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

Tuesday, March 10, 2015  2 p.m.  BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT - Jeffery Zawoysky, Michael Pratt, Darion Johnston, Taylor Herren, Courtney Silver, Jordan Walsh, Anita Zamora

MEMBERS ABSENT - Kassandra Bednarski (excused), Susan Anderson, CC Carter

OTHERS PRESENT – Nicole Lung, Shar Krater, Riley Wood, Jon Slaughter, Ewan McCloy (recording), Mary Steves, Josh Franco

I. CALL TO ORDER - The Chair, Zawoysky, called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.

II. AGENDA – Zawoysky moved the discussion of Information Item B before Information Item A. **Motion to approve the 3/10/15 revised regular meeting agenda (Zamora/Pratt) 4-0-0 MSC.**

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the 3/3/15 regular meeting. **Motion to approve the minutes of the 3/3/15 regular meeting (Zamora/Pratt) 3-0-1 MSC.** (Herren arrived at 2:02 p.m.)

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Pratt explained that March 25 will be Cal Fresh Day. The event will be held in The Gauntlet from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and will be hosted by the Center of Healthy Communities. Pratt explained that there is a big push for this event because the Center for Healthy Communities receives money for every application submitted by students. Every student qualifies, so this is an underutilized resource. Pratt said that there is also an arrangement with Butte College for full time students to receive these benefits as well. Silver said that there were issues in the past of not being able to receive food because of having a job, so Pratt will look into this. Jarquin said times were held for a committee and council banquet in the near future so if everyone can add that to their calendar that would be appreciated.

V. PUBLIC OPINION – None

VI. OPINIONS – None

VII. BUSINESS

A. **Information Item: Wildcat Leadership Center Vision, Mission and Motto Statements** – Before discussing Information Item A, everyone discussed Information Item B. Jarquin said that BMUC was last Wednesday and they discussed these statements. The only change made was using the word “meaningful interactions” over “tangible interactions.” She will be working with Kristina Hamilton to make a graphic for these statements. Now that these statements are in place, Jarquin will work on marketing through a press release and potentially talking to the Orion to see how they feel about the statements. Yesterday at Good Morning with GAC people were polled on their favorite motto statement for the Center. The motto with the highest number of votes was “Leadership without limits.” Zawoysky said people liked the combination of two mottos into “Leadership without limits the Wildcat Way” because of the want to include the branding of students being Wildcats. Silver said leadership without limits by itself is good, but a bit non-specific. Krater recommended Kristina Hamilton preparing a couple mock-up graphics of the potential mottos because visualization of the motto may change which motto would be the best to use. Also, this could be something for new officers to have a hand in creating marketing for the campaign.

B. **Information Item: Ombuds Office** – Pratt said this information item was included in this meeting because of previous interest in the topic. The current state of the Ombuds Office is that there are two processes through which students can address their concerns. The first process of this is the formal grievance procedure where a student files a complaint form. The second process is an informal grievance procedure wherein student academic senators and students talk to the dean or department chair to discuss their judicial issues. Pratt would like to increase the awareness of the multiplicity of access in discussing judicial issues. There have been suggestions of having student legal services available. Pratt said that there is a plan to create an office for staff and faculty so they have their own Ombuds Office. Currently, there are people who are not tenured for on the Ombuds Office and the goal is to have a 10-year track faculty member in this position to assist students with this process. Pratt explained that students cannot have an attorney present in discussions of
judicial affairs unless it is a serious offence. Johnston asked if the current student-faculty committee issue of having too many faculty members compared to students could be brought up to student affairs and Pratt said this would most likely not fit in the area of student affairs. Silver asked for clarification of Pratt not being able to tell students of their resources and he elaborated that he and the senators are technically not allowed to interfere with the formal grievance process. Silver had a concern where she personally experienced a professor not dealing with learning disabilities and her not knowing how to reach out to the relevant parties for help (Walsh arrived at 2:12 p.m.). Pratt said that we would need to discuss with other parties on whether or not there is an ability to reach out to students about their resources, but he knows that we can tell students that student senators are available for students to address their concerns. Silver said it will be important for next year's senators to know the importance of their role and ensure students know that they have these resources for judicial affairs. Pratt said that the senators are aware of this and wants to make a committee of more students with representation for judicial affairs. Jarquin said that creating marketing campaigns in each college to create awareness of the senators could be a beneficial step in spreading awareness. Krater said that there have been senator spotlights recently created by Wood, but it would be good to make knowledge of senators even more developed. Pratt explained that the Chancellor signed a memorandum that attorneys are not allowed to be at student conflicts because they are intended to be educational and student conflicts and are not criminal conflicts. He explained further that even when an attorney is present in these meetings they cannot represent their client; rather, the attorneys can only advise their client. Johnston explained the issue of student advisors explaining to students everything they need to know for their case being too overwhelming for students who have the issue themselves. The purpose of the student general advocate so that when there is an administrative procedure that they will be there to advocate on the behalf of students and walk students through the process. Pratt said there is also advising through CLIC, but the student judicial affairs cannot spread awareness of this resource either.

