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

Tuesday, March 24, 2015  2 p.m.  BMU 205

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

MEMBERS ABSENT – Susan Anderson, CC Carter

OTHERS PRESENT – Nicole Lung, Shar Krater, Riley Wood, Jon Slaughter, Ewan McClory (recording), Mary Steves, Deanna Jarquin, Zach Brown

I. CALL TO ORDER - The Chair, Zawoysky, called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

II. AGENDA – Herren wanted to add an information item about campus leadership because President Zingg is not on campus for medical reasons. There were discussions at the Board for this and Herren would like to discuss this with the committee before the Board meets with the interim president on Thursday. Jarquin requested an edit for Information Item A to only state the motto statement and wanted to add an information item about the upcoming banquet. Approval of the revised 3/24/15 regular meeting agenda. 7-0-0 MSC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the 3/10/15 regular meeting. Motion to approve the minutes of the 3/10/15 regular meeting (Johnston/Zamora) 7-0-0 MSC.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Zach Brown from James Gallagher’s office, who is an assembly member, is here today at our meeting. Herren will have to leave at 2:45 p.m. for a doctor’s appointment. Bednarski said that Cats in the Community will be next Tuesday and to get excited!

V. PUBLIC OPINION – None

VI. OPINIONS – None

VII. BUSINESS

A. Information Item: Wildcat Leadership Center Motto Statements – Jarquin explained that after polling students at Good morning with GAC prior to spring break, asking on the Facebook page, and general comments in the office that ‘Leadership Without Limits’ received the most votes at 42 with the other two options receiving 35 votes. There have been discussions on the motto being a combination of other suggestions to state Leadership Without Limits the Wildcat Way, so Jarquin will have follow-up with students and GAC officers. Jarquin was asking for other ways to reach out to other students. Wood suggested to poll students or asking this question through the official website and asking Nan Timmons or Kristina Hamilton in doing so. Johnston asked what Jarquin saw as the end goal for this motto and how it will be utilized. Jarquin replied that she ideally sees the motto as a way of branding and for the newly elected officers to make an effort to utilize the motto. Jarquin added that this would be an ongoing process for the next Vice President of Facilities and Services. Herren and the committee commended Jarquin on the great work she has been doing with the motto.

B. Information Item: Funding Executive Order 2015-01 – Krater explained that the first proposal was for Noche de Teatro for the organization Asociación de Teatro y Poesía in the amount of $716. The event will be held April 15 and it is the organizations 8th annual event where they have poetry, shared stories, food, and a performance by Ballet Folklorico to share Hispanic culture. The second proposal was for the Higher Education Conference for the organization Hmong Student Association in the amount of $1,986. While the event is hosted by the Hmong Student Association all Chico State students are welcome to the event. The focus of the event is to put on a day of workshops, speakers, and activities for students of a diverse background who may have challenges finding their resources and acclimating to college. Slaughter clarified that executive orders are very rarely put together and discussed at GAC because the regular protocol is to vote on the proposal at EFAC/DAC, then at GAC, then at the Board before spending can begin. The reasons why EO’s are done are based on the timing of the need for funding and if there are days or weeks where committees don’t meet. In this case it was because spring break was held after DAC’s meeting. The Cesar Chavez holiday will mean that GAC won’t meet next week and there may need to be more executive orders drafted. Herren explained
that the low amount of executive orders this year is normal and last year she signed about 20, which was not normal.

C. Information Item: Campus Leadership – Herren explained that President Zingg had triple bypass surgery last week. She had the chance to talk with Lori Hoffman and President Zingg is home now and doing okay. He will be gone from his presidency for the next 2 – 4 months and there are currently no plans to have him at commencement. Roland Richmond is the interim president. He will be on campus on Thursday with the Chancellor and he will be meeting with certain on-campus groups. One of them is the Board. Yesterday there was discussion on having thoughtful and organized discussion points with the interim president. Herren will make a one page overview of the most pressing issues and projects. Hoffman suggested focusing on issues and projects that are pertinent over the next two months and relevant to the interim president. Herren wanted to add this information item to update the committee and ask for feedback on what will be discussed with him. Herren currently is planning to include on the overview the statue and statue location regarding campus planning, Wildcat Welcome and Labor Day, the rally against violence and overall student safety, and something about the Student Academic Senate and shared governance. There will also be an included timeline of events including Cats in the Community, AS elections, CSUnity, Town and Gown, International Festival, and more. Herren will complete and send this document to everyone prior to the Thursday meeting. Bednarski wanted to emphasize the importance of community affairs such as the rallies. Silver asked if the interim president will be attending This Way to Sustainability as presidents in the past usually have and Herren explained that because this change and the event is such short notice he most likely will not be there. Johnston asked about whether or not the students from the Real Food Challenge should meet with the interim president. Herren clarified for those present about the Real Food Challenge being on the advisory measure and the goal for the semester was to have the president affiliate himself with the measure. However, she is not sure how to proceed now that there is the interim president filling in for President Zingg. Slaughter asked if the interim president was involved with the Real Food Challenge at Humboldt university, which he was, so this can still be brought to him with the emphasis on the AS wanting to pair with the president for the Real Food Challenge. Herren was also big on ensuring facilitation with the students who put together the challenge because of their request to meet with administration.

