

Friday, November 08, 2024  
10:00 am BMU 205

Members present: Gowda, Pandit, K. Peterson, Chhetri, Abbasi, M. Peterson, Valeria  
Others: Raquel, Kendra, Partida, Jacqueline

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 am
- II. MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION: The meeting started with a reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition.
- III. Purpose of SJEC - The Social Justice and Equity Purpose Statement was read.
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Approval of 11/8/24 regular meetings. Action Requested: Motion to approve the 11/8/24 regular meeting agenda. Pandit moves to approve, K. Peterson moves to seconds. 2-0-0 motion approved.
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - 11/8/24 regular meeting minutes. Action Requested: Motion to approve the 11/8/24 regular meeting minutes. Pandit moves to approve, k. Peterson moves to seconds. 2-0-0 motion approved.
- VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS - No announcements, so moved to Public Opinion.
- VII. PUBLIC OPINION - No public opinion, so moved to Business.
- VIII. BUSINESS -
  - a. Action Item: CCLC Cultural Fashion Show Mixer: The budget presented by Raquel for the 100 dollars needed for the after-event mixer following the CCLC Fashion Show is read by Gowda. Action Requested: Motion to approve. K. Peterson moves to approve & Pandit moves to second. 2-0-0 motion approved.
  - b. Business Item: SJEC Budget: Gowda explains the available budget covers both semesters, and as of now won't be split into half for each semester, though this could be discussed in future. Gowda then moved on to introduce & explain the Event Evaluation Form link which will now be required from clubs that receive funding from SJEC for their events.
  - c. Discussion Item: SJEC Form: Gowda inquires with the present members and faculty if there are any suggestions for improving the form, to which Pandit recommends that it should include the name of the club organizing the event, & Raquel suggests setting a one-week submission deadline to increase accountability.
  - d. Discussion Item: K. Peterson informed that a Town Hall meeting had taken place the previous day, where it was decided that the next meeting would be held on November 14th, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. The discussion item for that meeting will be the opposition to the POL SCI 155 class. At this time, it is unclear whether students outside of the POL SCI 155 class may attend. The meeting will also demonstrate to students how college-level advocacy can

influence both local and state-level policy. Gowda asked if anyone plans to attend and requested that those interested inform her so she can help as needed.

- e. Discussion Item: MENA Center: Jackie explained that many UC schools have a MENA or similar resources to support Middle Eastern students with cultural identity, mental health assistance, internships, and academic support. Chico State students feel a strong need for such a center, where they can feel represented and access mental health resources and academic assistance. Raquel inquired whether any demographic data exists for these students, to which Jackie clarified that, until now, they have been grouped with other students' groups. Gowda informed the committee that they plan to modify demographic forms to better identify Middle Eastern students. Additionally, she suggested that SWANASA submit their event plans to the CCLC next semester, as CCLC currently supports minority groups on campus. Gowda also recommended establishing a Staff Council Committee to keep staff informed and as a resource when certain members are unavailable. Abbasi mentioned that they are requesting a list of faculty members from the same region, as this center could provide support not only to students but also to faculty members from those communities. Abbasi further shared that, in a previous counseling meeting, students were told a counselor would be appointed, but no further updates were provided, which left students feeling unsupported. With the challenges faced since 2016, recent conflicts, and the current election atmosphere, students are seeking more support from the school. Jackie reiterated the importance of the school's help in arranging meetings and providing space for this purpose.
- f. Discussion Item: Pantry Collaboration Project: Partida introduced himself and expressed the pantry's appreciation for the funding it received last semester. He emphasized the desire to strengthen the relationship and collaboration between the committees moving forward. He explained the project focused on providing culturally relevant food options and budgeting accordingly. Last semester, this initiative was implemented and required approximately \$105 for one to two weeks of operation. The pantry plays a crucial role on campus, currently around 150 students visit it daily. He also mentioned that Sullivan suggested the possibility of expanding this project and presenting it at the GAC. When Raquel asked if they were seeking additional funds, he responded that, personally, he believes more funding is needed since culturally relevant foods are generally more costly. Support from SJEC and other committees would be greatly appreciated. Abbasi inquired about whether food items are sourced locally, mentioning that members of the Muslim community often need to travel to Sacramento to buy in bulk. Partida explained that most items are sourced locally or from food assistance centers, with some purchases made through the university farm. The pantry's funding comes from government grants, individual donors, and contributions from food assistance centers. Lastly, he mentions he is also the chair for Campus Engagement Council holding meetings on alternate Fridays from 4 to 5 pm which all are welcome to attend.
- g. Discussion Item: Cultural & Heritage Awareness Display: Gowda mentioned that decorations have not yet been acquired, and she would appreciate assistance in generating

ideas. She also noted that if any upcoming events on table are already done members can dispose of the flyers for the same, as well as any business cards left on table by unauthorized passersby. Additionally, any club flyers that need printing can be sent to her to ensure they meet the required format specifications. Raquel suggested that, given no theme is finalized for January, we could display information about various clubs and offered her assistance with the same. Kendra added that placing QR codes on the table for AS resources, campus resources, and upcoming events might be beneficial. Gowda mentioned that she is on campus and available to meet if anyone is free to help. Peterson inquired whether there is a list of AS resources to verify the accuracy of the information on flyers, to which Gowda responded that any flyers lacking a logo could be discarded.

#### IX. CHAIR REPORT:

Gowda provided an overview of the Reimagining Chico State Academic Affairs initiative, which aims to restructure the current academic units at Chico State to enhance cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary collaboration. This initiative is being led by a Special Action Team, and Gowda invited ideas and input regarding the proposed changes from the attendees. If no immediate ideas were available, the topic could be added as a discussion item for further consideration. Additionally, Gowda emphasized the importance of gauging student perspectives for integrating artificial intelligence (AI) into the courses.

Gowda reiterated the date and time for the CCLC Fashion Show and invited everyone on campus to wear their traditional attire and participate in the event. She also emphasized the date and time for Multicultural Night, informing attendees that she will be co-hosting the event with Tia Saunders. Gowda reiterated the date and time for the upcoming town hall meeting, inviting anyone interested to attend.

She expressed appreciation for the successful collaboration with the pantry last year and emphasized the importance of continuing this effort by offering culturally relevant food on campus in any feasible form. In this regard, Humberto, the Pantry Ambassador, is seeking to collect additional surveys from students to better understand their food preferences. Director Gowda and Humberto will also continue their work as Commissioners of Student Engagement and Advocacy. They shared their intention to engage in discussions to form a proposal for the GAC on future initiatives related to culturally relevant food offerings.

The SWANASA organization discussed their need for a center post-election and the various needs they have expressed. The committee expressed its support for CCLC's initiative to host culturally significant SWANASA events and provide a dedicated space for them, while reminding the organization that the center is intended to serve their needs. Both parties agreed on the necessity of gathering demographic insights and establishing a section specifically for MENA students. Additionally, there is a push to form a staff and council committee. However, SWANASA indicated that it is difficult for them to connect with all the MENA-recognized staff and council members, as they are unsure of which departments they belong to. The committee is still in the process of providing guidance and support in addressing this challenge.

#### X. MEMBERS REPORT: Abbasi informs that M. Peterson is head of Amnesty center & she herself is a national Amnesty member. They aim to carry out lobby training this semester & the trip to Sacramento the next semester.

XI. STAFF REPORT: No staff report, so moved on to Announcements.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chhetri announces that ISA is conducting Diwali celebrations that same day from 7 pm onwards & BDC will be performing at the event, so all are welcome to attend & enjoy.

Gowda informs everyone regarding some events which will be happening on campus - the Moonlight Festival on the same day from 2 pm onwards, The Fall Fest on Nov 13th at 10:30 am, the MEChA meetings are on every Wednesday in ARTS at 6:30 pm, the Hmong New Year on Nov 18th from 4-6 pm at Colusa 100, the CCLC Cultural Fashion Show on Nov 19th from 4 pm at PAC, the Aux Talks: Native American Edition on Nov 20th from 12 to 1 pm at Hub Courtyard, the 41st Annual Multicultural Showcase on Nov 20th from 6 pm at BMU Auditorium, and lastly the Line Dancing Meeting on which is on every Thursday from 6:30 to 8 pm at Chico State Farm.

XIII. PUBLIC OPINION: Partida informs that his Campus Engagement Council is trying to acquire mental health services specifically for men of color on campus for next semester, and for this they are trying to include Men of Chico club too; as well as that the Campus Engagement Council holds meetings every other Friday from 4 to 5 pm & all are welcome to attend. Peterson informs that she tried to contact the student mentioned in the last meeting, but they are unavailable to meet.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting is adjourned at 10:57