



# Legislative Affairs and Advocacy

## Meeting Minutes

Day/Date: Tuesday January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
 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 @ 3:19 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	Civic Engagement Officer	Present
Milton Han	Associate Justice	Present
Ivan Garcia	Committee Member	Present
Phoebe Wong	Committee Member	Present
Dena Florez	Office Manager of Administration & Services	Present

\*Analiz and Dena discuss the removal process for the removal of committee member Nataly Aviles\*

**c. Adoption of Agenda: January 26, 2021**

<b>Offered By:</b>	<b>Brooke Mero</b>	<b>Seconded by:</b>	<b>Phoebe Wong</b>
Motion to approve the agenda for January 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2021. Consensus reached.			
<b>All in Favor</b>		<b>Opposed</b>	
		<b>Abstained</b>	
<b>Motion: Passed/Failed</b>			

**d. Approval of Minutes (action): November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

<b>Offered By:</b>		<b>Seconded by:</b>	
Motion to move the approval of the minutes for November 17 <sup>th</sup> to be moved until after reports. Motion by Brooke, seconded by Phoebe.			
<b>All in Favor</b>		<b>Opposed</b>	
		<b>Abstained</b>	
<b>Motion: Passed</b>			

## 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

## III. Discussion:

Analiz: So basically, I wanted to say welcome back for this semester. We stayed on top of the ballot bowl for all of the CSUs and UCs, we've had such good success that we will be having some new interns. I'm excited for what we're going to do this semester, Brooke will be in charge of 3 events, none of that is confirmed yet.

For CSSA for some of you that have been a part of Lobby corps, back before COVID we were able to advocate for AB710 so that was more funding for students and Cal Grants. Governor Newsom's new proposal will be giving us an increase in funding for CARES act. So that is what my advocacy will be focused on this semester. We have the CHESS conference in March, as well as Lobby Day. So if that's something that you're interested in, that's what we'll be focused on. I'm happy to take anyone. So usually how it goes is we'll be having a storyteller, and we'll be having somebody who does introductions, and then we'll have someone who concludes it. We'll be splitting up into teams and doing training for the CHESS conference. That will be in March and completely virtual.

*Diana adds that she will be reaching out to students in the political science department about getting involved with Lobby Corps, and says that there has already been some interest there.*

Analiz: So Brooke will be having these amazing events and then will be working on the search for the new ED committee, so hopefully she will be able to focus on that and report back to us.

*Brooke brings up the Free The Period initiative from the last Leg Affairs meeting and checks on the status of that work.*

Analiz: I'm working with Elandre who is the system wide chair for CSSA, and she said to wait until the basic needs initiative provides funding for those items. I think what we are going to be able to do by the end of this semester, is I think ASI will be able to just provide the boxes. So with the money that we do have we can provide the boxes, and we can work with the health center to see who can restock them. So even if we don't get the funding to get the materials, we can use their supply to restock the buildings.

*Analiz asks if there are any other thoughts on this.*

Diana: So one thing I want to see this year from Leg Affairs from civic engagement, I want to see students actually engage. We had a lot of great talks and education last year but this is a civic engagement position. So maybe having the students actually engage. I know last year we had a lot

of just formal informative events I want to emphasize civic engagement. Something like planting trees that students can do from home.

Brooke: I definitely get that. I want more students to be engaging too. The event I'm planning to write letters to nursing home residents is an attempt to address that, and get more students engaged.

*Analiz brings up that it would be difficult and potentially expensive to facilitate something like a tree planting event while students are still doing at home learning.*

Ivan: Adding on to what Diana was saying, I think about civic engagement toward students because like CAPS is important to like mental health and stuff, so how could we engage with CAPS and raise awareness with isolation and stuff. So students are dealing with a lot of things and their priorities have shifted. I know the cross cultural center has CAPS events so people can see a therapist in person.

Diana: So when it comes to mental health and engaging I'm all for it. But I think Brooke can take up on the part, we're all facing hardships of the pandemic, we don't like remote learning, we don't like staying at home, school was like our getaway. I don't know if Brooke would like to take up on that issue and maybe have like some sort of event in collaboration with the student health center. That's something that this committee and another committee can work on.

Analiz: Great, thank you for the feedback we will go ahead and work on that.

**IV.** Action Items:

**None.**

**V.** Information Items:

a. Governor Newsom's Budget proposal Overview

Analiz: Moving on to Governor Newsom's budget proposal. I'll be discussing the full proposal at BOD on Thursday. But these are the main points we will be focusing on. This is the new proposal that just got released in January, so this hasn't gone through yet, but we are going to be really pushing because it's one of the best we've see in the past couple of years. I will be releasing the full proposal on Thursday. Right now all of our advocacy efforts will be pushing to make this money get back to students. So the proposal is for an ongoing fund for \$144.5 million. So this will be supporting our students far beyond academics, it will provide food and housing for students, and will grow the funds for basic needs. Because of COVID basic needs has grown into not just food and housing, but a room to study in and internet. So there's now going to be a \$15 million dollar fund for student health and technology needs. There's also funding for teachers being instructed in zoom and learning management, and a \$1 funding increase for the Stockton campus. There will also be a one-time general fund and that will be a \$225 million one time increase in four areas.

*Analiz goes into detail about the four areas the funding increases would impact. She also showed a chart with federal stimulus allocations.*

So this is just a proposal, it may change before August. So this is why our advocacy efforts are so important, so that we can secure the highest amount possible.

Ivan: So is this info related to the email about funding Covino sent last week, or if it's just for next year?

Analiz: I don't know if this is related, but I know that his budget aligns with the money he receives. So Covino has his own budget for things like fixing King Hall, or CAPS, so this is just the general funding from Governor Newsom.

Diana: So Herf is federal funding, but the money Analiz is talking about is coming from the State. The Herf is exactly like the CARES act, and I believe we all received it already. I think we all got a little increase already. This one that Analiz just presented, the budget that she just presented will be learning management and systems, and more of it will go to basic needs. Then it's up to the Chancellor to see which school gets the most money. We are not as funded as some of the other CSUs. The federal money is allocated for just students and support.

Ivan: Yeah I understand it. I think it's just sad that we're last. I think it's just up to ourselves as student government and President Covino to always advocate. I think it's our Provost, he should be the main one to advocate for more money.

Analiz: This is so important because this is State funding, because that is where we usually get very minimal funding. This is one of the biggest funding allocations that we have seen in so long because of COVID. So that's why we are pushing so hard for this money to actually get to us. I know this was very general, this was just three slides of the presentation. This is just a look at where the money will actually be going. No questions?

Ivan: I feel that it's most likely going to be processed separately than financial aid?

Diana: I can double check.

*The committee discusses the new interns joining the ASI Civic Engagement team.*

### **Reports:**

ASIVPPA: So I kind of spoke a bit about what we are going to be doing this semester. Just a recap about what we have been doing in CSSA for the next Legislative Affairs meeting, so I'm getting that ready for our next

Civic Engagement Officer: I don't have too much to report that I haven't already mentioned. I already have two events worked out, and am just following up with next steps for those. I'm in contact with Nithya's team about determining a date for that event.

Analiz: So that's pretty much it, we don't have a diversity and inclusion officer this semester. That position is vacant. So if anybody is interested that position is on the ASI website and feel free to ask me any questions.

Adjournment: Analiz adjourns the meeting at 3:51 p.m.

DRAFT