Associated Students  
Sonoma State University  
SENATE MEETING  
Friday, September 27th, 2013  
1:00 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room, Student Union  

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Public Comment
IV. Business
   a) AS-31.13.14 Presentation on Reorganization of Student Life (Discussion)  
      i) Discussion
   b) AS-32.13.14 Tradition Coalition Mission and Intent (Discussion)  
      i) Discussion
   c) AS-33.13.14 Discussion of Associated Students Next Big Thing (Discussion)  
      i) Discussion
V. Reports
VI. Items for the Good of the Order
VII. Adjournment

Posted on Tuesday, September 24th, 2013 at the AS Senate Office by  
Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate
Associated Students
Sonoma State University

SENATE MEETING
Friday, September 27th, 2013
1:00 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room, Student Union

Minutes


MEMBERS ABSENT Mallory Rice (excused); Mac Hart (excused) and Annie Green (unexcused)

OTHERS PRESENT Erik Dickson, Justin Gomez, and Richard Senghas

I. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate at 1:03 PM.

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comment- Scott, a student, expressed his concern with the suggestion of virtual labs for science classes. He feels that they will not be as education as a hands-on lab. He adds that hands-on education is irreplaceable because it offers more experience. Scott mentions that he is the President for the Engineering Club and is concerned with the fact that students do not wish to lose that hands-on experience. He suggests perhaps removing the amount of General Education classes that science majors have to take as to not go over the 120 unit cap.

IV. Business

a. AS-31.13.14 Presentation of Reorganization of Student Life (Discussion)

   i. Discussion- Peter Neville and Niel Markley came to present their proposal for the reorganization of student life. They are hoping to move forward with the voice of the students behind them. With the budget continually getting cut, they were unsure how to continue student affairs without requesting paid fees from the students. As a result, student life was cut in half, with the academic portions going to academic affairs and the student portions going to Administration and Finance. That was with trying to use funds not from state, but by using money that was coming from dining and going back into campus life. Niel states that with this reorganization, 95% of students should not see any change. There will be some adjustments in services but the major ones will remain the same. Instead, there will be more behind the scenes changes. Niel mentions that these changes are validated from information given to the school three years ago by consultants that visited the campus. Those consultants suggested similar changes. Niel states that him and Peter have talked to student employees and have kept the executive officers in the loop. They wanted to think of things more holistically and less separated into programs. They wanted to create a pathway for students to follow from their beginning at Sonoma State to their leaving Sonoma State in order to gain leadership
and experience. Niel states that one change would be to broaden “residential life” to “campus life”. In addition, they want to see an increase in spirit and tradition on campus, as well as an increase in leadership and services for students. They also want to start looking for feedback from students. Niel also mentions that this reorganization will refocus staff, provide more tools for students, and broaden connections around the campus as a whole. It will also give back funding to Associated Students that is being used to support CSLIS. Senator Libby Dippel wanted to clarify that by moving things around they are trying to save money. Niel answered yes, for the most part. It is more about resource allocation. Senator Annie Green asked about the notion of moving around staff, and wondered if it is the best idea to take staff away from their department. She adds that she is confused as to how this reorganization is going to implement more spirit and tradition on campus. Niel answered that right now we don’t have the additional staff to increase production and so need to move around our current staff until we do. Niel adds that the key is flexibility. This moving around of staff will provide more service to students by asking people to do more with less. Niel also mentioned that by combining programming from all departments, it puts everyone in one direction through collaboration. It is about working together. Peter speaks up to say that his role is the implementation of the reorganization and getting everyone to the table to plan. He adds that this reorganization has no intent to take away from the AS Tradition Coalition. Senator Luke Tesluk asked Peter if the students in the various departments are on board. Niel answered that most are on board but the most concern is coming from the Recreation Center. Niel mentioned that 95% of employees from the Rec will not be impacted. Tesluk also asked if it is possible to get a list of more detailed changes, but Niel answered that they do not have that at this time. More details will be discussed later. Tesluk also asked about the timeline of the implementation, and wonders if this may be rushing. Niel answered that it is not being rushed, because we are currently in a state of limbo and we need to move forward. The sooner they can fill the open positions, the better. Tesluk went on to ask about the process of getting feedback in future. Peter answered that this is his area of interest. He mentions that it will take a lot of effort year round and a lot of data and data analysis. He adds that they will launch some assessments, conduct surveys or focus groups, etc. Niel adds that they are trying to give students what they need and want. Tesluk also asked what they will do if the students don’t want to participate. Peter answers that he will work with the students who do want to participate and will go from there. Executive Vice-President Anthony Gallino expresses his concern with the implementation. He also wonders how much of this reorganization was driven from students’ wants and needs and how much was driven from staff perceptions and their needs. Peter answered that it is about staff perceptions initially and the experience and collective wisdom they hold. Niel adds that all faculty interact with students and all try to stay in touch with students on that level. Gallino adds that maybe a later meeting with more specifics would be helpful. Senator Sarah Anthony commends Peter and Niel for being able to hire more staff. She expresses her concern that some programs may be dismantled. She wonders if moving staff around may be counter-productive. Niel answered that he tried to center the staff on one area but there are a lot of back area programs that need attending. They thought that if staff spent less time in a functional area they could spend more time doing other things. Niel adds that they are consolidating in order to increase efficiency. Senator Libby Dippel expressed her curiosity if the off-campus housing services will include helping students find off-campus housing. Niel answered that they offer that service currently. In the future, it may fall more within housing services. Niel mentions that it is hard when space is limited. He also added that they will be beginning construction on new apartment buildings on
Rohnert Park Expressway within the next 6 to 8 months. Dippel suggested that they should make students more aware of those services. Dippel also wanted to clarify that shared governance should improve with new programs. President Mac Hart asked what steps will be taken to preserve the unique services that the Rec center offers. He adds that student run programs are important to the culture of the campus. Peter answered that they do not intend to change that uniqueness. That will continue with Mo Phillips. He adds that many characteristics of the student center will encompass those unique characteristics of the Rec center. Vice-President of Finance Matt Dougherty mentions that the numbers don’t really add up. He wonders how we are exactly saving money in the new model. Niel answers that the money we are saving will be going directly back into our programs and will not be allocated other places. Senator Annie Green questions whether these changes will be bigger than they are leading on. Her feedback would be to look overall at how all of these things will affect a lot of students in the long run.

