



ASI Senate Meeting

Minutes

2014- 2015:8 Thursday, October 16, 2014, 3:00PM –5:00 PM, BSC, 2nd Floor, England Evans

I. PRELIMINARIES

A. Call to Order

1. Chair Louis Harfouche called Senate 2014-2015:8 to order at 3:01pm

B. Quorum Check

1. Voting Members:

Louis Harfouche, Vice President, Chair
James Cox, President – **Excused Tardy**
Kimberly Rotunno, Agriculture Senator
Melanie Young, Business Senator
Jai Oni Sly, CEIS Senator
Jasmine Moore, CLASS Senator
Taylor Young, CCHM Senator – **Excused Tardy**
Katarina Kushin, ENV Senator
Colin Danahy, Engineering Senator – **Unexcused Tardy**
Chonlawan Khaothiemsang, Science Senator
Deena Wahba, Senator-At-Large (MCC)
Benjamin Murdock, Senator-At-Large (SIC)
Jared Tolbert, Senator-At-Large (Greek)
Jake Ly, Senator-At-Large (IHC)

2. Advisors:

Dr. Byron Howlett, Advisor
Cora M. Culla, Executive Director

3. Non-voting Liaisons:

Andrea Cendejas, Attorney General
Fayz Ashker, Treasurer
Vacant, Academic Senate Rep.
Vacant, Staff Council Rep.
Janeth Rodriguez, Alumni Association Rep – **Excused Absent**
Lois Munteanu, Bronco Athletics Assoc. Rep.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. Jasmine noted the correct spelling of Corvus on page 6 in line 26, 27 and 28
2. Louis approved the minutes for October 2, 2014 as amended

D. Agenda Changes

1. Louis added Information Item A. Financial Aid Debit Card Discussion to come after Open Forum
2. Louis postponed Executive Session Item A.1. Director of Financial Services- Job Description until the next meeting as the PRC had not taken formal action on it

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3. Vicki removed the word "Appointee" after Attorney General and Treasurer on the agenda
4. Louis approved the agenda as amended

E. Financial Status

1. The financial status was not given

F. Introduction of Guests

1. Barny Peake
2. Powell Velasco
3. Sarah Bauer
4. Krista Smith
5. Devon Graves

G. Reports

1. ASI Executive Director – Cora M. Culla *(attachment)
 - a. Campus Recreation Updates
 - b. First Friday
 - c. Solaris Lounge
 - d. Games Room Etc.
 - e. BEAT
2. ASI Advisor – Dr. Byron Howlett Jr.
 - a. He stated that everyone who applied for winter priority registration was approved
 - b. He announced that Dr. Rebecca Gutierrez Keeton received a regional award for Excellence in Mentoring from the National Assoc. of Student and Personnel Administrators
 - c. He deferred to James and Louis to speak on Pizza with the Presidents
3. Academic Senate Rep. – Vacant
4. Staff Council Rep. – Vacant
5. Alumni Rep. – Janeth Rodriguez – no report
6. Athletics Rep. – Lois Munteanu
 - a. She gave the following updates:
 - i. Soccer on Oct. 30th at 4:30pm
 - ii. Pack the Stands and costume contest on Oct. 31st at 7:00pm
 - iii. Military Appreciation Night on Nov. 5th at 7:00pm, a volleyball match
 - b. She stated that the men's soccer team was currently undefeated and might host the playoffs for the NCAA in mid-November
7. Senator Pro Tempore – Taylor Young *(attachment)

Pro Tempore Updates:

 - a. Facilities and Operations Committee Meeting
 - b. ASI BEAT Movie Night

CCHM Senator Updates:

 - a. Hospitality Management Council Bylaws
8. Attorney General – Andrea Cendejas *(attachment)
 - a. Council Work
 - b. Rules and Policies Committee
9. Treasurer – Fayz Ashker *(attachment)
 - a. Finance Committee

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- b. Budgets
- 10. President – James Cox *(attachment) – Andrea read his report aloud
 - a. University-wide/ASI Committees
 - b. CSSA Humboldt
 - c. Pizza w/Presidents
 - d. Broncofusion Recap
 - e. Higher One
- 11. Vice President – Louis Harfouche *(attachment)
 - a. Committees
 - b. Outreach
 - c. Cultural Center Exploration
 - d. Meetings with all the Senators
 - e. BroncoFusion Meeting at 5 on Friday
- 12. Senate Reports
 - a. Jasmine Moore, CLASS Senator *(attachment)
 - i. CLASS Rush
 - ii. Pizza with the Dean
 - iii. Food Drive
 - b. Jared Tolbert, Senator-at-Large, Greek *(attachment)
 - i. Personal Goal
 - ii. Matt’s Run
 - iii. Greek 101
 - iv. Greek Quarterly
 - v. Up ‘Til Dawn
 - vi. Recruitment
 - vii. Zeta Tau Alpha’s Philanthropy Week
 - viii. Greek Council Public Relations
 - ix. Visitor
 - c. Katarina Kushin, ENV Senator *(attachment)
 - i. First Major Event: ENV Student Mixer – October 16, 2014
 - ii. Budgeting
 - iii. Website
 - iv. Career Fair
 - v. Service Projects
 - vi. T-shirts
 - d. Jake Ly, Senator-at-Large, IHC *(attachment)
 - i. IHC Selection
 - ii. Icebreaker Meeting
 - iii. IHC’s Retreat
 - iv. Retreat Presentation
 - e. Kimberly Rotunno, Agriculture Senator *(attachment)
 - i. Pumpkin Festival this Weekend, October 18 & 19
 - ii. Ag Beautification, November 8
 - iii. Pizza with the Dean, November 18
 - iv. ASI Tip of the Week
 - f. Melanie Young, Business Senator
 - i. She stated that Business Week was scheduled Nov. 4-7

