



Legislative Affairs and Advocacy

Meeting Minutes

Day/Date: Tuesday September 22nd, 2020
 Time: 3:15
 Location: <https://calstatela.zoom.us/j/94560342251>
 Attendees: Legislative Affairs committee, General Public
 Type of Meeting: General

I. Organizational Items:

Call to order by: Chair Analiz Marmolejo, ASI Vice President for External Affairs and Advancement @ 3:20 p.m.

b. Roll Call

Diana Chavez	ASI President	Present
Analiz Marmolejo	Vice President for External Affairs and Advancement/Chair of Leg Affairs	Present
Brooke Mero	Advancement/Chair of Leg Affairs	Present
Jasmine Parker	Civic Engagement Officer	Present
Sasha Prakir	Diversity and Inclusion Officer	Present
Ivan Garcia	Associate Justice	Present
Nataly Aviles	Committee Member	Unexcused absence
Jen Miller	Committee Member	Present
Dena Florez	University President's Designee Office Manager of Administration & Services	Present

c. Adoption of Agenda: Tuesday September 22nd, 2020

Offered By: Brooke Mero	Seconded by: Diana Chavez
Motion to approve the agenda for September 22 nd 2020. Consensus reached.	
All in Favor	Opposed
Abstained	Motion: Passed/Failed

d. Approval of Minutes (action): September 22nd, 2020

Offered By: Analiz Marmolejo	Seconded by: Brooke Mero
Motion to approve the minutes for September 8 th , 2020. Consensus reached.	
All in Favor	Opposed
Abstained	Motion: Passed

II. Public Forum

- a. This time is allotted to members of the public to address the board regarding items not included on the meeting agenda. Speaker cards are available for those wanting to speak on agenda items as listed below. Those comments will be heard as the item is introduced.

None

VI. Discussion:

- A. Concerns from PAS Department and Black Student Union (BSU) about recent refusal and how the committee can help by address these concerns?

Jazz: Me, Diana, and Brajohn were in a meeting with the PAS department and BSU about their concerns and I wanted to talk about what we could do to fix things. One of the issues we spoke about were the demands from the PAS department and the BSU. I was briefly able to speak to the president of BSU with a few more concerns, one of them being that they wanted a program to support Black students. For example the "Go East LA initiative" where they have resources and supportive services for people in that area. I took part in that program with my children, they provide many resources and scholarships. I think it would be good to look into some kind of initiative for Black students on campus. They don't have anywhere to meet or come together where they can properly come together for programs and resources for Black students. Another concern that the Chair of PAS talked about was the defunding of the police.

Analiz: Let's break this down a bit. What would make this space different from the PAS center in the CCC?

Jazz: They're asking for an initiative center, like the Dreamer's Resource Center where they can have funding coming in, and space for town halls. The demand has been expressed to administration and it is called the Black and Gold initiative.

Analiz: Okay that clarifies things.

Jen: Are we referencing the list of demands BSU had 2 years ago or is this a new list?

Analiz: I think it is a new one Diana shared with me.

Analiz and Diana discuss how ASI can best support BSU. Diana says we are not able to fund anything and BSU knows that, so how can we best support BSU? Impaction had a lot of people very stressed and we have had initiatives to increase enrollment of Black students.

Diana: Can we provide some solidarity for BSU? As president I would like to say, yes we can. Times like these call for solidarity and support. I'm thankful that Jazz put this on the agenda for Leg affairs, but its also on the agenda for BOD this Thursday. Maybe ASI can provide support like we have in the past, like getting student seats in the Community Justice Council. We can provide advocacy in that way. We are going towards the most feasible demands we can do in a 2 or 3 year time frame. We are prioritizing Black student recruitment, and the college of ethnic studies Dean.

Jazz: I think a statement from ASI in support of what is going on would be really important, especially with what's going on campus and the refusal of Prof. Abdullah as Dean.

