



# Legislative Affairs and Advocacy

## Meeting Minutes

Day/Date: Tuesday February 9th, 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 @ 3:17 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

#### c. Adoption of Agenda: February 9th, 2021

<b>Offered By:</b>	<b>Phoebe Wong</b>	<b>Seconded by:</b>	<b>Ivan Garcia</b>
<p>Motion to amend the order of the information items by Ivan, seconded by Phoebe. Order of the information items is changed. Motion to approve the agenda for February 9th, 2021.          Consensus reached.</p>			
<b>All in Favor</b>		<b>Opposed</b>	
		<b>Abstained</b>	
<b>Motion: Passed/Failed</b>			

#### d. Approval of Minutes (action) :January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

<b>Offered By:</b>	<b>Phoebe Wong</b>	<b>Seconded by:</b>	<b>Brooke Mero</b>

Motion to approve the minutes for January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.  
Consensus reached.

All in Favor		Opposed		Abstained		Motion: <b>Passed</b>
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## 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. Information Items

### A. CSSA Plenary Feb. 13-14, 2021

Analiz: So basically our information items for today I do have a CSSA plenary this week. We come together as CSU talking about different issues impacting Cal State Students. I will be there representing Cal State LA with Diana. The two bills I will be talking about were passed and will be taken up to the board this weekend. I want to hear what you guys would like to add to this, and if there's not really anything it is going up to the board and it has been discussed. I'm going to go ahead and share my screen now. So basically AB 53 has introduced the election day holiday.

*\*Analiz reads from the text of the bill\**

Analiz: So what this bill is asking for is that it would require that when a statewide general election is held the date is listed as a federal holiday and employers would reimburse the cost.

Analiz: There's not really anything that I see bad about this bill or getting pushback. It was a successful civic engagement cycle where young people and people of color got out to vote. This bill is just really pushing for everyone to get out to their local elections and making it mandated by the state and making your employer reimburse you for pay you may lose. Does anybody have any questions?

Ivan: So this bill would be encouraging to vote? And not just in the presidential, but in the local too and raise awareness I'm guessing?

Analiz: Yes that's exactly what this bill states. There weren't too many cons stated, there weren't any cons stated actually. If anybody wants to say any concerns about this bill please go ahead and do so now. Okay so we'll move on to the next bill we will be voting on this weekend. As I mentioned we will be doing our lobbying with your state and district representatives. These are some of the things I will be making a talking point for us. So this one is Assembly Bill 245, and it kind of goes into what we

discussed at BOD where a student was concerned about not being able to use their pronouns. So what this bill would introduce is educational equity, student records, gender and name changes. It can be very costly and it's a long process to go through at a state level. So with this, students can actually do the process at their campus, and have all of their documentation changed at the campus level, and it would avoid any fees or anything at the state level.

*\*Phoebe and Brooke read aloud from the text of the bill\**

Analiz: So again I see this as a progressive movement. So you have the option to change your name on campus, but it doesn't give you the option to change your name in paperwork. So it won't necessarily show up for all professors. This allows students to change their name and enroll on their campus. Is there any discussion on this or any questions? So yeah this will be going to the board again this Saturday and Sunday. This one was being advocated for and there was no pushback, so I see this passing this weekend and I will be able to give you guys some feedback on what happens.

## **B. Aunt Flo Period Campaign**

Analiz: So moving on to our next agenda item. Now we actually have some numbers and a potential partner to be working with. I'm still trying to see the logistics and see if we can get some funding from campus. I'm going to bring this to the executive board and see if we can get some help and how we can be a part of this movement. I'm going to go ahead and share my screen real quick.

Analiz: Okay so this is basically just a very simple email follow-up that I received from this person Sarah. I had a meeting with her Friday. What they have is organic tampons and pads accessible for students. She just gave me a general quote for how much it would be on our campus.

*\*Analiz lists campuses that are involved\**

Analiz: So what's great about our campus is that it's so small and it is a commuter campus, so that means the need isn't as high and we won't need to pay as much. So what I'm looking at is the issue of accessibility on our campus. The student health center already provides for these products so we want to make sure this is accessible all around campus, like in King Hall. I started off with three dispensers, and I wanted to see if that would be enough. Those are the only three that I'm thinking ASI can purchase and then we can see where the campus can come in. It's around 200 dollars for the actual dispensers, and it holds around 50 pads and 50 tampons, so it's pretty cheap. We can't use the dispensers we already have, we would have to buy new ones to use their products. We will have to buy three brand new dispensers. But we wouldn't be able to have them for every floor and I don't know if that's feasible. Do you think it should be accessible on each floor, would that be enough? So what do you guys think?

Ivan: I don't know how feasible it is with the floor thing. I think like the floor thing is a good idea, like it could be in the center. I know in the center of the King Hall Floors you could put it and if people want to walk around they can get one. I think it's a good idea though.

Brooke: Yeah ideally they would be available on every floor, but if we can't afford that we could look at what bathrooms get the most foot traffic, because there are some busier ones than others at least I know how it is in King Hall. That's something we could look at to maximize the use, or we could put flyers up in other bathrooms to say the products are available on certain floors so they don't have to go to the health center.

Analiz: So I also added in the product prices here. So when Sarah was estimating for us, she said a box will last us about six months. So it's not something we have to keep filling up. I thought it was going to be way more expensive, but this is actually pretty affordable. It's basically 125 each per box of tampons and pads so really we aren't looking at too much. I think I am going to try to get some executive help with this, just because there are a lot of different issues that need to be tackled. So it becomes like a diversity and inclusion issue for gender neutral restrooms. If we have a department of sustainability they can give us funding since this is a green issue, and the products are sustainable. It's also an equity issue so that can be brought up. So yeah that's pretty much it on my part. I'm going to move on down the agenda, Diana has some important CSSA resolutions to discuss.

