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

Monday, September 25, 2017  4 p.m.  BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT- Dylan Gray, Alisha Sharma, Karla Camacho, Brina Covarrubias, Zuri O’Balles, Dani O’Donnell, Margaret Scarpa

MEMBERS ABSENT – Susan Anderson, CC Carter

OTHERS PRESENT – Shar Krater, Jon Slaughter, Sarah Stewart (recorder), Taylor Rogers, Zach Scott, Nan Timmons, Rebekah Carlson, Dallas Gardner, Nadine Salas, Christian Solis, Rachel Ward, Juliette David, Karen Guzman

I.  CALL TO ORDER - The Chair, Sharma, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. AGENDA – Motion to approve the 9/25/17 regular meeting agendas as amended (Camacho/Covarrubias). 5-0-0 MSC. Sharma added discussion items F and G 5-0-0 MSC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

V. BUSINESS

A. Action Item: Approval of appointment of Maggie Scarpa to the Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs position. Motion to approve appointment of Maggie Scarpa to the Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs position, as presented. (O’Balles/O’Donnell). Scott, Sharma and Krater were a part of the interviews for this position and selected Scarpa based upon her passion and qualifications for the position. 5-0-0 MSC.

B. Information Item: Gender & Sexuality Equity Center (GSEC) Program Presentation. - Ward as student Director of the GSEC did a presentation on the history of the program. She covered the four programs and then services that are offered, resources that they provide and what their mission is. Ward discussed what the future hopes would look like for the center including growth and more programming.

C. Information Item: Community Legal Information Center (CLIC) Program Presentation. – The two Administrative CLIC co-Directors, Julia and Karen presented on CLIC. The two reviewed what they are responsible for and what services CLIC provides. They are the largest undergraduate student run legal clinic in the nation. They had over 8,000 clients last year with 211 interns and 29,000 hours for internships. 21% of their clients have disabilities, 32% are students and 49% would be considered low income. CLIC has moved to a contract program this year and they will be looking to gain space on campus within the next year. More space would be the most helpful addition to their program.

D. Information Item: DACA Task Force. – Discussion was held regarding the press conference, student feedback and the Show of Solidarity event that will be happening in Trinity Commons tomorrow at noon. Students will be sharing their stories or they will have an ally tell their story. Please wear your polo if you can attend. Camacho let everyone know that they will be tabling to continue contacting representatives. Sharma will send out a tabling sign-up sheet. L.E.A.D. will also be tabling at this event. Adriana Sikiric made lawn stakes with both resources and event information – please share on your personal social media. A statement of support has been sent out today and was worked on by members of the Board of Directors. The students decided that the press conference will either be rescheduled or cancelled. A video will be produced instead as this will have a lasting impact and the students will have more time to work on it. Camacho will send a meeting request.

E. Information Item: Activity Fee Fund Budget vs. Actual for June and July, 2017 – Slaughter presented information on the budget numbers for the end of the last fiscal year. The positive $87,000 which was budgeted for ended up $200,000 better when the revisions were complete. This helps in our reserves and decreases the need for a potential for a fee increase. We came in approximately 10% overall from our allocated budget versus what was spent. Throughout the year, you will continue to see the budget presentations for Activity Fee and for this year, we are already performing better than expected. Slaughter said to see him if any questions. He said today’s presentation was an overview and if the committee would like to see individual areas, they can be presented.
F. Discussion Item: Training - Conversation was held regarding the training needed for the newly selected officers and also feedback from the elected officers on how they might improve training. Transitions that happen in May after election happen could be expanded to a more thorough orientation with an overnight trip. The group had a variety of opinions regarding the time commitment and the ability to put training into context early on in the process. Scott felt that more time with the outgoing officer would have been beneficial. Sharma clarified that not all outgoing officers would necessarily go on the overnight trip but a select group would go with the new team. The smart goals that they worked on this year felt beneficial to most people in the group. Slaughter asked the group to think about the idea of a mandatory training and how that could impact summer jobs, internships, study abroad, etc. O’Donnell stated that in her role with CLIC each person is responsible to schedule shadow appointments with their predecessor and she suggested this might be helpful.

G. Discussion Item: Halloween - Krater said that the idea of having an event at the WREC wasn’t as popular with the students so we will look for a different location. Sharma gave some history about why the officers have traditionally done an alternative event on high risk weekends and Halloween is one of them. Scott wanted to know if we could get a tent and still be outside – we will continue to review the cost. We do not have the auditorium reserved this year but we have it for the next 5 years on the Saturday preceding Halloween. Silent Disco was one idea but we are going to continue to review ideas. Sharma asked everyone to think about ideas and come back to the next meeting with ideas that they would want to support.

VI. REPORTS: OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS – Camacho: She has been working on the DACA support efforts with the other 23 campuses and is happy that O’Donnell will be helping with this event. At EPPC they discussed that the Masters in Geography is up for cancellation. She is not in favor of this but did vote to cancel the minor in Information Technology as it is obsolete and has been replaced with more relevant minors. O’Balles: She met with Mikie Weidman from the GSEC regarding the Women’s Conference on November 19 as she has been asked to help represent as a Sorority member. She will be reaching out to Vic Trujillo about the flags hanging in the BMU. She has 4 applicants confirmed for the Diversity Affairs Council. She will be meeting with Rachel Ward and Sharma regarding an incident that happened off campus with a fraternity. She also has an idea about a film series. O’Donnell: She is working on putting together her committee and working with Camacho on the DACA support information. Salas: She is reviewing projects that she can work on including ways to get the students involved with the local elections. She will work with a group called Polarize Chico and look at ways to get more students registered. Sharma sees this as a great collaboration with O’Donnell. Scarpa: She is starting to review her council and what she can contribute. Gray: Is working with the Research Foundation which is one of three auxiliary organizations on campus. They are reviewing budgets and how the increase in tuition is being put to use. Most of the increase will be spent towards the Graduation Initiative. President Hutchinson reported that this last year saw the largest fundraising year in the history of Chico State. Pizza with the President is being planned and the doodle poll should go out this week. Scott: Next Thursday is the first Bell Memorial Union Committee meeting of the semester. He continues to work on the space issue within the BMU and the lack of space on campus for student organizations. He welcomes any collaboration on this project. The electronic bulletin boards are still in the plans for future renovations. Rogers: Went to the University Budget Committee with Camacho and Gray. Enrollment is up for the University. The first Associated Students Business Committee meeting took place this morning with a focus on the declining sales of Butte Station. He is looking forward to the contract between Dining Services and University Housing being signed in the next few weeks. Covarrubias: She has reached quorum for EFAC. She is looking to add a few more members.

VII. REPORTS: STAFF – Slaughter: No Report Krater: Taco Trivia will happen on the 28th and she reviewed the rules regarding who can win raffle prizes. Reminded the funding councils to submit the names of their appointments. Let everyone know that she will not be here for training as she will be in Long Beach for a meeting.

VIII. REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT – Sharma said that the CCLC 10th anniversary GALA is on Saturday. The VPSA search is on-going and she hopes everyone can attend to meet the candidates. A doodle poll will go out for a team outing/potluck. Please reach out and visit our AS programs to get to know them – it’s okay to do this during office hours. Take care of yourselves as folks are getting sick.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Carlson reported that they had a very successful employer panel last week. They also attended the meeting for the Wildcat Statue to review the area and the design progress.

X. PUBLIC OPINION – Camacho announced that we are 1/3 of the way through the school year.

XI. FOR THE GOOD OF THE GROUP – None
XII. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Sharma, adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.