Associated Students, Inc.  
Sonoma State University  
SENATE MEETING  
Tuesday, October 4th, 2011  
6:00 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room, Student Union  
AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Public Comment
IV. Issues of the Week—This is an opportunity for officers to discuss issues that may pertain to their constituents (discussion)
V. Business  
   a) Presentation on Alternative Consultation Strategies Input submitted by Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Interim Vice-President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (Discussion)  
      i. Discussion
   b) Recommendation of Partial Smoking Ban Policy submitted by Senator Emily Hurd, Chair of Smoking Ban Ad Hoc Committee (Action)  
      i. Discussion
      ii. Action
   c) Presentation on a communication tool submitted by Senator Tyler Stenzel (Discussion)  
      i. Discussion
   d) Reports from the AS Boards (Discussion)  
      i. Legislative Affairs Board- Senator Havens
      ii. Representation and Engagement Board- Senator Burke
   e) AS-I 05.11.12 Approval of the Minutes from 9.20.11 (Action)  
      i. Discussion
      ii. Action

VI. Items for the Good of the Order
VII. Adjournment

Posted on Friday, September 30th, 2011 at the ASI Senate Office by Amanda Kosty, Chair of the Senate
Associated Students  
Sonoma State University  

SENATE MEETING NOTES  
Tuesday, October 4, 2011  
6:00 p.m., MPR, Student Union

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Ramey, Collin Yballa, Tony Kerr, Emily Hurd, Alex Barker, Kimberly Liaz, Laura Paneno, Katie Havens, Stephanie Parreira, Tyler Stenzel (6:35 p.m.), Amanda Kosty, Jeff Young, Alex Boyar

MEMBERS ABSENT: Amanda Burke (Unexcused), Samantha Yates (Unexcused)

OTHERS PRESENT: Erik Dickson, Jason Fitzer, Katie Linderme (recording),

I. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Ms. Amanda Kosty, Chair of the Senate at 6:03 pm

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment this week

IV. Issues of the Week

Academic Planning Committee (Senator Havens) – Senator Havens met with the Academic Planning Committee (APC) this week to discuss what the priorities in academics were. She requested that the Senate report back on what information she could bring back to the APC and report. The main issues and concerns for students that came up were getting and keeping classes, how the classes can help train people for the work force, how courses and subject matters connect to one another (disconnect with the campus), academic rigor, and the wait list policy impact that has occurred on SSU students. The wait list policy has been viewed positively. The general consensus that has been brought up repeatedly is less busy work and more concrete or meaningful work for students. Havens collected the information and will report back to APC.

V. Business

a) Presentation on Alternative Consultation Strategies Input submitted by Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Interim Vice-President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management:

Chair Kosty opened up the discussion by introducing Matthew Lopez Phillips (MLP). MLP then gave a brief description and read through of the Alternative Consultation Strategies that could be brought back for more discussion. The senate discussed focus groups, purpose on the fee referendum, and forum options. There was a question on the floor to discuss what the general difference was between a referendum and a voting process. This lead to a discussion on who they would like to include in the voter ballots (grad students, first time freshmen, etc.) and also how many people will be included on these forms to give input into the student center as a whole. AS needed to be consulted on the process on how to hold forums so that they could bring back information from the Senate, to President Arminiya, and then follow through with the Alternative Consultation Strategies. Dickson then brought up the campus involvement in
campus life in regard to the fees that they pay and whether or not we want to include them on the forums. There was a discussion on the positive and negative effects that random polling can have on getting information about the student center. There was also a discussion on why having a pro and con debate can ultimately hurt a feedback process. There was also discussion on whether a focus group would be better or worse than a forum. There was a big push to include members from many different representation areas on campus (EOP, diversity groups, etc.) An agreement to include first time freshman in a different focus group was discussed. Dickson then made the point that in order to get the University to heal itself, the focus groups need to move the information and campus forward with a decision. MLP let the Senate knows that the more focused the questions the easier and fairer it will be to document the process and get a general consensus. A discussion of kick outs was debated. Ultimately it seemed that the general consensus leaned toward allowing everyone on the senate and other organizations that were deeply involved with the Student Center to electively decide to remove themselves out of forums and focus groups if necessary. Electronic forums were discussed and Dickson let the Senate know his concern of having an electronic forum lead to another referendum. Stenzel liked the idea of taking a sample of students and directing them to take an online forum. The importance of having a third party was also debated, and ultimately MLP worried that the influence of a third party conducting all SSU business will show that the school cannot handle dealing with its own priorities. This went back to wanting to have the University learn to heal itself. MLP gathered the information and will report back the updates to the Senate in the future.