D. Information Item: Banquet – Jarquin asked the committee prior to the meeting for the names of their committees and council members and everyone has responded. The next step is the invitation process. Krater had a great idea of playing on the theme of sustainability through sending out email invitations. The invitation will be sent to everyone on the committee first so that they can see who would be emailed. She asked then for the committee members to email members of councils by April 11 with the invitation, which includes information in registering for the event. Jarquin also wanted to focus on everyone taking pictures with their members and for every group to have a three-minute speech. The reception will be held May 7. The event starts at 7 p.m., so please be there at 6:30 p.m. Dress is California casual. Silver clarified which groups should be contacted and Jarquin said that the student groups that utilize AS fees and better the university should be invited, and not just the students but also professional staff. Jarquin said that this banquet can provide networking opportunities for students to meet professionals. Herren suggested inviting some parties that are working on shared governance with the student academic senate. Johnston asked if university committees would be invited to this banquet and Jarquin said that having all 78 students would be unrealistic, at least for this first banquet. Herren said to keep in mind how committee members would be represented programmatically. Jarquin also clarified that she is going to change the name from a banquet to a reception and the timing of the event so that there isn’t the preconceived notion that a meal will be provided, but there will be coffee and snacks. Jarquin will discuss with the committee in mid-April about how they can help with the event and also asked if anyone had creative ideas on how to run the reception to let her know.

VIII. REPORTS: OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS – Bednarski: Cats in the Community is almost at 200 sign ups for volunteers and she and her committee hope to get 250 sign ups. Bednarski also asked the committee to do some outreach when possible. Regarding site leads she explained that we have all positions filled and she thanked the committee for getting the word out there. Silver asked if there was any site lead training and Bednarski said that there will be a little training prior to the event. She is currently having some issues with speakers, but she will be reaching out to find some for the event. Bednarski explained that the focus for her council for the rest of her semester is on the safety fund. The original idea was to build a crosswalk by the railroad tracks, but now the focus for the fund and council is on having rallies and having a better presence at Town and Gown. Silver asked if speakers can be paid for this event and Bednarski said that they cannot. Johnston asked about the logistics of the safety fund. Bednarski explained that $500 was used at the beginning of the semester for social host ordinance door hangers. There is now $2,000 left, but some of the fund will be used to send students to the Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Conference. Lung clarified that the meeting location for Cats in the Community is at the WREC. People will meet at 9:30 a.m. The reason why the location is at the WREC was so that volunteers know where the BBQ is. The ATOD conference is in Monterey and there will be attendees from
different sectors of the school. Chico will be presenting on our best practices to address these issues on campus. The date to leave for this event will be around April 14th. Lung: ASBC was yesterday. There have been conversations on the bookstore changing their total amount of inventory for clothing and gifts from $500,000 to $700,000, which will be interesting to see what they will bring in for the future. In comparing sales from last year to this year in the electronics sector most of them are in Office and Windows products. On April Fool’s Day there will be discounts and a giveaway raffle throughout the day. Pratt: Reporting on the Ombuds Office, the initial language has been drafted, in taking into account accountability measures. Reporting on the student evaluation of teaching committee, the members want to see the comparison of the SETs to public evaluations such as Rate My Professor. The student academic senate is working on a white paper for shared governance. Pratt is also working on a special project regarding syllabi, so if anyone has any past syllabi that either had good content or bad content send them to Pratt so that he can find common patterns of what works well in a syllabus. Bednarski asked about the student evaluation of teaching committee still having issues on faculty and students being on it. The proposed amount is currently at 7 faculty and 3 students with an additional 7 permanent members including his position so that each college is well-represented. Johnston asked about the Ombuds Office and if they can take complaints from incidents happening prior to the Ombuds Office being created. Pratt said they can hear anything the students want but they cannot act on anything, so past issues can be brought. Herren wanted to let the committee know prior to leaving the meeting that 4 senator positions still haven’t received applications. Walsh: She is working on International Festival and the event Empowered Encounters will be next Thursday April 2nd at 3:30 p.m. Zamora: By the end of today she will send out emails for follow-up presentations for EFAC. Zamora will also be emailing applications for the Spring Mixer event. She is waiting on the cost of AS catering and asked Krater if EFAC money can be used for this, which it can. EFAC will be emailing different organizations to submit to the time capsule. Krater said we need to ensure we have all the materials for the time capsule. Jarquin: Regarding the previously discussed reception, Jarquin asked the committee to tell their groups about the date of the event and that invitations will be sent out soon. Guideline themes are currently in the officer’s boxes in the office and these give the committee the opportunity to say what they want for the space and their own suggested guidelines. Jarquin said an example of this would be asking for people to not use the elevator unless you are sick or moving big objects or to always print papers double sided. BMUC is moving forward on their project for the semester. Steves: FLO is currently doing well. Last week was the penultimate general FLO meeting for the year. The meeting was in regards to diversity. The FLO BBQ and FLO’s contribution to elections are in the works. The FLO Coordinator application goes out today. The FLO Facilitator applications will be sent out next week. There were close to 20 FLO students signed up for Cats in the Community. Steves is getting ready to transition to the newest FLO group. Johnston: CSSA was in LA last weekend. On Friday, she was able to spend time at the Chancellor’s office to do some strategic planning for the future of CSSA, particularly with SIRF passing recently. In the wake of SIRF CSSA should be receiving about $1 million. Johnston met with Chancellor White and other relevant parties who are involved with the office. The group talked about wanting student trustees to have a serious role at the board of trustees as well as having a student have a seat and chair/vice-chair position. The Chancellor also talked about the incoming increase in tuition based on Title 9 funding starting to go away. Conversations regarding this increase in tuition over the next two years. There was a new memorandum of understanding for organizations and CSSA and their involvement in the CSSA. This will be shown to committee once it is signed. LAC has been taking positions on certain documents and bills that are starting to be discussed. Silver: The Paul Masslin award nominations have been sent out and will close on the 31st. No nominations have come in yet, so Silver asked the committee to nominate some students, faculty or staff. She has already emailed many people over the past week as well as deans of different colleges. Silver has been working with George on the planter beds on the terrace outside of the BMU by the marketplace café. This will be reconstructed into a seasonal garden bed, an herb garden bed, and a kale garden bed to be used for dining. This Way to Sustainability is this weekend. You can register at the day of the event. Johnston asked about the planter beds impacting the current Real Food Challenge initiative and Silver said it wouldn’t make a big difference towards the Real Food Challenge, but will at least have some sort of effect. Wood: The senators had an ice cream social today. There was extra ice cream from this social, so Wood asked the committee to pass out the remaining ice cream tomorrow.

