ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
ASSOCIATE STUDENTS BUSINESSES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 23, 2015  11 a.m.  BMU 205

Members Present:  Nicole Lung, Amelia Lowry, Michael Wood, Kyler Newton, Stacie Corona, Michelle Korte, Pedro Douglas, Megan Odom

Members Absent:  

Others present:  Mary Cox (recording), David Buckley, George Rankin, Susan Jennings, Sarah Foisy, Thang Ho, and Ethan Dilley

I.  CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Lung, called the meeting to order at 11 a.m.

II.  AGENDA – No changes

III.  APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the regular meeting of 2/9/15.  Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 2/9/15, as presented (Lowry/Newton).  6/0/2 MSC.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

V.  PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to items on the agenda – None

VI.  OPINIONS – None

VII.  BUSINESS

A.  Information Item: 2015-16 Budget Update – Jennings didn’t have any updates but stated that they are on track with the various departments and are currently working on salary budgets.

B.  Information Item: Review of Investments. Local Agency Investment Fund – Quarter ending 12/31/14 – Jennings shared information regarding the investments for October through December 2014. She reported the AS earned about $2,500 interest for the quarter.

C.  Information Item: Graduation ideas for Follett and Dining Services – Rankin reported that since the previous meeting he met with Dan Goodsell and Stephen Cummins from University Public Events regarding commencement. Dining Services will occupy a large space under the tent to sell refreshments and will also utilize the old Wildcat Store trailer. Rankin stated that he would like more feedback in regards to commencement needs on Friday, and then he will provide additional information to the committee soon. Rankin will look into keeping the coffee shops open until at least the ceremonies begin on Friday. Foisy asked for feedback regarding Grad Fair. Odom thought it was a great idea to sell merchandise at the ceremony. Korte suggested they carry alumni merchandise, which Foisy agreed with and said they will have many items including license plates, T-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. Foisy reported that she also checked into stadium seats and cushions, sunscreen, hats, and visors, but she is not sure if her vendor can get the cushions/seats in time. She mentioned she will also have inexpensive sunglasses. Lung asked Rankin what other food items will be sold. Rankin said they won’t be selling bottled water, but other bottled beverages, pastries and possibly some prepared foods. Odom suggested candy as it was a huge hit last year, and whole fruit was suggested instead of cut fruit, which would require refrigeration. Lung asked if AS Sustainability will be involved, and Rankin mentioned the Green Events Team will most likely be there. Wood mentioned to Foisy that each time he goes into the Wildcat Store, the employees at the front desk do not know what the prices are of various items. He also mentioned that it’s very frustrating that when he needs a Scantron, it takes him at least 10-15 minutes just to get one. Foisy will look into a Scantron vending machine, but she doesn’t know if it will be too cost prohibitive. Newton asked if the Grad packs would be advertised to parents. Foisy said that there won’t be a mailer this year, but they will be doing an email blast to the parent email list. Lung asked for clarification on the Grad Fest process. Foisy explained that students come in to the store, visit each vendor, and then place their cap and gown orders. The pre-order website will close in March, and then two weeks prior to graduation, they will begin handing out pre-ordered caps and gowns. Foisy stated that after speaking with staff, it was decided that students will need to return their cap and gown to the store unless it’s a late ceremony.
D. **Information Item: Textbook Scholarship Options** – Lung shared a PowerPoint presentation of scholarship options. There was $15,000 allocated for 2014/2015, but Lung asked Foisy if they could just use $7,500 this semester with the remaining $7,500 allocated next semester. Lung shared ideas for distribution options including a scholarship award/application through Financial Aid based on need for AS employees; AS event participation, Wildcat Welcome, and Summer Orientation for incoming students; a Golden Ticket program; or a scholarship based on the student’s major/department. Lung feels the Golden Ticket option could encourage students to buy books in the Wildcat Store. A Golden Ticket gift certificate would be placed in a few books, which would give a partial or full discount off the price of the book. Foisy clarified that the books would be shrink-wrapped so students would not be able to search through books for the tickets. Lung shared two scholarship options – Option 1 (this semester $7,500 available): $3,000 disbursed through awards/scholarships and $4,500 disbursed through AS programs/events. Option 2 (this semester $7,500 available): Financial Aid scholarships based on financial need only via application process. Corona mentioned that it’s too late this semester to work with Financial Aid as scholarships have already been disbursed, and fall applications are due in April or May. Discussion was held regarding providing gift cards or a house account. It was recommended that gift cards not be used as there is no regulation on how it’s used. Foisy stated that if they create a house account, they can control that funds be used for text books only. Jennings stated having a House account would be a better way for funds to be distributed, and funds not used could be rolled back into the overall scholarship account.

