Associated Students  
Sonoma State University  
SENATE MEETING  
Friday, March 7th, 2014  
1:00pm, Bennett Valley, Student Center  

AGENDA  

I. Call to Order  
II. Roll Call  
III. Public Comment  
IV. Business  
  a) AS.78.13.14 CSSA report (Discussion)  
     i) Discussion  
  b) AS.1.79.13.14 Budget Update (Discussion)  
     i) Discussion  
V. Items for the Good of the Order  
VI. Adjournment  

Posted on Tuesday, March 4th, 2014 at the AS Senate Office by Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate
Associated Students
Sonoma State University

SENATE MEETING
Friday, March 7th, 2014
1:00pm, Bennet Valley, Student Center

Minutes


MEMBERS ABSENT Matt Dougherty (excused), Tyler Davis (unexcused)

OTHERS PRESENT Erik Dickson, Matthew Lopez-Phillips

I. Call to Order - This meeting was called to order by Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate, at 1:00 PM.

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comment Elections Commissioner Angie commented that the debates went well and that voting is next week. The results will be announced on Tuesday at 7:30 PM in Lobo's.

IV. Business

a. AS.78.13.14 CSSA report (Discussion)

i. Discussion Bernadette came to give an update on CSSA. She mentioned that California Higher Education Student Summit (CHESS) is happening this weekend in Sacramento and SSU Lobby Corps is attending. They will get experience actually lobbying on certain issues. She also asked the senators that if they had a story about how the budget has affected them in the past couple years to send it to her. She reported on the various bills that CSSA is supporting: SB 845, 113, and 1105. Bernadette also added that after CHESS, she is looking to focus on voter registration again. She brought up a bill proposed by William Huff and asked for the Senate's feedback. The bill would request the CSU to display an average salary number next to each department. She does not like this idea at all. She added that maybe they could supply a list of possible careers instead. Senator Sampo commented that she is against this bill and thinks that this should be something career services should handle. Senator Rice agreed that she is also against this bill. Senator Anthony explained that graduates do not always get a job in their degree major so this bill is unimportant. Senator Green agreed and added that you can't put a number next to something so broad, but she does like Bernadette's list of job opportunities idea. Green thinks that perhaps it would help impacted majors. Senator Durkee commented that she would like to see a job shadowing program as well. Executive VP Gallino commented that he thinks this bill presumes that going to college is only about getting a job afterwards. He countered that students should be getting an education to get an education. Gallino added that this bill would have adverse effects on departments who may have "lower salaries" but are equally important and could further push students away from those less impacted majors, such as multicultural. Matthew Lopez-Phillips added that he hopes everyone has come to
college not to just get a job. It’s about the experience. He added that this would
devalue the college education. He urged the senators to be hesitant and ask hard
questions. Executive Director Dickson clarified that this bill would request CSUs to
publish starting salaries of recent graduates for each major, school, and then the
CSU as a whole. He added that this is already available publically, but the bill would
be asking the CSU to publish it somewhere easy to find. Senator Sampo commented
that she is still strongly against this. She added that looking fort that information
should be a student’s own pursuit if they are going into a job for money; it is not the
CSUs job.
Bernadette also passed around CSU Fullerton’s brochure on their student success
fee. They chose to educate their students then took a vote once they felt the
students were educated. She added that Fullerton students were upset, much like
here. They are going through their 2nd round of alternative consultation because
they felt their first round was not adequate enough in educating students.
Bernadette added that San Diego State students were more okay with the fee. They
are doing both an alternative consultation and a referendum. Cal Poly San Luis
Obispo has passed their fee. They had a 41% voter turn-out, and 57% of those voted
yes. They will receive a $750 increase. Bernadette commented that she will send
out more information.

b. AS.I.79.13.14 Budget Update (Discussion)
i. Discussion Executive Director Dickson explained that he wanted to give the
senators a walkthrough of how the budget process works, as the approval of the
budget is coming up shortly. Dickson gave a short presentation on this process and
explained how the budget happens. After the presentation, President Hart
commented that last year the Senate had long meetings that went until 8 PM. He
asked how they could prevent that from happening again. Dickson responded that
that happens because of those who do not come prepared. They need to have
discussions and ask questions prior to the final meeting where it is approved.
Dickson also suggested that they can put things on the agenda to be discussed in the
3 to 4 meetings prior to approval. He added that the meetings will go long
regardless because the budget is dense and takes time to sort through and agree
upon. It needs to be a strong document. Hart asked for suggestions on how to
approach the budget. He suggested “budget buddies”. Dickson answered that that is
a great idea. He also encouraged the senators to ask those around the table who
they know like this material or have been through the process before. Senator
Sampo clarified that the budget approval will take a few meetings. Senator Durkee
asked how they can propose a revision. Dickson responded that the budget requests
are already in, but a resolution could still work. He clarified that the requests for
major changes has already happened. Senator Dinari asked if the senators’ stipend
increase will be reflected in the draft. Dickson responded yes; it will take things into
account from the past year. Senator Green expressed her concern that they will
read it but won’t know what anything is. Dickson responded that that’s what he is
there for. He added that if they don’t like numbers, then they should go to the
requests and look at those first and then come back to the numbers. Executive VP
Gallino added that it is much easier to work in parts. Dickson urged the senators to
do what works for them. He added that the draft will also reflect the increase of the
AS fee from $97 to $99. They will also see a significant increase in the line for
student assistants, as the minimum wage in California is being increase by a $1.
They will also see an increase in the EO 1000 fees as well. Dickson ended with the
note that very few programs requested less money; most requested more.
V. **Items for the Good of the Order** Matthew Lopez-Phillips commented that spring break is coming and asked that if they are travelling or "spring breaking" to please take care of themselves and others. He also added to have fun and enjoy themselves. Senator Tesluk mentioned that this week he and Senator Sampo had been putting together PowerPoints for the workshops they want to have to prepare the students for the "town hall" meeting with the provost. He added that they also worked on laying out the dates. They are looking to make the "town hall" meeting in early April. He asked the senators to send their schedules to Senator Jenks so they can get working on scheduling the workshops. Chair Rashed also added that they are looking at May 2nd for the AS Gala.

VI. **Adjournment**- The meeting was adjourned by Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate at 2:04 PM.

Approved by the Associated Students Senate on **March 19, 2014**

Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate