Associated Students
Sonoma State University

SENATE MEETING
Friday, April 18th, 2014
1:00pm, Bennett Valley, Student Center

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Public Comment
IV. Business
   a) AS.1.85.13.14 SSU 14-15 Budget Book (Discussion)
      i) Discussion
   b) AS.87.13.14 Movement of sports clubs from campus rec to CSLIS (Time
      Certain 2:15)
      i) Discussion
V. Items for the Good of the Order
VI. Adjournment

Posted on Tuesday, April 15th, 2014 at the AS Senate Office by

Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate
Associated Students
Sonoma State University

SENATE MEETING
Friday, April 18th, 2014
1:00pm, Bennet Valley, Student Center

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT Iman Rashed, Mac Hart, Matt Dougherty, Sara Dinari, Sarah Anthony, Luke Tesluk, Libby Dippel, Annie Green, Allison Jenks, Bianca Zamora, Tyler Davis, Angie Durkee

MEMBERS ABSENT Mallory Rice, Anthony Gallino (unexcused), Natalie Sampo (excused)

OTHERS PRESENT Erik Dickson, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Karen Thompson

I. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate, at 1:01 PM.

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comment

IV. Business

a. AS.1.85.13.14 SSU 14-15 Budget Book (Discussion)

i. Discussion VP of Finance Dougherty commented that Executive Director Dickson recommended focusing on one part of the budget at a time. President Hart wanted to focus on the staff in JUMP. He wanted to know Dougherty’s thinking behind the allocation. Dougherty responded that he originally thought there would be one trip leader per alternative break trip and each had an assistant trip leader so he allocated enough for five coordinators for that program. However, Katey clarified last week that it will be two trip leaders per trip and each are considered coordinators. Dougherty added that they can split up the current allocation between the ten coordinators however they chose. The senators discussed the pros and cons of allocating more funding to accommodate the ten coordinators. Senator Anthony wondered why the ASP steering committee was allocated much more than the JUMP steering committee. Senator Dinari commented that they cannot compare the two programs because they have vastly different functions. Chair Rashed added that since ASP has reorganized, they cannot limit them with funding. Senator Davis and Senator Green clarified numerical mistakes in the JUMP fund and the General fund. Senator Durkee wondered why there was not a marketing line in JUMP. Dougherty responded that they use the steering committee line for advertising and marketing. Senator Zamora clarified the error in the Senate Award line. Zamora added that he thinks the President’s budget should be added to the Officer’s budget to make one line. Senator Green commented that the Officer’s budget seems like a lot of money, even if used for food. Zamora and Rashed clarified what it is all used for. Senator Durkee commented that she wants to offer more AS scholarships. President Hart responded that they should wait and see what the response is this year and then next year’s Senate can decide if they want to still use that money or allocate more. Zamora wondered if they needed to fund the
leadership programs, seeing as it has been disbanded. Dougherty responded that Justin Gomez requested to keep that line in the budget because the new Student Government Coordinator may come in and find a new innovative way to revamp the program. Senator Green commented that she thinks they should connect with the freshman programs already in use to recruit freshman for student government. Senator Zamora responded that they use the leadership program more as a retreat and not a class. President Hart added that they need to show support for getting freshman interested in student government. Green asked how successful the Produe Growers grant was this year. Dougherty responded that three candidates applied and received funding. Senator Jenks added that the produce grower’s community has expanded this year and she thinks it is important to keep. Senator Anthony expressed her concern about the Elections budget. Dougherty commented that they may need to up the $400 allocated for voter registration since it is an election year. President Hart commented that there can be other ways to promote the election without using that $400, which is mostly used for the polling place. Senator Durkee clarified the student security error. Senator Zamora commented that she spoke with the senior director of ASP. They want the allocations for Big Nite and Commencement to be moved down to the steering committee line so the funds can be more accessible. Dougherty explained reasoning for the $40,000 club grant line.

The Senate took a break from 2:00 PM to 2:15 PM.

b. AS.87.13.14 Movement of sports clubs from campus rec to CSLIS (Time Certain 2:15)

