS President - AS President Sullivan shared that he attended CSSA last weekend. The overarching topics for the plenary were initiatives to help support students with basic needs and extra support for affordable learning solutions and equitable resources, the recent news regarding Sonoma state, and the search for the next student trustee. We will be hosting a joint town hall with the office of the president on March 4th.

Chair of Academic Senate- Chair Trailer shared the Project 25 initiative from the Academic Senate. He shared that there are too many committees, so the academic senate is looking to consolidate some committees to help reduce the overall number and ensure the way they run is more consistent. The goal is to merge down from 45 to 25. He shared that he intends to consult with SAS frequently as this process happens. Trailer also shared that he is undertaking a new initiative in the Academic Senate to invite experts and consultants to the Senate to answer questions for the senators about specific topics. He wants to know if this is of interest. Ertle shared that the provost is doing something similar at her meetings.

Provost or designee – Ertle shared that Reimagining is underway, and round one of campus and community engagement will begin next month, providing the opportunity to openly share feedback with the provost; a second round of engagement will happen in March. GE will be changing in the fall based on decisions made at the academic senate last semester. Sullivan left the meeting at 8:53. Ertle shared that there are many undeclared students on campus who lack formal representation and want to get feedback from them. Arce left the meeting at 9:55. Ertle also shared some updates about the discussion on the mode of instruction. She is interested in how we might get student feedback on the mode of instruction.

Chair- Kanchwala attended EPPC last week and will attend CHESS in Sacramento with a group of students.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Eliza Miller shared that Elections are coming up; spread the word. The COGS rep shared that they are hosting an event coming up; keep an eye on Cats Connect *for details*.

IX. PUBLIC OPINION – *Michael Pratt encouraged the room to come to Grad Café tomorrow from 9-11 in sylvesters- even if you aren't a grad student*

XII. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Kachiwala, adjourned the meeting at 9:00am