I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Public Comment
IV. Issues of the Week- an opportunity to brainstorm on issues that officers have heard from their constituents (discussion)
V. Business
   a) Presentation of the Dispute Resolution Board with Guest Speaker, Mike Visser, Chair of the Dispute Resolution Board (Discussion)
      i. Discussion
   b) On-Campus Composting submitted by Senator Stephanie Parreira (Discussion)
      i. Discussion
   c) MCC Director Position Description submitted by President Boyar (Discussion)
      i. Discussion
   d) AS-B 05.11.12 Election Commissioner Duties and Responsibilities- continued discussion from last week (Action)
      i. Discussion
      ii. Action
   e) Reports from the AS Boards (Discussion)
      i. LAB Report-Senator Havens
      ii. REB Report
   f) AS-I 02.11.12 Approval of the AS Senate Minutes from 9.6.11 (Action)
      i. Discussion
      ii. Action

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

Posted on Friday, September 9, 2011 at the ASI Senate Office by Amanda Kosty, Chair of the Senate
Associated Students
Sonoma State University

SENATE MEETING
Tuesday, September 13th, 2011
6:00 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room, Student Union

Meeting Notes

MEMBERS PRESENT Alex Boyar, Paul Ramey, Collin Yballa, Tony Kerr, Emily Hurd, Alex Barker, Amanda Burke, Kimberly Liaz, Laura Paneno, Katie Havens, Stephanie Parreira, Tyler Stenzel, Amanda Kosty, Samantha Yates, Jeff Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Erik Dickson, Jason Fitz, Katie Linderme (recording), Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Margie Purser, Mike Vissar, Lisa Andreson, David Ortiz, and Will Bakz.

I. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Ms. Amanda Kosty, Chair of the Senate at 6:00 pm

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comment - There was no comment offered to the Senate from members of the Public

IV. Issues of the Week

Additional Space for the MCC (Senator Liaz) – Senator Liaz addressed a request from the Gender, Sexuality and Health Work-group, about having the Associated Students provide the funding to have a storage facility purchased to move equipment out of a room, adjoining the Multi-Cultural Center (MCC). There is a room that the Gender, Sexuality and Health Workgroup would like student to be able to utilize the space during the time the Student Center is being constructed. The committee would like the room to be available for poster making and other club responsibilities. Dickson informed the Senate the issue of space is a Student Union Corporation matter.

English 101 for Sophomore Standing SSU Students (Senator Barker) – Senator Barker informed the Senate about the possibility of opening an English 101 classes specifically for sophomore students only. Currently, the English 101 classes are impacted so that only Freshman SSU students can take the class. If a student needed to wait until sophomore year to take this required class, sophomore students do not have the opportunity to actually take the class. Senator Hurd informed the Senate that there is currently a new stretch program which allows students to take a yearlong English 100 class. The Senate decided to get more feedback from constituents about whether or not an English class specifically for sophomores would be something they were interested in.
Academic Rigor (President Alex Boyar) – Boyar approached the Senate about the upcoming meeting with President Armiñana discussing the 50th anniversary of the University’s revision. The main topic of discussion is going to be whether or not classes offered at SSU provide enough “rigor”; simply put, is Sonoma State Hard enough for students, and if it is harder, what does that mean for the University. The pending meeting is going to be held at the end of the month. Boyar is requesting that Senators discuss this question with students/constituents about this idea. Fitzer urged the senate to consider their own personal experience second to those of the student body when it comes to harder/ more rigorous classes. Dickson requested to have Boyar and Ramey send out questions to give a more broad idea about class changes to the students.

V. Business

a) Presentation of the Dispute Resolution Board with Guest Speaker, Mike Visser, Chair of the Dispute Resolution Board

i. Visser came in to help people understand why the Dispute Resolution Board is available for the SSU campus. The main reason for its presence on campus is to provide an outlet for students to voice their problems with the university. The main problems are between faculty members and students. Two handouts were provided at the meeting: The first handout was a list of policies that students should be aware of. The handout included a generic syllabus overview and set course outlines. There was also an area about the changes made to the class attendance policy. (This attendance policy was not changed on the actual handout, so Senators should inform constituents about the changes made). The second handout was a print out of the Academic Senate webpage with highlighted links to help assist students. The meeting dates are all available to view online and are set for the entire year. This was in an effort to help students locate dates to make process go more smoothly. They would like to prevent as many issues as possible, and they have seen a recent decline in problems over the year. There was a big stress on the importance of documenting the entire process. Without documenting the entire process of emails sent, etc. there is a possibility that the students will have their cases rejected. Dickson closed the discussion by stressing the importance of becoming familiar with resources available on campus.

b) On-Campus Composting submitted by Senator Stephanie Parreira

i. Parreira opened her intro by introducing Lisa Andreson the director of Dining Services, David Ortiz President of Global Environment Activism Club, and Will Bakz from Sonoma Compost. Parreira wanted to get feedback on how AS views the idea behind compost. The plan is to get composting available on campus so we would not have to be required to pay for their services elsewhere. If a new resolution would be passed, it would start with dining services first, and then move to the residential community. Purser informed Parreira of the grounds staff all showing an interest in compost and they are already on board of providing the assistance needed to get compost here. A basic discussion on logistics about the process of compost occurred, and plastic bags, bins, and space were all discussed. Boyar informed that sustainability was recently added to the Sonoma state Plan. Dickson then encouraged the senate to push the university to actually be forced to
seeing compost at the University. The main question to put into place is “Why aren’t we doing this already?” The discussion closed with Senator Kerr who posed the question about how to ask constituents about feedback with this issue. The Senate agreed to ask constituents “Are you interested in compost, and what background and information do you need to fully understand composting here at SSU.”