A TEN MINUTE BREAK OCCURRED AT 7:50 PM - RESUMED AT 8:00

b) Recommendation of Partial Smoking Ban Policy submitted by Senator Emily Hurd, Chair of Smoking Ban Ad Hoc Committee (Action)
Hurd opened up the discussion by doing a basic overview of the proposed Partial Smoking Ban Policy. It needs to be turned in by next Friday, October 14, 2011. The highlights of the bill are as such: the basic model they based our partial smoking ban on came from the Santa Rosa Junior College; Smoking will be restricted beyond 100 feet of all buildings and walkways within central campus. Fines and enforcement were mentioned from the original proposal. The discussion was opened up at this point. There was major concern over the actual definition of where central campus was located, how the numbers of fines and perimeters were found, the actual numbers and severity of the fines, and who would actually be enforcing the smoking ban and how would they grant them the authority to do so. A question on how the numbers were researched came up. Senator Barker informed the senate that they looked into as many campuses' that had partial bans, but that most of them had complete bans on campus. They took that information and were able to compile information that focused on the ban rather than the places to put smokers, etc. Culture change was also discussed and how this notion of wanting the campus to change its policy on smoking will require a drastic change. A map was requested to view the boarders of the campus that came up during the discussion. Residential Life Housing was discussed as being included in the ban, but that this bill only focuses on the central campus and that does not include residential housing. At this point Dickson requested that the Senate focus in on one issue at a time rather than bounce around between three main ideas which included Law Enforcement, Fines, and Boundaries.

The first topic that the Senate decided to go over was Law Enforcement. Chair Kosty opened up the floor to discuss Law Enforcement. Many senators wanted to know how much money it was going to cost students in order for Campus Police to implement new smoking ban. Dickson wanted the Senate to focus more in on whether this was going to be a fee on campus, and who would have the jurisdiction to actually enforce the smoking ban. Chair Kosty then
informed the Senate that anything that is majorly unclear can be reviewed by President Armiñana then will either be sent back to get corrected, or rejected and changed around completely to meet University requirements.

President Boyar moved to amend the policy under Section 5, last line to say “Policy will be enforced by Police and Parking Services.”, 2nd provided by Senator Parreira.

The motion was withdrawn from the floor by President Boyar.

There was a brief discussion on whether the Senate had the jurisdiction to actually enforce who is going to enforce the smoking ban. Vice President Ramey requested that as the Senate they focus on what is going to best influence the students, and leave the costs and technical aspects to the universities specialists. Working with the University rather than pretending to be an expert was discussed heavily.

The Senate then decided to move onto the issue of Fines for the Smoking Ban. Senator Stenzel was adamantly against the high cost of the fines.

Senator Parreira moved to amend the 1st offense to a fine of $50. The motion was withdrawn.

Senator Barker defended the $100 fine, and Dickson needed clarification as to where they go the numbers from for these fines. The Santa Rosa Junior College was the main influence in the fines and the Committee decided that those numbers were severe enough to actually enforce change. President Boyar urged the Senate to perhaps allow the University to decide how they want to implement the fines, but to let them know that we want increasing fines for each penalty.

President Boyar moved to amend to remove the number values to the fines and change them to say to “be determined by the University.”, 2nd provided by Senator Havens.

The motion was withdrawn from the floor by President Boyar.

A brief discussion about wanting a written first offense, a second numerical offence, and an increased numerical amount for the third offense was debated. There was also a discussion on the grace period and how that would also affect the fines occurred.

President Boyar moved to amend the amendment to have the word “fines” be added to 1st, 2nd and 3rd offense thereafter, 2nd provided by Vice-President Yballa.

Motion to approve the amendment to remove the number values to the fines and change them to say to “be determined by the University.”, approved 11-1-0

A discussion on support as well as the grace period occurred again. Dickson reminded the Senate that Santa Rosa Junior College fines are not a property of the UC, but rather the city of Santa Rosa to enforce the fines and regulations. Senator Havens wanted to articulate that students may not know all of the appropriate actions for enforcing fines and fees, but that this is going to influence the university to have a good reason for passing the decision.

