ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 17, 2020 1 p.m. BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT- Anthony Ruiz, Trevor Guthrie, Allyah Perez, Jared Geiser, Alejandro Alfaro Ramirez, Breanna Holbert, Emonnie Jones, Sydney Puccetti, Mary Wallmark

MEMBERS ABSENT – Jay Friedman

OTHERS PRESENT – Jon Slaughter, Katie Peterson, Sarah Fenton (recorder), Jackie Hanson, Janice Stryker, Lance Huber, Grayson Edgemon, Serafina Eagleton, Michal Hansen, Eliza Miller, Alex Smith, Selena Thao

I. CALL TO ORDER - The Chair, Ruiz, called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

II. AGENDA – Ruiz removed Information Items E and H. He then added Information Item: G: Statement in Support of the Coalition and Cost of Living Adjustment (C.O.L.A.) Movement in UC Santa Cruz. (Alfaro Ramirez/Holbert) 7-0-0 MSC. Motion to approve the revised 2/17/20 regular meeting agenda (Holbert/Emonnie) 7-0-0 MSC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the 2/10/20 regular meeting. Motion to approve minutes of the 2/10/20 regular meeting, as presented (Alfaro Ramirez/Guthrie) 6-0-1 MSC.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

V. PUBLIC OPINION – None.

VI. BUSINESS

A. Action Item: Approval of Student Academic Senate joining the Academic Senate Resolution on Statement of Support in Service for and with Students of Color. Motion to approve Student Academic Senate joining the Academic Senate Resolution on Statement of Support in Service for and with Students of Color, as presented (Alfaro Ramirez/Guthrie). Alfaro Ramirez said this was action taken by Student Academic Senate in accordance with Academic Senate. The only change was the second resolve where they changed the word ‘condemn’ to ‘denounce’. 7-0-0 MSC.

B. Information Item: Program Presentation: Child Development Lab (CDL) – Jackie Hansen, the Child Development Lab (CDL) Director, started by sharing the mission statement of this program. She went over their program goals, educational and employment opportunities, infrastructure, and who their current program staff are. She also discussed their budgets, funding sources and how they provide the highest quality care and education services.

C. Information Item: Program Presentation: Sustainability – Michal Hansen and Eagleton started by sharing what their program stands for and its purpose. They gave their definition of sustainability, shared who is in their current staff, explained green events and opportunities that they hold on campus, compost and garden workshops, and how Real Food Nourishment works with AS Dining on campus. They provide education and outreach, utilize a graphic design team, and run a sustainability fund. They concluded their presentation by showing the group events that are coming up through the remainder of the semester for anyone who is interested. Their office is located in BMU 005.

D. Discussion Item: Officer and Senator Scholarships – Ruiz shared that this is a continued discussion from last week. Geiser feels that Senators should make the same amount as Commissioners. Slaughter sent out a PowerPoint which was shared and Ruiz went over the compensation in percentages based upon the cost of attendance. The group discussed what it would look like to increase senator pay and their opinioned pros and cons. Jones made the point that her position is going to be doing much more work than a Senator with the change of her council to work more toward advocacy. A general agreement was made that each Officer and Senator’s job description should be reviewed to make sure that the scholarship amounts are compatible for the required workload. Smith said that asking Senators to come in a week earlier for training is a big part of the need to be paid more because some will be missing out on that additional week of pay in internships or jobs. Slaughter and Peterson shared that going to Financial Aid is beneficial for anyone who has questions about how their scholarship will affect them financially because it really could be positive or negative. Guthrie
suggested lowering Commissioners who are currently at a 25% cost of attendance, and increasing Senators who are currently at a 15% cost of attendance, to meet in the middle at 20%. Peterson suggested the idea of using a budget as incentive to ‘reward’ those who go above and beyond to be recognized. This item will be brought back as an Information Item again next week.

E. Information Item: Resolution Denouncing Potential War with Iran

F. Discussion Item: Geography 440 Advisory Measure – Slaughter sent the wording to our lawyer and he’s very much in favor of it and doesn’t see any red flags or issues. Next, a 3-person panel will come together to make a decision before it goes back to the lawyer. After the committee meets, Ruiz will email the language out.

G. Information Item: Statement in Support of the Coalition and Cost of Living Adjustment (C.O.L.A.) Movement at UC Santa Cruz – Alfaro Ramirez and Holbert drafted this up last week. Alfaro Ramirez shared that there is currently a protest from graduate students at UC Santa Cruz to protest their wages because they do not get paid enough to meet the cost of living. He shared the different actions that students took and read the statement to the group (Perez left the meeting at 1:47 p.m.). Ruiz shared that this will be an Action Item next week. Wallmark said that the group needs to focus on what exactly they’re trying to land on this and suggested focusing on what’s near and dear to them without the extras (Guthrie left the meeting at 1:50 p.m.).

H. Information Item: Revisions to Associated Students Corporate Codes – Events Funding Allocation Council Policy, including title change to Events and Diversity Programming Allocation Council Policy, effective beginning the 2020-21 elected officer term

VII. REPORTS: OFFICERS – None.

VIII. REPORTS: STAFF – Slaughter: He said there was good discussion on the Senator compensation and asked the group to be timely in the resolve because of budgets coming up and the need to know what’s happening. Wallmark: This Wednesday at noon is a free speech workshop. There will be a big push toward voting and census. Some students cannot vote and some don’t feel that their vote counts. She will be asking those folks questions. Peterson: The next R&R meeting is this Friday at 12 p.m. The next Information Session is this Wednesday in BMU 220G and packet deadlines are approaching. An email went out about a big AS event and they’re trying to create more active visibility for AS Elections day on April 1. From 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. that day there are two events. One is a competition with recognized student organizations who can compete and the winner will get their Revenue Sharing doubled. The other is tabling for candidates with popcorn and sticky tattoos, etc. Graduating or not re-running Officers and Senators can do a pie-face event. She asked everyone to spread the word. Anyone can touch base with her to make sure people know what’s going on.

IX. REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT – None.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Alfaro Ramirez shared that this Wednesday at Student Academic Senate they’re going to finalize a manual. Slaughter asked him to discuss accountability with changes that are being made.

XI. PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – None.

XII. FOR THE GOOD OF THE GROUP – Ruiz said happy Monday. Peterson said everyone is awesome. Wallmark shared that goats will be here on Monday.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Ruiz, adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m.