

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

Monday, March 5, 2018

4 p.m.

BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT- Alisha Sharma, Karla Camacho, Danie O'Donnell, Nadine Salas, Margaret Scarpa, Zuri O'Balles, Brina Covarrubias, Susan Anderson

MEMBERS ABSENT – Kimberly Scott

OTHERS PRESENT – Jon Slaughter, Shar Krater, Sarah Stewart (recorder), Taylor Rogers, Gayle Hutchinson, Milton Lang, Brooke Banks, Nan Timmons, Alejandro Alfaro, Michael Pratt, Radhika Kataria, David Buckley, Jamie Cabrera

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

II. AGENDA – **Motion to approve the 3/5/18 regular meeting agenda (O'Balles/O'Donnell) 5-0-0 MSC.**

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the 2/12/18 and 2/19/18 regular meetings. **Motion to approve minutes of the 2/12/18 and 2/19/18 regular meetings, as presented (Camacho/O'Balles) 5-0-0 MSC.**

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

V. BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Approval of Resolution for Legitimate Honor Societies at Chico State. **Motion to approve Resolution for Legitimate Honor Societies at Chico State, as presented (Camacho/O'Balles)** – Changes were made based on suggestions from Government Affairs Committee and Student Academic Senate. Camacho shared that the responsibility will be delegated to the Academic Affairs Committee and that this resolution will get distributed through email. **5-0-0 MSC.**
- B. Action Item: Approval of Resolution for Student Academic Senate Commitment to SPC Certification. **Action Requested: Motion to approve Resolution for Student Academic Senate Commitment to SPC Certification, as presented (Camacho/Salas)** - Camacho shared that the recommendations from Government Affairs Committee were implemented into the resolution. The Student Academic Senate feels it is important to support students that are food and housing insecure. There is a \$1.00 minimum donation per member for the body to be certified. Covarrubias shared that she is not in favor of any elected body requiring students to donate money and that there are other ways to show support to students. Camacho stated that this resolution only has the 2017-2018 year on it instead of including future years but it is strongly encouraged for the future years to follow this resolution on their own. Camacho let everyone know that attention is drawn to the Chico Cares Campaign due to this resolution and reiterated that the SAS student body is not only students, but staff members too who are also supportive of this. **5-1-0 MSC.**
- C. Information Item: **Adjustment to Campus-Based Student Fees (Alternative Consultation)** –Sharma met with President Hutchinson to discuss using a Referendum instead of Alternative Consultation. The president has determined that a referendum is the best choice at this time. This information will be public later today and Sharma asked the group to keep it amongst themselves until the president sends an e-mail to the student body later this afternoon. Each fee will be voted on separately and will be completed by a special election in April after the AS general election. Many members thanked Sharma for her role in speaking with administration and taking student voices into consideration. Sharma was also appreciated by the group because of the tough spot she may have been in, not being able to share her personal opinion but still communicating everyone's concerns at the same time. The Government Affairs Committee is no longer voting on the matter but will still be informing students of all information possible.
- D. Information Item: **1/31/18 Activity Fee Fund Budget vs. Actual (attached)** – Sharma reviewed the numbers and explained that we are in good shape. The current benchmark is 58%. Our total expenses are at 36.6% which is both favorable and well. Slaughter mentioned that we are now in the budgeting process. Last year we went into the reserves about \$50,000 but this year it is looking as though we will have a positive outcome. Slaughter shared that this is due to a higher enrollment, the marketing position vacancy, etc.

- E. Information Item: Revenue Sharing Allocations – Covarrubias was concerned about tabling this item and Slaughter ensured that we have until the beginning of April to continue the conversation. It will be on the next agenda.
- F. Information Item: **2017-2018 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments – Resignations**

Resignation from Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC)

- Executive Vice President Appointment: Cody Layton
- Commissioner of Community Affairs Appointment: Alexis Palma
- Director of Legislative Affairs Appointment: Marcus Osborne
- Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointment: Tyra Burks
- Director of University Affairs Appointment: Isaiah Thurman

- G. Information Item: Time Certain: 4:30 p.m. – Alternative Consultation Process and Adjustment to Campus-Based Fees Discussion – Discussion was held with President Hutchinson regarding her decision to move from Alternative Consultation to a referendum. She was struck by feedback at the forums and came to the conclusion that the students were discussing the process more than the fee increase. She decided to shift to a referendum for the three individual fees up for an increase. Additional informational forums will be announced. The AS will run the special election through Big Pulse approximately one week after the AS student body election this April. The group expressed thanks to President Hutchinson and the administration for their efforts to hear out the student concerns and for transparency. President Hutchinson then replied with her beliefs that it is important for the students to feel as though they are a part of the process, but reminded the Committee that at the end of the day the ultimate decision lies with the president. Vice President Lang mentioned that he looks forward to broadening horizons by working with students on items of interest and making sure they feel safe and respected while doing so. Discussion was held regarding marketing and getting information out as efficiently as possible. This included a suggestion of a video, discussion forums and asking all AS programs to share all information on their social media sites. Brooke Banks added that the presentations are being filmed and posted online as well. President Hutchinson shared that a great deal of work has been done to get information out to the campus and express the pros and cons of the proposed increases. Sharma asked if this discussion would fulfill the requirement to consult with the student body association to set guidelines as specified in the EO governing campus referendums. Both President Hutchinson and Vice-President Lang agreed that this conversation was part of that requirement and process. Camacho mentioned that CFAC has been creating pros and cons of the proposed fee increase at their previous meeting and that they will be finalized at this week's meeting on Wednesday. President Hutchinson requested that this finalized list be sent to her immediately following the CFAC meeting so that she can review and approve them to be put into pamphlets which will get published and distributed to students in the near future. O'Donnell asked that the pamphlets also be sent electronically to students through email so that students who study abroad can additionally be informed and vote. Covarrubias stressed how scenarios instead of pro and con statements may be more successful. She said if a student doesn't personally connect with the pro or con on the pamphlet that might alter their state of mind on the matter. President Hutchinson solicited opinions on the length of time to keep voting open and the preferred day or days of the week. Discussion was held regarding a 24 hour or 48 hour voting period. O'Donnell asked if GAC could get updates on what information is changing from one forum to another as the President and administration receive input. This will assure that members of GAC will have the most updated information to share with students who may ask for information from an officer. President Hutchinson stated she will send out an email informing all students of the change from Alternative Consultation to a referendum this evening. Sharma and Anderson concluded the discussion by uplifting everyone based upon their efforts and input these past few weeks.
- H. Discussion Item: Officer and Senator Transition Period – Sharma shared that the transition meetings have been going well. She stated that the transitions in the past haven't had the best outcome and they are looking forward to making a change for this next year. April 22 will be transition day which will only include the new team as opposed to outgoing and incoming officers. This will consist of an orientation day to prepare them for their roles and one-on-one meetings with Slaughter and Krater. Additional information will be provided at our next meeting.

VI. REPORTS: OFFICERS – Camacho: She emphasized the importance of student advocacy at the Federal and State level and encouraged the group to visit calstatestudents.org for more information. At CSSA, the focus continues to be a message of a fully-funded CSU. Alejandro Alfaro brought up statistics on students who are in debt but did not graduate. **Salas:** Her event 'Coffee with the Cops' went well. The second portion with University Police will happen tonight over at Sutter. These events will be repeated on Thursday. The purpose of these events is to create an environment for students to interact with our police officers and feel comfortable speaking with them.

VII. REPORTS: STAFF – None.

VIII.REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT – None.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

X. PUBLIC OPINION – None.

XI. FOR THE GOOD OF THE GROUP – None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – The Vice Chair, Sharma, adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.