Executive Vice-President Anthony Gallino asked in what format they would like feedback from the Senate for any subsequent meetings. Niel answered that a list of things to discuss would be helpful and to have that list on paper so they can look at it. Gallino also asked why the Rec center is taking more hits than residential life or CSLIS. Niel answers that CSLIS does not have enough people to take any more hits and residential life if taking a big hit by losing Mo Phillips. She is moving to the new programming department. Niel adds that everyone is taking hits. There will be more detail to come. Senator Luke Tesluk asked about any budget concerns there may be. Niel answered that there are some but once they move forward they will be able to fill the gaps. Senator Bianca Zamora asked about their reasoning for reducing services to low risk clubs. Niel answered that some clubs are at a lower risk and do not require much attention because they are more of interest groups. He adds that if they had more people in CSLIS, they could provide the same services across the spectrum for all clubs, but they need to focus more on the more complex clubs and organizations. Niel adds that they will consider taking the reduced services idea back because they have heard numerous concerns. Senator Angie Durkee agrees with Zamora. A student programmer from the Rec center observing the meeting asked Peter and Niel what they have been doing wrong regarding misinformation because they have been told they are giving incorrect information to their staff and causing the most problems. Peter answered that the changing is not necessarily bad, although most seem to think so. Niel adds that he will attend one of their programmer meetings in the future to clarify their concerns. Another student programmer from the Rec center asked about the notion that personal training is being cut and wants to voice her concerns. Niel clarified that no, personal training will not be cut in order to ensure the gym atmosphere. The same student mentioned that if they are trying to stay unique then they should not be looking at other CSU’s programs for direction. Also, the student suggested making a way for programs being cut to voice why they feel they should not be cut. Peter answered that sometimes they have to cut things that people don’t want to cut, in order to serve more students. Niel adds that they are more than willing to hear feedback from those programs any time. Executive Vice-President Anthony Gallino asked if anything has been articulated as to who will be the sole overseer, such as CSAO. Niel answered that there will not be a single over seer, but it will be a collaboration. Vice-President of Finance Matt Dougherty asked how the RLC’s and CSA’s will be incorporated into the campus life as a whole instead of just residential life. Peter answered that the current roles will have to continue but they will also need to figure out how to broaden that role to incorporate the campus. Peter mentions that they will not be in charge of the entire campus’ safety and discipline though. Cyndie Morozumi, the Director of Residential Life, adds that they would like to help
transfer students get more involved and let students know that there are programs
to help them be a better community member once they move off-campus. A
student programmer from the Rec center expressed his concern about cutting the
Super Kids Camp because it is a huge revenue builder. He feels that the full time
staff do not spend much time with the camp and it is more student lead. Peter
agreed but adds that it goes back to what reaches more students.