- ii. She noted that Oct. 17th was the last day for all clubs to re-charter and they were working to see that all of theirs did so
- iii. She explained the Adopt-a-Club program where she will assist two clubs
- iv. She stated that UBSS had decided to attend the Pumpkin Festival to support agriculture
- g. Deena Wahba, Senator-at-Large, MCC*(attachment)
 - i. Second General Meeting
 - ii. Open E-board Position
 - iii. Quarterly
 - iv. AB-540 Resource Center
 - v. Diversity Awareness Committee
 - vi. Humans of Cal Poly Pomona
- h. Benjamin Murdock, Senator-at-Large, SIC *(attachment)
 - i. First Meeting for SIC
 - ii. Budgets
 - iii. Nominations for SIC President
 - iv. Meeting with Oronne
 - v. Humans of Cal Poly Pomona
 - vi. Meeting with President and Treasurer of SIC
- i. Chonlawan Khaothiemsang, Science Senator *(attachment)
 - i. Red Cross Blood Drive
 - ii. Quarterly Information Booth
 - iii. Second General Council Meeting
 - iv. Science Council Club Meetings
 - v. ASI Board in the College of Science
- j. Colin Danahy, Engineering Senator *(attachment)
 - i. Welcome Fair 2014
 - ii. Club Budgets
 - iii. 2nd Engineering Council Meeting
 - iv. Goals

H. Open Forum

1. There were no speakers

II. INFORMATION ITEM

A. Financial Aid Debit Card Discussion (attachments)

1. Louis introduced Devon Graves as the Chair for the California State Student Association (CSSA), a Commissioner for the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) and a Cal Poly student who was knowledgeable about this topic and so he was invited to attend the meeting to brief everyone
2. Devon stated that he serves as the ASI student representative on the Administrative Computing Working Group and noted that this was his third year serving on the committee. He added that this topic was brought to his attention through a meeting of the committee.
3. He outlined that Higher One was a financial institution, or bank, that works with universities to provide services to students and over the last several years they had

come under scrutiny for agreements that they were entering into with universities. He noted that these issues expand from hidden fees tied to the debit cards, students not properly knowing the options they have to choose from, for example: use the debit card, continue with direct deposit or have a check sent to them.

4. He added that it came to the Admin Computing Group, which was a sub-committee of the IT Governance Executive Committee, not to seek student input but to ensure that the changes needed to implement Higher One could be made as changes to PeopleSoft
5. Devon explained that he met with some of the people on the university side that are working with Higher One, and he noted that the university was already in a contract with them for credit card processing, and they were planning on amending the contract and expanding for financial aid disbursement on debit cards
6. He noted that if this was what students would like to see happen, then that is great, but the issue was that students had not been included in the process and the university was hoping to implement this by January by sending all students a debit card at which time they would have had to decide how they wanted to continue receiving their financial aid
7. He reviewed the main concerns:
 - a. Students were not properly consulted with major changes that would take effect during this current academic year
 - b. He only found out about this because it was brought to the committee as it would affect PeopleSoft, it had nothing to do with generating student feedback
 - c. There has not been total transparency with the process
 - d. There are no students serving on the committee that was working with Higher One, just representatives from Financial Aid and the Cashier's Office that are overseeing the change
 - e. In the handout was an article regarding Fresno State, as the only CSU campus that had this type of arrangement with Higher One, along with some community colleges, and there has been a lot of push back from Fresno State students
 - f. He noted that he was familiar with this issue because CSSA had been working on it
 - g. There was no marketing plan in place for the implementation of this plan
 - h. He was not confident that the options had been properly communicated to students or were going to be communicated to them
 - i. The fees that go with the debit card and opening the checking account weren't going to be communicated to students, especially as at CPP there were many first generation students who don't necessarily have a checking account and might be making these types of financial decisions for the first time
 - j. He added that the other attachment in their handouts was a copy of Senate Bill 845, authored by Senator Correa and signed into law by the Governor this past September, which combats what is going on with universities entering into agreements with Higher One. He pointed out that on the second page the list of items 1-8 forces universities to make sure that students were included in the process, that fees were out in the open, the number of ATM machines that were required, etc.

