

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.
California State University, San Bernardino

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 16, 2024

The meeting was called to order by the President, Carson Fajardo at 12:09 p.m.

Present: Carson Fajardo, Julia Ruiz, Diego Rendon, Autumn Hudson, Sri Alapati, James Chalk, Nasir Harris, Jessie McVicker, Derek Sweem, Kya Sauls, Joshua Bature, Dr. Paz Oliverez and Dr. Michael Rister.

Absent: Bhavish Balsara, Anaya Player and Kim Hunsaker.

Guests: Herbert Gonzalez, Marina Stone, Ruben Trejo, Damaris Preciado, Gwendolyn Watson, Sharlin Vaz, John Gutierrez, Dr. Cary Barber and Dr. Bradford Owen.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of February 9th were approved.

REPORTS:

President: President Fajardo announced that Kaelyn Blackwell submitted her resignation and will no longer serve as the Athletics representative. He met with CSU Trustee, Lillian Kimbell on February 13th and President Morales on February 15th. CSU Advocacy Day is February 20th and 21st. He will be attending CSSA on February 17th and 18th. He attended the Coachella Valley Firebirds Hockey game on February 15th. He deferred to the following: Mr. Gonzalez who gave a detailed report on behalf of legislative affairs and Ms. Stone who gave a detailed report on behalf of programs.

Executive Vice President: Mx. Ruiz stated that the mural on the second floor of the SMSU North building will be unveiled on February 22nd from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The 10th Annual Pioneer Breakfast will be held on February 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Vice President of Finance: Ms. Hudson attended an Administrative Council meeting on February 15th.

Vice President of Palm Desert Campus: Mr. Rendon stated that the Coachella Valley Firebirds Hockey game and Tailgate Party on February 15th was a success. He had a meeting with Dr. Rister, Alondra Lopez, and Valeria Bueno to discuss the Veterans Success Center at PDC. He will be meeting with Agustin Ramirez on February 23rd. The PDC Advisory Committee will meet at 2:15 p.m. today.

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Representative: Mr. Chalk stated that he was supposed to meet with Dean Hassija on February 15th; the meeting has been delayed. The Political Science Chair Review Committee will be holding an open forum next week.

College of Business & Public Administration: Ms. Alapati stated that a Web Fair will be held on February 22nd from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be a Jack H. Brown Student Advisory Board starting in March. She thanked the Board for attending “Improvise to Thrive” today.

Executive Director: Dr. Rister stated that freshman orientation will now be a two-night event that includes “Cosmic Coyote”. He met with Ms. Hudson on February 15th to start drafting the budget for the upcoming year.

President’s Representative: Dr. Oliverez stated that the Division of Student Affairs Roadshow will be held on February 22nd from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The agenda was adopted.

GUEST SPEAKER:

John Gutierrez, Chief of the University Police Department (UPD) introduced himself. UPD has hired two new officers. Active Threat Summit Training has begun at both campuses. UPD has received 20 AEDs and will be strategically placing them in populated areas soon. Their 50th anniversary is May 1st.

OLD BUSINESS:

BD 13-24 M/S Rister/Blackwell: Revision of the ASI Elections Policy and Procedures. (Third Reading)

Dr. Rister deferred to Mr. Gonzalez who briefly reviewed the changes made to the “Filing as a Ticket” section.

President Fajardo stated that there are six different CSU campuses that don’t have a ticket option within their election process.

Dr. Rister said that in the past candidates could run together and combine financials, giving them a larger amount of money for advertising.

M/S Rister/Sweem: To remove section 4, “Filing as a Ticket”.

Ms. McVicker stated that she is worried that ticketing could result in students not having a fair chance at suggesting who they would like to see on the Board.

Ms. Sauls stated that this section does not impose imminent issues and has not affected elections previously.

Ms. Hudson said she does not believe a ticket poses a threat since it has never happened.

Mx. Ruiz stated that the focus should be on red line items and whether to approve or disapprove the specifics of the item.

Ms. McVicker recommended either rewording the section or reverting to only the President and Executive Vice President being able to file on a ticket.

Ms. Sauls said that typically the Board would make a recommendation to the Policy Committee and then the Policy Committee would rewrite the policy to the Board's desires, however, since the deadline is approaching this is unable to happen.

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:

In Favor: Fajardo, Oliverez, Rendon, Rister and Sweem.

Opposed: Chalk, Harris and McVicker.

Abstentions: Alapati.

Passed (5/3/1).

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:

In Favor: Alapati, Oliverez, McVicker, Rendon, Rister and Sweem.

Opposed: None.

Abstentions: Chalk, Fajardo, Harris.

Passed (6/0/3).

NEW BUSINESS:

BD 14-24 M/S McVicker/Chalk: Discussion on the Follet pilot program survey.

Dr. Rister said registration for Follet begins towards the end of this semester and leads into the fall semester. Dr. Cary Barber and Dr. Bradford Owen are here to discuss what the survey is going to look like and how ASI will be incorporated into the piloting program.

Dr. Owen said this equitable access program saves students money on their instructional materials, including textbooks. It is an opt out program and students will be charged a fee for textbooks by default unless they opt out. The fee caps at \$322.50 for 15 units, approximately \$22 a unit. The highest priority is to make sure students understand that they are allowed to opt out of the program and under no obligation to participate.

Dr. Barber stated that data shows that the average opt out rate is about 20 percent which is exactly the number of students who will not benefit from this type of program. A majority of freshman and sophomores will benefit from this program since GE courses have the most expensive materials. A five-minute window will be provided at summer orientations to provide instruction on this program. A committee dedicated to this would be important given how much it is going to affect students.

Dr. Owen stated that they plan on advertising through canvas messaging, push notifications through MyCoyote and by having faculty inform students in classes.

Ms. McVicker suggested making it required for professors to have the instructions on the program in their syllabus.

Dr. Rister suggested making a quick and easy tutorial video for students.

Ms. McVicker recommended information being sent out to students informing them when fees will be reflected on their account.

Dr. Rister stated that data should be collected at the start and at the end of the process to learn how students are feeling about the program. Dr. Owen asked when these surveys should be sent out. Dr. Rister suggested the first survey should be sent out at the end of the spring semester and the other at the start of the fall semester.

President Fajardo recommended using social media to advertise rather than emails.

M/S Sweem/McVicker: To extend the meeting for 15 minutes. Passed unanimously.

M/S Sweem/Rister: To close discussion. Passed unanimously.

BD 15-24 M/S Sweem/Rendon: Revision of the ASI Bylaws. (First Reading)

Dr. Rister deferred to Mr. Gonzalez who briefly reviewed the changes made to the Bylaws.

Ms. McVicker inquired if it was allowed to change the voting powers during the current term.

Mr. Gonzalez stated that the reason the Executive Vice President and the Vice President of Finance were serving as special advisors more recently was due to a class conflict. If the Articles of Incorporation doesn't include specific language around voting we can make changes to the Bylaws. Our Articles of Incorporation states that any voting power or voting changes refer to the Bylaws.

M/S Sweem/McVicker: To close discussion. Passed unanimously

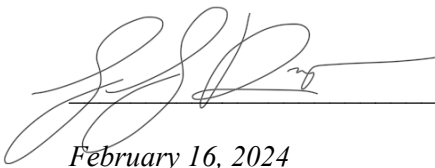
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. McVicker stated that tickets for "Pippin" will start to be distributed on April 1st.

Ms. Hudson stated that the 10th Annual Pioneer Breakfast will be held on February 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. She asked the Board to inform either her or Mike if they would like to attend; there are eight seats at the table for ASI.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.



February 16, 2024

Julia Ruiz
Executive Vice President