The Senate took a 5 minute break at 3:17 PM, at which point Senator Annie Green departed.

b. AS-32.13.14 Tradition Coalition Mission and Intent (Discussion)
   i. Discussion - Senator Angie Durkee presented the Tradition Coalition’s mission and
       intent. She wants to collaborate with other programs to provide more ideas and
       spirit as a whole. She mentions that she is also in contact with various CSU’s
       regarding their similar programs. Executive Vice-President Anthony Gallino asked
       Durkee to explain what the Tradition Coalition has done so far this year. Durkee
       answers that they meet every other Thursday at 2:00 PM, they work with
       different people to bounce ideas, they successfully put on Pack the Pub event last
       Friday, and they have Homecoming coming up. Gallino asks how she would like
       the Senate to show their support. Durkee answered just showing up, helping with
       tabling and putting up posters. Student Government Coordinator Justin Gomez
       adds that as the official student voice, they should be proud and showing off the
       institution. Senator Sarah Anthony commends Durkee on her effort and asks if
       they have come up with any new traditions to implement. Durkee says they will
       be trying Spring Fling, a homecoming block party, etc. She adds that she is open to
       any and all ideas. Gallino asks if the approval of the mission and intent by the
       Senate is needed. Gomez answered yes, it will be similar to the Lobby Corps
       approval. Gomez also encourages senators to consider if this fits best with the
       officer’s duties and responsibilities and mentions that the Tradition Coalition was
       in ASP previously. Senator Bianca Zamora mentions how cool it was seeing the
       amount of spirit present at the Pack the Pub event. However, she feels that
       maybe an officer should not be heading such a coalition, but should be more of a
       supporter. Vice-President of Finance Matt Dougherty mentions that he sees the
       benefit of perhaps having a student assistant heading the Tradition Coalition
       instead of a senator. Durkee does a lot of work for the coalition and she thinks it
       would best fit with another student’s position. She agrees with Dougherty and
       suggests making it an elected position. Gomez suggests that the Senate needs to
       figure out how AS can best implement tradition.

c. AS-33.13.14 Discussion of Associated Students Next Big Thing (Discussion)
   i. Discussion - Executive Vice-President Anthony Gallino states that we should focus
       on things that coincide with AS’s mission instead of the more corporate items that
       we have been doing in past weeks. He adds that he is biased towards academics
       but the Senate certainly doesn’t have to go in that direction. Gallino states that
       they should come together as a senate and move forward as a whole. Vice-
       President of Finance Matt Dougherty asked if they were to come up with ideas.
       Gallino suggested coming up with a couple of task forces that will then go in depth
       with the issues and come back in 2 weeks to report and then go from there. Gallino
       urges the Senate to questions whether they should pursue an issue or not. Senator
       Luke Tesluk urges the Senate that they need to add outreach to the list because we
       may still be lacking in that area. Executive Director Erik Dickson comments that
       they need to focus on things that will make Sonoma State better for students-more
       student government issues. Senator Bianca Zamora pushes to add implementing a
       resolution from 2006 (civility training) to the list. Dickson added that it’s time for
the Senate to step up and talk to constituents. He adds that outreach and action
need to happen simultaneously. Student Government Coordinator Justin Gomez
says that the Senate needs to look at these items and see what falls under their
duties and responsibilities. They need to start making moves. Senator Tyler Davis
suggests having another Big Nite-like event, perhaps a casino night in the second
semester. Dickson answers that the senators should try to do more than one thing
at a time- multi-tasking. He adds that reallocating the budget to ASP to do another
Big Nite is an internal corporate item. They need to focus more on student
government at the same time. Gallino states that he is trying to encourage us to
think about what we want to fix right away and get on it. Think about things that
are already broken and fix them. Senator Angie Durkee wants to get the signage
policy resolution started as well as the food policy resolution. Gomez encourages
the senators to talk to each other and collaborate. Senator Allison Jenks wants
to get the food policy going as well, and also merging majors and GE issues. Gallino
courages senators to look into research and ask questions. Dickson adds that this
is why they have advisors- to ask those questions.