IX. REPORTS: STAFF – Slaughter: Over the break budgets were pushed back and we are in amazingly good shape this year. This is the first time in a number of years we will be able to entertain increased in student-run programs. As budgets go through in April surplus of money will be made clear. The program Arêtes that were constructed at the retreat and sent to AS programs earlier in the semester came back very in-depth and the results are great. Slaughter will compile the Arêtes and then submit them to everyone on the committee. This is a lot of reading, so Slaughter suggested that the committee focus on the question of what the program will do if they were to receive a 10% increase in their funding. While there is currently an unallocated surplus of fund the free bus program has not been consolidated yet. For last 5 years the AS has partnered with the University for the B-Line to make it a free program. The B-Line is very popular at 5,300 users. However, we are currently looking at an increase of $100,000 for the program and modifications are going to need to be done. Paying the extra amount would lead to a huge increase in fees with a potential for a 3 – 5 year commitment of paying the extra fees, so this
program may have to cost a little money in the near future. We are going to be looking for a Sustainability Coordinator again, as the previous recruitment was unsuccessful. The two Leadership Institute Coordinator applicants will be coming to campus early April. There are opportunities throughout the day to meet them. Bednarski asked about the split in paying for the costs of the B-Line with the University and perhaps changing the percentage and Slaughter said that this would need to be discussed further. Bednarski also suggested having an open forum regarding this new information for the B-Line. Krater: There was an ant infestation in the GAC office over break, so please be considerate in cleaning up food and drinks in the office. April 1st is the day of the Marc Thompson tribute at Butte College from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Trans Conference is this weekend. Lung, Herren and Pratt are going to tomorrow’s etiquette dinner.

X. REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT – Zawoysky told the committee to keep in mind that transitions are coming up soon and to be sure to put documents relevant to the position on the office hard drive. He had the idea of getting the committee together after Cats in the Community to do some team bonding, which would be at around 2 p.m.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Bednarski that there will be a dinner and movie event Monday night about Cesar Chavez at 7 p.m. in the UHUB.

XII. PUBLIC OPINION – None

XIII. OPINION – None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Zawoysky, adjourned the meeting at 3:07 p.m.