TEN MINUTE BREAK 7:10 PM - RESUMED AT 7:20 PM

c) MCC Director Position Description submitted by President Boyar
   i. Kosty introduced the MCC director Position direction to the Senate. Senator Liaz liked the description but wanted to know if they could add to Programmatic Details on the 7th bullet point to implement leadership/social justice student program conference to SSU. They want to implement programs, utilize, collaborate and promote the other resources on campus. Fitzger then wanted to specify that if the job position is made too specific, programs mentioned might not be available somewhere down the line, and that they may be working for people who are no longer associated with the University. Clarification on the job description was provided regarding responsibilities, pointing out that grant writing is not a qualification, but they are expected to perform grant writing. Another discussion occurred about the basic differences between levels of management positions under the Management Personnel Plan, i.e. level 1, 2, etc.

d) AS-B 05.11.12 Election Commissioner Duties and Responsibilities- continued discussion from last week (Action)
   i. Kosty reopened this bill from last week’s senate meeting. An email was sent out from Fitzger and Dickson about different university campuses and their methods for the election process and how their Election Commissioner operates in the campus. The Senate looked at various methods of these schools election process. The main idea is that the Election Commissioner would sit on the fall board to allow process of understanding before the election period was to begin in the spring. (This would give the Commissioner more time to prepare for the election season.) Article 5, section 5 was viewed as a problem because it gives power where power cannot be given.

Ramey moved to AS-B 05.11.12 Election Commissioner Duties and Responsibilities, Article 3 Section 3 and to Article 5 Section 5 by deleting, 2nd provided by Young

Motion to amend AS-B 05.11.12 Election Commissioner Duties and Responsibilities, approved 13-1-0.

Parriera moved to approve AS-B 05.11.12 Election Commissioner Duties and Responsibilities, 2nd provided by Burke.
e) Reports from the AS Boards
i. LAB Report- Senator Havens- They met on 9/12/11 for their meeting. The main topic of discussion was on Voter Registration because it starts this week. The brief book that was mentioned in last week’s senate meeting has been moved online (there will be no physical copy provided in the senate office). Havens requested that everyone on the Senate take voter registration forms with them to provide to friends, clubs, and organizations on campus. The goal is get 20 students per Senator to file voter registration forms so that the tabling can go more smoothly, and they can up the numbers. After this information, Havens passed out voter registration forms for the Senate to fill out. A general conversation about the jury duty, common mistakes made, and re-accruing problems with the forms was discussed. A tabling sheet was created for the senators to sign up for slot times. There is a really high chance of a voter registration training to occur soon.

ii. REB report- Senator Burke – a marketing plan was discussed, and they discussed a collaboration and communication of targeting clubs. Class representatives were selected. They want to have a “blurb” about committees sent out. They are going to provide committee training next week for academic affairs, student affairs, and mentors (officers) on the senate to report back to this particular senate. There will be an Org’s council on 9/26/11. Everyone on the senate must show up to one of three slots: Tuesday 9/20/11-11:00 AM, Wednesday 9/21/11-4:00 PM, and Thursday 9/21/11-2:00 PM. If you cannot attend, then you must alert either Kosty or Burke to know. Please let them know about which meeting slot you would like to be part of as well.

f) AS-I 02.11.12 Approval of the AS Senate Minutes from 9.6.11
i. Chair Kosty opened discussion. The senate went over basic spelling/grammar problems. Senator Parreira was not included in a section of the minutes, and we added her back into the minutes. It was said that Executive Vice President Ramey has seconded his own motion. Fitzner changed the minutes to reflect the correction. A discussion on titles of officers on the Senate was discussed.

Senator Havens moved to approve the AS Senate Minutes from 9.6.11.
Senator Paneno seconded the motion. The Motion passed 14-0-0.

VI. Items for the Good of the Order- Senator Barker mentioned the meeting with President Armjiana and the Cabinet taking place tomorrow. Dickson would like as many Senators to come as possible, even if it is only for a moment due to class and prior commitments. President Boyar mentioned that he and Senator Havens are going to the California State Student Association (CSSA) meeting this weekend in Bakersfield and that CSSA’s Multi-cultural Caucus awarded SSU for its efforts to advance diversity in light of funding for the Multi-Cultural Center. Matthew Lopez Phillips informed the Senate of the MCC’s open house on 9/16/11 from 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Chair Kosty signed up officers for Sonoma Serves
and an email will be sent out soon to inform people on where they are going. Dickson reminded the Senate of the Board of Trustee meeting next week where the discussion on the Student Center will be discussed. The Student Center needs to go through a series of checks and balances in order to be approved. An email discussing the lawsuit on the matter will be sent out but President Boyar soon. Senator Kerr reminded graduating seniors that the submission for graduation is due on September 15th. Senator Hurd reminded everyone that the smoking ban ad-hoc meetings will be meeting after the Senate meetings. A final note to pick up voter registration forms was mentioned by Senator Havens.

VII. Adjournment - Amanda Kosty, Chair of the Senate adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm

Approved by the Associated Students Senate: September 20, 2011

Amanda Kosty, Chair of the Senate  

Amanda Kosty