i. Discussion Chair Rashed explained the Senate’s knowledge of the situation and asked for any comments and concerns from the sports club members who were present. The dance team expressed their concern with the constant miscommunication with CSLIS- lost paperwork, impolite phone calls, overbooking of rooms, and disregard for competitive nature. Another student present, Conner, commented that they were told last week at the Senate meeting by Heather that one new coordinator for CSLIS would be for sports clubs only, but later were told that that is not true. Also, he commented that Mike Dominguez came in with sports experience, contrary to prior comments. Katie from the Equestrian team thinks that centralizing the risk of all clubs is not a good idea. Chair Rashed asked for an example about of a sports club’s competitive nature. Katie responded with examples such as reserving fields and hiring the best trainers. She added that Mike has that experience and those connections and someone new coming in would lose that. Another student from the Equestrian team added that there has been a lot of issues with paperwork and they also may not be able to provide CPR trainings and the like that come with the risk of sports clubs versus social clubs. She added that the travel paperwork from all sports clubs could overwhelm CSLIS. The student from the dance team commented that they have had to turn in paperwork multiple times and it is very chaotic. They don’t want to change something that is already working. Chair Rashed clarified their concerns. Katie added that having sports clubs housed in the Rec center is the national norm. The paperwork comes in loads at the beginning of the fall semester. If it is not processed in time, their trainings are interrupted so the paperwork needs to be processed fast. Senator Sampo wondered if a main concern the sports clubs had was that they would be without the aid of Mike Dominguez. A student responded yes because he has the connections and the experience. Katie added that Mike knows the ins and outs and history of all the sports clubs. A member of the rugby team, a fairly new club, commented that they would not be where they are today without the help of Mike. The dance team
commented that they cannot rely on CSLIS; they haven’t been consistent. They feel that the Rec center has worked for the past few years and this does not need to change. Adding all sports clubs to CSLIS will not be productive. Executive Director Dickson commented that most complaints he has heard are regarding Associated Students and not CSLIS. They are two different things. President Hart commented that he talked with Conner to narrow down the real issues. He reported that the big problem is the wording in the position description for hiring new professional staff; it does not specify sports club experience. The other big problem is that there has not been positive communication with CSLIS about things that are not necessarily their responsibility, but they are understaffed and underfunded and this may be the reason for the miscommunication. Hart commented that these are the two main reasons. This change will be wasting a resource of passion and connections, Mike Dominguez. Dominguez spoke up and thanked everyone for the compliments. He brought up the notion again that the national norm is to have sports clubs in the Rec center and house that risk there where it can be properly managed. Senator Green agreed that sports clubs should be housed in the Rec center. Mike is a big part of sports clubs and thinks sports clubs should stay under his advisement. She added that CSLIS may have the best interest, but it will not be their priority. Dickson commented that if things need to be fixed then they need suggestions from students. Senator Zamora asked Katie to explain her job. Katie responded that there are two coordinators, she and another, that do day to day advising and Mike is there to advise them. She added that it is like a chain of command. Senator Sampo commented that the issue may need to be addressed with the administration that made the decision. Conner spoke up and responded that they did meet with them and the opinions they gave on why it shouldn’t be done were not considered. They received no helpful response. Chair Rashed commented that she wants to go back to the main problems and address them. VP of Finance Dougherty asked Conner why he said that one new coordinator will not be just for sports clubs. Conner responded that that is what they were told. Dickson responded that not one advisor does just one thing; Mike does more than just advise sports clubs. The search process was started before the decision was made so they could not incorporate that into one of the position descriptions. Chair Rashed asked the Senate what they want to do. Senator Green responded that she thinks they can bring in Niel to talk about why the decision was made and get his feedback. Senator Anthony added that she thinks it is always good to get the word out and talk about the issues. President Hart commented that he does not feel enthused to halt the hiring process and start over. Then it will become a general lack of advising issue. He added that he is not sure where to go next. He hopes the sports clubs can see where the Senate is torn. Chair Rashed added that the bigger issue is that the administration is making last minute decisions that are not thought out properly. Senator Green commented that if they need to stop the process then they should; it has been done before. They need to look into different options. Chair Rashed announced that she will invite Niel to the Senate meeting to talk with him about this issue. Hart commented that they need to ask how the budget comes into play. Dickson commented that sports clubs are certainly unique but that alone does not make them more important than other clubs. AS is here to serve all students and organizations. Chair Rashed commented that she will make sure to get the word out for when Niel is coming.

V. Items for the Good of the Order VP of Finance Dougherty reported that there is one more week on the budget so keep up the effort. He added that local bands come in every Monday to Lobos and everyone should attend. Also, there will be nine bands next Friday performing at KSUN’s Day in the Sun at the Alumni Amphitheater. Executive
Director Dickson thanked the senators for being responsive to the professional staff forums and to keep it up. He added that Student Government Coordinator interviews start next week. He reminded the senators that the budget needs to be approved with a 2/3 vote next week. He added that everyone needs to RSVP to the Gala e-vite if they plan to attend. Dickson also commented that transition is coming up just so everyone is aware. Matthew Lopez-Phillips wanted to compliment AS. The candidates were blown away that SSU was the only campus to bring students into the search process. Senator Jenks reminded the senators that next week is Earth Week and there will be cool stuff all week so everyone should go check it out. Dougherty added that AS Scholarship applications are due April 25th so they need to keep getting the word out. President Hart commented that spirit week is coming up and it will be a good opportunity to connect with students. Senator Anthony commented that next Friday is the Education job fair.

VI. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned by Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate, at 3:17 PM.

Approved by the Associated Students Senate on 3/11/14.

Iman Rashed, Chair of the Senate