8. Devon recommended to the senate that they demand student involvement in this important transition for financial aid disbursement on the Cal Poly Pomona campus whether it come in the form of a resolution, a task force or assigning further direction to himself or President Cox
9. He added that, in closing, the university had been taking some initial steps and he had been in contact with Dr. Keeton, other people on campus and that James had brought this up in his meeting with President Ortiz today. He believed that we cannot allow the university to forget the importance of students being involved in the shared governance model that we have at the university. He added that he was personally upset with the handling of the process and CSSA had worked hand-in-hand with the CSU to support initiatives like SB 845 to ensure that students were included in these decisions and now Cal Poly Pomona was taking part in this detrimental process that CSSA had been advocating so hard against.
10. He brought this issue to James and Louis, who then wanted to bring it to the attention of the senate, because it would affect all of the students that were their respective constituents
11. Discussion took place that included the concern over a student incurring charges every time the debit card was used, the communication about the options other than the debit card that weren't well communicated by Higher One, Jai Oni had used this system when at Mt. Sac and she noted that the student does experience fees and she was not happy with how it worked there, the fees come out of the financial aid money, Devon was acknowledged for his work by Byron who stated the university was delaying due to the feedback from Devon and had plans to work with Devon and James while no longer planning to implement the system on Jan. 1st, the marketing plan should include a video tutorial on how to navigate the initial mailing of the card, students would receive the card while home over break, the current contract with Higher One was being amended to include the debit card for financial aid as this was a cheaper option for the university, of course students would not want fees charged out of their financial aid and examples were given, the location of ATMs and if they were available to students 24 hours a day without a charge to use them, in order to protect student information on PeopleSoft they were forcing them to open an account and not every student would be eligible for this process like AB540 students
12. Devon clarified that at this point the most important step was to include students in the process
13. Cora stated, for the record, that we should thank Devon for being proactive and being that first voice and she wanted to provide a more reassuring message to all of them, that the university is listening because they are aware of the concerns that Devon had expressed and that many of the senate share and she noted that she was glad to hear from Byron that implementation was planned to be delayed because the reason for that is they do want to have a student consultation process and get their input on looking at the proposal, developing a marketing and communication plan for students and she was sure that very shortly, between Devon and James, there will be a request for some student representatives to be part of the process. She noted that that sounded encouraging, as compared to an update that said no matter what we'll be implementing at the start of winter. So she encouraged everyone to focus on a problem resolution stance at this point and come up with a list of recommendations for the university on how to maximize student input in the process and weigh in on

when implementation would be appropriate and how the proper marketing and communication can be done with the students that the senate represents.

14. Further discussion took place that included the background of SB 845 being related to the responses of students at community colleges using Higher One and Fresno State which caused CSSA and the state legislature to get involved and set guidelines for campus transparency, it was time to work with James and the university to take steps to have proper student representation, this process can shorten the delay for refunds to five seconds however that does not outweigh the overall negatives, first generation freshmen students may not know how to handle credit, the possibility of creating workshops that would assist students with the process, it was important to advise the university of the details of how this would impact students, if there was a delay to implementation by the university then SB 845 which becomes effective Jan. 1, 2015 would indicate specific steps for student representation, the university probably was not thinking from a student's perspective until Devon brought it to their attention and the University Financial Services Director was relatively new and still in her learning curve regarding how we gather student input
15. Devon concluded that CSSA had worked hard on this with the state legislator, the CSU at a system-wide level and the Chancellor's office, so for this to happen at a campus level was frustrating and he encouraged the senate to represent their constituents and voice their concerns with the campus administration

III. ACTION ITEM

A. Nominations and Election for Sustainability Board

1. Louis reviewed that this year the Sustainability Board would be different due to the new reserve account, The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF), which would create new responsibilities and provide opportunities for sustainable projects that could make a huge impact on the campus
2. Andrea added that there was also a new Sustainability Code that provided more structure, along with the TGIF reserve, available to fund clubs and organizations that want to complete sustainable projects to better Cal Poly
3. Cora noted that they were seeking two senators to serve on the board and her designee was Barny Peake
4. It was established that the meeting time was not determined yet and the elected senators would serve on the board the whole year
5. Louis opened the floor for nominations
 - a. Katarina nominated herself
 - b. Colin nominated himself
 - c. Jake nominated himself
6. A brief discussion took place regarding the quantity of student-at-large members that serve on the board and if any could be substituted with a senator
7. Each candidate spoke on their behalf regarding their interest and qualifications and answered any questions directed to them
8. Louis called the vote and stated that the majority vote would decide which candidates were elected
 - a. Katarina received 13 votes
 - b. Colin received 9 votes
 - c. Jake received 7 votes

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9. Louis congratulated Katarina Kushin and Colin Danahy on being elected to serve on the Sustainability Board for 2014-15

IV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Next Senate meeting will take place on Thursday, October 30, 2014, 3:00 – 5:00pm, in the England Evans room
- B. Louis stated that senate meeting 2014-15:8 was adjourned at 4:16pm

MINUTES SUBMITTED TO:

Louis Harfouche, Chair of the Senate

Date

MINUTES APPROVED AT SENATE 2014-2015: _____

Vicki Jackson, Student Government Coordinator

Date

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