VIII. **DINING SERVICES DIRECTOR’S REPORT** – Rankin reported that numbers for this semester are still strong and they are holding up well. Tapango continues to grow; they just hit 100 sales in one day. Rankin reported that he is currently working on Graduation and how that will be handled, working on budgets, as well as trying to come up with creative ideas.

IX. **CHICO STATE WILDCAT STORE DIRECTOR’S REPORT** – Foisy reported they had a flash sale last week, and the week prior on Friday they had a clearance sale. They had $7,200 in clearance sales, $6,500 and $8,100 in sales each day of the flash sale. She reported they will be scheduling some sidewalk sales for the remainder of the semester. Foisy reported that there is a new GoPro display in the computer department, and they have some new items for the C-store that should be rolling out in the next few weeks including a roller grill and hot case for breakfast sandwiches, pizza, cookies, etc. She reported they are also looking into getting a F’real smoothie machine, bringing in colored insulated Klean Kanteens, and expanding Chico Bag colors and styles.

X. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT** – Buckley reported that during the last ASBC meeting he was attending the AOA Conference in Southern California. He reported that the Chancellor spoke regarding accessibility and costs for students. Buckley stated it was a positive message. He reported that the Chancellor also spoke about decentralizing the CSU’s. He stated that some of the auxiliaries are lamenting that there are several new presidents and vice presidents on various campuses who do not know what their respective auxiliaries do. Buckley reported that he will be talking with the BOD today about the next minimum wage increase in 2016, and they will be discussing the need for a new student classification and that each classification will move up $1. This will be a big hit to the budgets, especially to Dining Services. Buckley also reported that the new sick leave law goes into effect July 1 with accrual and eligibility. The law states that all employees, including students and casual, be able to accrue sick leave, which will also significantly impact budgets. Buckley reported that there was another Supreme Court decision back in January regarding overtime pay when an employee is working overnight. He explained that this will affect Adventure Outings’ trip leaders who will be paid 24/7 because they are actually on duty even when they are sleeping. The law states they will be paid regular time, then time and half, and then double time. This will be a huge cost to the Union budget. He stated that he will check with the attorney to see when this goes into effect. Buckley also reported that every year there is a class that works on an AS election ballot initiative, which sometimes affects the AS. This year the initiative relates to the Real Food Challenge and requiring the AS to become involved. Buckley reported that Dining Services is already involved and working on the goal of 20% “real food” by 2020. Another potential future initiative is to try banning the sale of bottled water. A similar initiative was passed in 2009, but the AS did not comply due to the estimated loss of over $80,000 in revenue. If passed again, this would still be a hit to sales in Dining, not to mention the customer service aspect for visitors on campus who are looking to purchase bottled water.

XI. **VP APPOINTEE’S REPORT** – Lowry reported that at BMUC they discussed creating a Mission Statement for the Wildcat Leadership Center and they are trying to come up with an overall broad statement. She reported they also discussed capital expenditures for 2015-2016.
XII. **CHAIR’S REPORT** – Lung thanked the committee for their feedback for graduation and scholarships.

XIII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None

XIV. **PUBLIC OPINION** – None

XV. **OPINION** – None

XVI. **ADJOURNMENT** – The Chair, Lung, adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.