C. Information Item: Campus Connection – Zawoysky and Bednarski met with UPD to talk about Campus Connection recently. This was a good conversation and the two were able to reach out to a campus officer who will hopefully come to a GAC meeting and present about Campus Connection. Zawoysky gave a brief overview of the meeting. The group discussed that Campus Connection is set up to support the academic learning of students. While it is set up to take students from one place to another when they feel unsafe the focus of the program is for people who do late studying or labs to take them from campus to safe locations. The program runs on a route program until about midnight and then until about 2 a.m. to coincide with the library. Zawoysky said that University Village is the most visited location for the program. Lung asked how long the route takes for the officers and it is about 30 minutes. Herren wanted everyone to think of ways to discuss Campus Connections and tying this in with the new chief of police being selected. It is important to change the viewpoint of Campus Connections away from being a safe ride home program. It is important to note that this is also why Campus Connections doesn’t pick students up the week of Welcome Week because there are no academics in session. Johnston said this should change because of the school asking students to come to campus a week early no matter what. The committee needs to determine what situations are acceptable and aren’t for using Campus Connections. Zawoysky said UPD is always there for a student who is feeling unsafe and clarifying the difference between UPD as a whole and Campus Connections. Krater was asking about the funding stream for Campus Connections and Zawoysky said that funding comes from the alternative transportation fund which includes parking tickets, bike sales, and other funding from these venues. Johnston reminded the committee to make sure to fill out an evaluation form for the candidates who were in attendance at the chief of police forums.

VIII. REPORTS: OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS – Zamora: Pratt had a meeting with the colleges that don’t know about EFAC and he suggested instead of reaching out to every organization to reach out to the senators to give out EFAC information for their colleges. Zamora will go to the Student Academic Senate meeting this week to discuss more about outreach for EFAC. Lung: ASBC met this week to discuss financial statements. She will be working with George Rankin to finalize the concept of student organizations having discounts for AS catering. Lung said that this will be up and running for next fall. Jarquin: She will create a list of dates for the all banquet and potentially invitations for members will be created. Jarquin will also create guidelines for the usage of the Government Affairs side of Center. An official document will be compiled and will be given out tomorrow with the opportunity for certain themes. These documents will be due March 27. She is in the budget season of BMUC. Also, she said BMUC will be doing a semester project to update the marketplace level of the BMU and make the wavy wall more pretty. Zawoysky asked about the process of suggesting changes and Jarquin said that she created a form on the desk that anyone can fill out. Herren: Please send evaluations for the chief of police candidates to Herren by tonight because there will be meetings tomorrow to solidify a recommendation. At 5 p.m. today there will be a budget meeting for Wildcat Way and Wildcat Welcome. The signing of the Operating and Lease Agreement process is currently underway for this meeting. Tomorrow there will be a CSUnity meeting at 5 p.m. Zamora helped create a survey for this meeting. They would like to focus on the content of the conference rather than the logistics. The Board of Directors approved language for the advisory measure on divestment. Now
there will be follow-up with the President and this has been added to the agenda for the cabinet meeting. Johnston asked if the group for the advisory measure got the necessary signatures and Krater said that the group would be coming to the office at 4 p.m. on Thursday. Herren recognized Rick Rees for all the great work he did in his lifetime, such as being the founder for CAVE. On the topic of divestment, Slaughter said it is important for the acceptance of the divestment language. Herren said that the current ballot initiative of real food involves students from the specific class, someone from AS Sustainability, and someone from AS. It is important to see what it would look like in partnering with the university with this proposal. Walsh: There are currently 17 groups participating in International Festival which will be held April 25. Another planned event called Empowered Encounters will be held April 2. Steves: FLO is doing well and there are two more general meetings left. Facilitator applications are being reviewed and more facilitator applications as well as the coordinator application will be available soon. Silver: She met with the Campus Conservation Committee and there were discussions about potentially removing plastic water bottles from campus. Silver recognizes that this is a huge initiative which would have a large impact to Dining Services, so based on this the committee doesn’t want to rush this initiative. She will be meeting with George Rankin to see the pros and cons of this initiative if it were to take place. Silver would also like to survey the students on their water bottle usage. Lung said that this was brought up at ASBC once and people whose parents are visiting who don’t have their own bottle would be an issue even though practically all students have their own bottle. Silver suggested having vending machines with reusable bottles at a reduced price. Johnston asked how this would impact contracts with Pepsi and Silver clarified that this initiative would only be for water bottles. Juices and sodas would still be served on campus. Johnston: Eight students went to CHESS two weekends ago and the event went well. Most of the discussions were about budget advocacy. After SIRF passed CSSA now has an additional $1 million to spend and there is an opportunity for anyone to submit a proposal on how to use this money. The focus of the money will go to serve students in the community, International Festival, and elections. Johnston elaborated as to why the intent to file packets deadline will be extended. At the Board of Directors there was discussion that graduating students need a certain number of units while in office and the logistical issue of graduate students not being able to run for office.

IX. REPORTS: STAFF – Krater: Nothing to report. Slaughter: He is still waiting on budgets to come back from the financial office. He and Parenti had phone chats with potential Sustainability Coordinator candidates. As a result, there were two great candidates that will be brought to campus right after spring break. This Thursday, Slaughter and a few others will be talking with all five candidates for the Leadership Coordinator position. Slaughter hopes to narrow down the number of potentials to three and bring them to campus. Lastly, he is going to remind programs of the arête packet that is due this Friday.

X. REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT – Zawoysky said Cats in the Community is coming up quick, so please sign up for tabling for this event. Also be sure to be active in being a site lead and reaching out to have other participants.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Krater said Choose Chico Day is April 11. The office will be closed over spring break. Slaughter told the committee to be careful of the limited building hours if anyone will be working in the office over break because of the recent issue of card swipes. Zawoysky said thank you to everyone wearing the GAC red shirts on Tuesdays. Krater thanked the committee members who helped with the face-wall and the chief of police forums.

XII. PUBLIC OPINION – None

XIII. OPINION – None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Zawoysky, adjourned the meeting at 3:09 p.m.