V. Reports
b. Senator Tyler Davis- Tuesday, I attended the FAC meeting where we discussed
very important topics regarding technicalities between categorizing funded groups.
Nearly all the categories SSU funds were in the same category and yet all were so
different. More information on how we are changing this will come soon. Following
the meeting, I had my one on one with Justin. I also filmed for the Senate in a
Minute video with Gino and the help of Allison. Thursday, I attended the Finance
Club meeting and stopped by Dean Silver’s office to follow up from our past
meeting. Friday, I attended the On Campus Presents meeting with Annie and
Anthony. The meeting was a very informative introductory meeting into the
struggles of funding campus events in Weill Hall. Lastly, I held office hours and
prepared for the Senate meeting.
c. Senator Luke Tesluk- Monday, I worked in the office with Libby and Mallory on
a resolution Mallory had written regarding advising. We went through the
resolution, editing it and reviewing the wording to make sure everything was
correct. Wednesday, I drew up a plan for defining what Student Services are. I
worked on a broader plan for doing this on campus and implementing it in the next
several weeks. I drew up a plan to work on registration and how to address that
issue. I also drew up a plan for outreach to students on campus. I also had my one
on one with Justin on Wednesday where we discussed all of these in detail along
with several other broader issues. I ended by just working in the office. Thursday, I
held office hours where I worked on reviewing the resolutions and agenda and
getting feedback as well as discussing them with fellow officers.
d. Executive Vice-President Anthony Gallino- No Report.
e. Senator Mallory Rice- No Report.
f. Vice-President of Finance Matt Dougherty- Tuesday, I attended the Fee
Advisory Committee. Also, I have the Food Grower’s insurance policy in the works.
AS club grants are frozen, as all $30,000 has been allocated. More money and a new
policy are to come. Lastly, the Campus Re-Engineering Committee will be meeting
next Friday.
g. Senator Libby Dippel- This week, I met twice to conduct interviews to fill out
Undeclared Senator position. I met with Kappa delta Zeta to discuss the 120-day
ordinance and continue my outreach. I finished researching how to appeal an
ordinance so I am going to meet with a student who wanted to discuss that. Lastly, I
am continuing my research on off-campus student housing and will try to set up a meeting with Niel to continue this issue.

h. Senator Allison Jenks- This week, I attended a CSA event for transfer students with Justin Sullivan and talked about recycling and compost on campus, where a surprising amount of residents were interested in bringing composting to the campus. I toured the student center with Jessica Way, Mark Bradley, and Justin Sullivan and talked about what kind of receptacles will be placed throughout the building. We also talked about what kinds of bins will be places. In addition, I looked at the water bottle filling stations that were inside. Lastly, I attended the Sustainability Executive Committee where we talked about getting all of the sustainability information within one location and hosting an event in the GMC focusing somehow around sustainability.

i. President Mac Hart- No Report.

j. Senator Angie Durkee- This week, I met with Mac where we discussed Homecoming Week outreach. I attended the IAB meeting Monday morning where we interviewed our first potential Undeclared Senator. I finalized Homecoming details with Justin and will be putting up posters soon and could use some help. I also attended a club chartering meeting with Heather and Micki where we discussed student organization outreach methods. Lastly, I conducted a weekly newsletter to help advertise student organization events.

k. Senator Annie Green- No Report.

l. Senator Sarah Anthony- Over the weekend and on Monday, I spent time at club meetings talking to club members and seeing what clubs need from AS (I am trying to represent designated constituents). Tuesday, I spent time in the office working on possible ideas for recruiting education leaders. I also spent time managing my Education Alliance Sonoma State website that I have specifically designed for Sonoma State constituents. I am open to suggestion for recruiting interested constituents. Wednesday, I reviewed minutes as well as updated myself about current policies. Lastly, on Friday, I had a one on one with Justin and spent time before the Senate meeting to review the Student Engagement Policy.

VI. Items for the Good of the Order- Executive Director Erik Dickson encourages the senators that have class during their meeting with Chancellor White to go to their professor and inquire about missing class. He adds that is a rare opportunity that they need to take advantage of. The chancellor is a very calm individual so they don’t need to be nervous. Also, the senators need to get the word out to wear Sonoma State gear on October 9th, the day the chancellor will be here. Dickson also mentioned that he will send out a copy of the audit on Monday for the senators to look through. He adds that it is very complex so they will need to ask questions. October is the last month that Senate will be in the office. Sam will start packing the office up very soon so they may want to gather their belongings ASAP. They will be in the new office by November 4th. Dickson urges the senators to make as much free time as possible on the 5th to welcome students at the grand opening. President Hart will be given the big key to open the building along with Larry. Dickson brings up the Erin Fisher scholarship, which recognizes students who present superior leadership on campus. There is no application process and the scholarship is not given because it is needed. Dickson adds that this year was the shortest meeting regarding who to choose. This year they chose Senator Bianca Zamora as the recipient. Dickson adds that the Fisher family is a big part of the scholarship and reception. Student Government Coordinator Justin Gomez provided details on homecoming and encouraged senators to get the word out. He also handed out a guide to the senators on how to deal with business items to refresh them on procedure.
Roll was called near the end of the meeting. President Mac Hart and Senator Mallory Rice were both excused and Senator Annie Green was unexcused.

VII. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned by Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate, at 4:43 PM. Approved by the Associated Students Senate on ___________.

Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate