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

Tuesday, December 1, 2015  8 a.m.  BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT- Vu Nguyen, Michael Pratt, Nick Howell, Deanna Jarquin, Oliver Montalbano, Aaron Thao, Jerad Prevost, Jake Jacobs, Susan Anderson.

MEMBERS ABSENT- CC Carter

OTHERS PRESENT – Jon Slaughter, Lea Youngkamp (recorder), Shar Krater, Jamie Clyde, Katie Finney, Taylor Herren, Kaitlyn Haley.

I. CALL TO ORDER - The Chair, Nguyen, called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

II. AGENDA – Motion to approve the 12/1/15 regular meeting agenda with the addition of Information Item F Waste Management Presentation and making Action Item B a Discussion Item (Montalbano/Howell) 7-0-0 MSC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the regular meeting of 11/17/15. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 11/17/15 as presented (Montalbano/Prevost). 7-0-0 MSC.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

V. PUBLIC OPINION – None

VI. OPINIONS – None

VII. BUSINESS

A. Consent Agenda
   All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and are enacted by one motion without discussion. A member of the committee who desires a separate discussion of any item may pull that item from the Consent Agenda.

   2015-16 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments

   Confirmation of removal from Diversity Affairs Council
   - Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs appointment: Danielle Smart (Howell/Montalbano) 7-0-0

B. Discussion Item: Approval to establish a weekend taxi service program funded by the Activity Fee/Government Affairs Committee, depending on costs determined by the Request for Proposal - Montalbano reported that the taxi service trial program will be postponed to Fall 2016. Some benefits of putting it off include more time to discuss, finalize and actually be able to budget the program. Potential voting for a long term program could be improved by getting the word out there more, and thus improve the overall vote. He planned on it beginning in the spring, until he found that continuing to run a poll in September with elections could result in a positive outcome for the program. Prevost said that AS is very influential, and has the ability to be “Active” around the time of elections. That would be a great time to reintroduce this proposal, and opportunity for this program. Jarquin brought up other schools that might have a similar model, and how it has improved safety on those campuses. CSU, Chico has a slightly different scenario, and nothing that is specifically the same as what we are proposing. After talking to UC Davis, they don’t have recorded statistics about safety that would be ideal to find a correlation. Discussion was held about other schools and how they are funding, and if they have data that could be useful to us. Discussion also talked about how other schools programs can relate, and need more specific information to move this to a higher level. CSUC is so different because of how unique the community aspect of Chico is. Montalbano will come back with more information next week.

C. Action Item: Approval of DAC allocation in the amount of $2,573.50 for Posada Navidena hosted by Nu Alpha Kappa Fraternity on 12/9/15 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the UHUB. Motion to approve DAC allocation in the amount of $2,573.50 for Posada Navidena hosted by Nu Alpha Kappa Fraternity on 12/9/15 from 7 p.m.
to 9 p.m. in the UHUB (Howell/Jacobs). Thao said this event is collaborating with the UHUB that will be a Spanish and Latin Christmas celebration to bring students together. It will be a campus wide event which will invite all students, as well as reach out to the dorms. 7-0-0 MSC.

D. Information Item: Student Campus Climate Survey Conversation – Jarquin talked to everyone about how important surveys are to gauge student climate. She sent out an email to see if they would be interested in surveying students to find their needs, and is waiting for feedback. This could be a good way to get feedback from students. Prevost wanted to know what topics would be discussed, and she said that it depends based on what the needs or interests are. Surveys can be beneficial as an interaction between students and AS. Discussion was held between members about how the layout of the survey would be, and how student involvement can be optimized and most affective. Send her an email and more info will be brought back for next week’s meeting.

E. Information Item: 2016 Election Procedures – Slaughter explained to the committee the election procedures for next year. There will be a 24 hour election in April 2016, and the procedures outline when packets are available. The only new addition to the procedures is section I, which includes grad students but not exceed 150 units. AS officer cannot exceed 150 units at the time of filing. Once they are a registered grad, your units go back to 0. Not sure if bylaws must be changed to include this, as long as it is in procedures. It will be voted on next week, and then put into action next year.

F. Information Item: Waste Management Presentation; Campus Waste Management Sustainable Solutions – Taylor Herren and Katelyn Haley came to bring to AS some ideas about waste solutions for our campus. They identified the current issue, which is that our campus produces too many contaminants in our compost, which can’t be broken down effectively by Recology anymore. The plastics that we provide on campus are compostable, but are mixed with other chemicals which take longer to break down. Recology will no longer take the compost if it exceeds 10% contamination rate. They believe that having our own compost facility would be a great solution and opportunity for CSUC. There are two different systems being proposed, aerobic and anaerobic digestion systems. Anaerobic system is most beneficial because it can break down food scraps, some recyclable plastics and cuts off oxygen to create biogas. There will need to be a lot of people working together for this project, and needs to be collaboration campus wide. Campus waste, University farm, AS Recycling and Compost program, janitorial services, college of agriculture, as well as campus efforts and legislative mandates will need to work together. The system must be innovative and sustainable to keep up with mandates and fulfilling the commitment to sustainability here on campus. They are also working on Proposal Development, where they are spending their efforts researching equipment, maintenance and facility needs. A budget with expenses and investments and a business model are being formulated to further progress this proposal. They will also be at BMUC presenting with this information, and presenting at future meetings about potential partnerships. They urged the students to talk about this topic, get the word out there, and would appreciate any guidance or advise. Howell asked if we would be able to sell organic byproduct if we still won’t be able to compost the plastic. They will come back with a more firm answer, in relation to certification of what is sustainable and how it can be organic. If compost is not certified organic, it can still be sold locally to farmers. One of the main problems is that the wooden utensils that will be more compostable, but students have provided negative feedback. Further discussion was held regarding who would be running this program, and what other campuses are using systems similar to this as a model for us. Herren and Haley explained that this could be a unique academic program for us that could be extremely beneficial, and could be a pilot program to run a model and can used to be adapted to by many other colleges.

VIII. REPORTS: OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS – Howell: None. Jacobs: Vic from boxed water will be coming in next week, and let him know if you want any merchandise from him. He will be updating the Sustainability Affairs Council code as well, and asked for Slaughters assistance with that. Prevost: None. Zaleski: Friday before break, 2 people were interviewed for the executive chef position, and will be offering a position to one of them. A new fridge was purchased, and lots of maintenance was done. There will be a sale in the student store before break, and there will be another on Friday. Jarquin: Malcom approached Jarquin about “Stay Sharp week” for a safety related event in March to expand to a campus wide movement instead of just to Greek Life. She asked if AS is interested in hosting a booth for the DAC funded event Posada Navidena. She will send out an email to see if anyone is interested. Instead of putting the statue in the two proposed location, she asked how everyone felt about putting it by the bike cart, which is in AS territory. Next week she will bring back more information about the statue. Thao: None. Curtis: Went to Orville to check out a sport complex for recreational purposes that are on a turf field. Due to the drought and non-utilization of our field, they are looking into something similar to use here. It would be very sustainable, and have begun looking into solutions such as that. He talked with a Berkeley programmer to potentially come here to discuss a new Blackboard learn system that is more for the students. SFAC will be on next Monday. Montalbano: Police student advisory board is a way to join
students and police force to discuss safety in our community. The first meeting is tomorrow at 5:30 in BMU 203. He urged all to spread the word so that all students can be involved with the discussion. **Finney**: None. **Pratt**: He introduced a potential impact, which is that several sections of classes will be closed for next semester. If you’ve been dropped from class sections, there might be some movement in enrolment that can be done, so that graduating seniors can still graduate on time. Provost will be doing a budget update, and will be asking provost to address it in academic senate to get an update.

IX. **REPORTS: STAFF** – **Anderson**: None  **Slaughter**: None  **Krater**: None

X. **REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT** – Nguyen said that Build Big meetings will take place this Friday from 3-5 pm. He passed out a form to find out which committee members will be available for training. Outreach coordinator interviews are happening this week. Please update spring schedules on Outlook. Next week, wear holiday sweaters to weekly meetings instead of AS polo’s.

XI. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Krater congratulated Thao about the model UN event in Seattle.

XII. **PUBLIC OPINION** – None

XIII. **OPINION** – None

XIV. **FOR THE GOOD OF THE GROUP** – None

XV. **ADJOURNMENT** – The Chair, Nguyen, adjourned the meeting at 9:23 a.m.