Senator Stenzel moved to amend the amendment to say that the 1st fine be a written warning rather than a financial fine, 2nd provided by Vice-President Yballa
Motion to amend the amendment to say that the 1st fine be a written warning rather than a financial fine, failed 5-6-1.

Motion to remove the number values to the fines and change them to “be determined by the University” which now is changed to increasing numerical fines to be determined by the University, approved 9-3-0.

There was another discussion on how regardless of what the Senate can decide; the University has the ultimate jurisdiction to change any of the values. Another comment about how enforcement is done through fines was discussed.

Senator Barker moved to amend Section 4 to replace the phrase “20 feet” to now say “100 feet” in order to make the whole bill cohesive, 2nd provided Senator Stenzeal Seconded the motion.

The motion was withdrawn.

There was another discussion by Dickson on informing the senate that the policy in general was incorrect. They have central campus as the description of the smoking ban, but that the bill covers only the campus, and does not mention the areas that would then be considered “outside campus.” There was a clarification made by Senator Parreira that would change from grounds and buildings to say central campus.

Senator Parreira moved to change Section 4 of the Smoking Ban to say that smoking is generally permitted in the outside grounds of campus, 2nd provided by Executive Vice-President Ramey.

Motion to remove the number values to the fines and change them to “be determined by the University” which now is changed to increasing numerical fines to be determined by the University, approved 12-0-0.

MLP brought up a confusing point in the bill to ask where the Green Music Center (GMC) fell into all of this. Dickson then pulled up a map that clarified the boundaries to be defined by East Redwood, Copeland Creek, but upon discovery the boundary’s in fact only covered the GMC and no the actual “center” of campus at all.

Executive Vice-President Ramey moved to table the Recommendation of Partial Smoking Ban Policy submitted by Senator Emily Hurd, Chair of Smoking Ban Ad Hoc Committee until the next Senate meeting on October 11, 2011, 2nd provided by Senator Young.

Senator Hurd stressed the importance of not actually having another Ad Hoc Committee meeting between this current meeting date and the next Senate date. Dickson reminded the Senate that there is no jurisdictions for the Ad Hoc committee to even meet, and that it is now officially the Senate’s job to fix the bill, not the Ad Hoc Committee. Boyar also stressed that if the bill were to be completed tonight, that he could potentially bring it to his monthly meeting with President Arminana. A general debate about what the appropriate action would be occurred.

Motion to table the Recommendation of Partial Smoking Ban Policy, approved 11-1-0.
Dickson then stressed his last point which is to note that the Senate makes decisions that affect 10,000 people. The importance of reading and actually thinking about the policy statements to make the right decisions is vital for the Senate.

c) Presentation on a communication tool submitted by Senator Tyler Stenzel

There was a Motion by Senator Stenzel to move the Presentation on a communication tool submitted by Senator Tyler Stenzel to the top of the next Senate Meeting which will be held on October 11, 2011. The motion was seconded by Senator Kerr. The motion passed 12-0-0.

d) AS Boards
i. LAB (Senator Havens): LAB met last Monday. They are in the process of working out the fine tunings of Legislative Action Plan. They are working on the get out the vote campaign and want to put on a panel on importance of voting. Dickson asked whether or not they were going to be hosting the polling site for the November election. So far Havens believes that they will be.

ii. REB (Vice President Ramey): They met yesterday October 4, 2011. They are currently working on bringing the Career Center services on campus up to date. They have split up the assignment on other campus input. They will brainstorm next week on what best to offer. The Career job outlook went out for career services. Boxes for input have been placed around campus, and are being made by Senator Paneno. They just appointed five students to committees, and they talked to students on class Reps. Edie Brown is going to be met soon on the Career Center.

e) AS-I 05.11.12 Approval of the Minutes from 9.20.11
No motion was made was provided, the item died on the table.

f) Items for the Good of the Order – Senator Parreira noted that there was free bowling night on Thursday, October 6, 2011. Dickson requested to speak to the senate after the meeting was adjourned. President Boyar thanked the Star Reporter who stayed for our entire meeting. A round of applause ensued.

g) Adjournment - Amanda Kosty, Chair of the Senate adjourned the meeting at 9:40 pm

Approved by the Associated Students Senate: October 11, 2011

Amanda Kosty, Chair of the Senate