Sasha asks Jazz to explain more in depth, and Jazz explains what she knows about the situation. Analiz and Diana also share what they know, and Diana says that PAS feels like there is no support for Black Student Empowerment and that their list of demands is centered around that. Diana adds that students were not involved in the search for a new Dean.

Analiz: I think we should ask the Dean for students to be involved in the search process from the very beginning.

Diana: In this case, because it is a Dean they're hiring, I don't think students are allowed to be involved.

Jen: Students were involved in my committee, and I'm a dean. This is an HR question.

Diana: We'll have to get some answers, because I don't know.

Ivan: That's really interesting, because it makes sense that students should have a say.

Ivan discusses the recruitment process within the political science department. Diana and Dena point out that students are involved in Open Forum for the final candidates

- B. Collaborating with ASI Student Homie Union in upcoming events
Jazz explains more about SHU which is part of ASI and associated with Project Rebound. She expresses that she would like to support them with their programming and events. Analiz, Brooke, and Jazz discuss how they could apply for grants or collaborate with Jazz as Diversity and Inclusion Officer in their events.

- C. Questions about Cal State LA becoming a vote center

Analiz: I have a meeting with Luz to discuss this.

Jen: I have an update, the campus is working on it. As long as LA county is comfortable with our plan, nobody is opposed to it and we just want to make sure we can do it safely. It will just take a little bit before we can know for sure. If I hear of anything I'll let you know.

Analiz: That's great news.

- D. Partnering with the Secretary of State Alex Padilla and LA Vote in upcoming election

Jazz: I think it would be good if Cal State LA could collaborate with them and encourage people to vote.

Analiz: That's what's involved in the We the People Event series, we are working with them on our events, like with NVRD.

The team discusses plans and initiatives surrounding this.

III. Action Items:

- A. The committee will revise the codes of procedure for the Legislative Affairs Committee and make changes
- B. Motion to table the action item by Brooke until the next meeting. Diana seconds it.

IV. Information Items:

- A. Member Recruitment

Analiz: I have interviewed two potential members for the Legislative Affairs committee and I've been working with Gus to recruit more people for Lobby Corps.

- B. Events (NVRD, Woman in Advocacy, Ballot Breakdown)

Analiz: Please make sure you have the correct zoom link for NVRD today, we have posted a new link for that and Gus just updated it on the website.

Do we have any ideas for who can speak at the Ballot Breakdown?

Analiz and Brooke discuss potential speakers for the Ballot Breakdown, Analiz is going to reach out to a student she knows at Cal State Channel Islands.

Analiz: Jasmine and I will be working on the Women in Advocacy Event.

Analiz, Jazz, Dena and Brooke discuss potential speakers for the event.

Analiz: How many panelists should we have for an hour long panel?

Jen and Dena agree that 3 speakers is a good amount, at most.

Jen and Dena share different potential speakers (a mix of elected representatives and prominent women in business and education) for the Women in Advocacy event.

Ballot Breakdown date is set for Wednesday the 7th at 5 p.m.

Proposed speakers for the Ballot Breakdown are Sasha Perez, Nithya Raman, Analiz, or Brooke.

Jen points out that it may be best to save elected representatives for later events rather than the Ballot Breakdown.

October 20th at 5 and October 21st at 5 are potential dates and times for the Women in Advocacy Event.

C. Professor Seals Student Volunteers
Tabled

Reports:

ASIVPPA:

Analiz: I've been focused on our NVRD event today and planning that and meeting with speakers. I've also been working on CSSA and Lobby Corps projects.

Civic Engagement Officer:

Brooke: I've been preparing for our event today and for our event last week, and working on plans for the rest of the semester

Diversity and Inclusion Officer:

Jazz: I've been working on event planning, meeting with BSU, and coming up with ideas for the rest of the semester.

Adjournment: Ivan motions to adjourn this meeting at 4:35. Diana seconds the motion.