### **C. CSSA Resolutions**

Diana: Hello everyone, so this weekend at CSSA we are going to be discussing some very important resolutions. I got the chance to be involved on 2 of the 4 resolutions so I'm going to be sharing those two, the others I didn't really work on. Can you give me screen sharing access please? So the first one here is the CSSA resolution in support of reforming University police departments system wide. It was Joshua who reached out and asked me if I would like to be apart of it and of course I said yes. So this resolution will be presented at CSSA this weekend as a discussion item so we'll be discussing it. It has been a long-term issue that has been discussed, but this is the first time we've had a resolution about reforming the police department. If you guys have any questions or clarifications feel free to ask.

*\*Diana reads from the text of the resolution\**

Diana: The idea of this resolution is pretty much to reform the police system wide. So when I was researching they were originally meant to be Peace officers, but now police have gotten more heavily armed. Especially for our school our UPD has ties to LAPD. So you know the LAPD has a long history of racism and systemic racism and overall being racist and discriminatory towards the Black and Brown community and a majority of our students come from an area where they are already traumatized by police. We're LA babies right? I'm sure everyone knows our history with the LAPD. The LAPD has never been friendly with the Black and Brown community. We don't necessarily need campus police. Here in this resolution they want to divest. I will be presenting a resolution on my own that I wrote. On this one that's pretty much what they want. To divest the police department for something else. So I just wanted to bring this to the board to see any recommendations that you all will have before its presented this

weekend. The overall goal is to bring attention to CSSA and the board of Trustees that the police system can be deadly. For Joshua myself and the three other students we are very passionate about this and hopefully all of you will come to CSSA this Sunday.

Analiz: Do you know if our UPD falls under the same thing as the LAPD? Is university police and eagle patrol different?

Diana: Eagle patrol is essentially students, they're majority criminal justice students who use it as a way to gain experience. The thing with that and the problem with that is that eagle patrol gets their training it's like basic academy training and a majority of them get their training at the LAPD basic academy training. Knowing that LAPD has a history of police interactions turning deadly, that is an issue. The answer to your question is it's different from LAPD yes, but it's under the branch of our own university police department.

Analiz: So are we funding it, or does the funding come out of the LAPD from like the governor?

Diana: I'm 80% sure that we are funding it, being that it has, I was looking at the budget a few days ago and a lot of UPD's are in a different department than our's is. Ours is housed under administration and finance, and for other schools it's different. So the police chief will be reporting to Lisa Chavez, rather than President Covino himself.

Analiz: For all campuses it's more general, but for our campus it is LAPD, because those are the ones who are armed. Are we going to look into the funding, it's a really large number and I don't know if there's an actual line by line of where that money is going. Is that going to be presented to the board as well? We don't want to just defund them and not see the funding go toward community resources.

Brooke: The only thing I was gonna add as well is when you're talking about financial divestment like Analiz said, I think a specific number would be helpful like we want to divest the campus police by a specific amount like 50% or 30% or whatever you think is most feasible. That might be something to add.

Diana: I'm writing this all down, and we will be meeting this weekend to discuss and share this before presenting it at the CSSA. And Analiz for your comments, those will be more for my resolution, and I'll be meeting about that tomorrow. For police it doesn't give line by line details like with certain departments. That's how they have it so I can't really tell you in an accurate and precise number how much they're getting. At least they don't have it public on their website. I spent 5 hours digging into all of the budget information I can and I couldn't find anything line by line. I'll try to get more clarification on the eagle patrol and LAPD. My understanding of the University police department is that eagle patrol has the yellow uniforms and the police department has regular blue uniforms. So our university police department is it's own department. So those officers may or may not have been in the LAPD before. They're not tied to LAPD, they're CSULA officers. And in the case where there is a shooter or a bomb threat then LAPD comes in, and that's where we have ties. From my understanding Eagle patrol are students and University police are regular police that are trained with the LAPD.

Analiz: There needs to be a line by line item of transparency. So we know what is going to be defunded if that's what we are asking for.

Diana: Is it okay if I move on? Okay so the second one was making the CSU system tuition free by 2030. I also got a chance to participate in this and write a few items here. This one is pretty long.

*\*Diana begins reading from the text of the resolution, popcorn reading\**

Diana: This action plan at the end is something new to a lot of us actually. It makes sense and is a lot more efficient to have an action plan at the end of a resolution because it holds people accountable. So it's the same as the resolution but we are asking them what we want to see by what date, so that we can guide the next administration what we ask.

*\*Diana reads from the text of the action plan\**

So this is the overall resolution on making the CSU system tuition free. Are there any recommendations or recommendations or any clarifications you all need?

Analiz: I think, I'm a little confused, because you talk about the action plan from the 60s which is very outdated then you bring it to the institute for California, and I am working with them for their access to financial aid funding. What are you asking for? You're asking for tuition to be free and then what is the action plan? So we're addressing this to CSSA right?

Diana: Um it's just like what they should be doing. So we're addressing this to CSSA right? So the action plan is to address what the CSSA executive office should be doing with this resolution that was presented to them. So they should follow up each year, and follow up with advocacy funds like CSSUnity.

Analiz: Does anywhere in the resolution talk about why we should have free tuition or why we should have better funding support? Like I know you're saying that students are paying a lot beyond tuition, but does it say like what is happening? Because these students are really not able to afford these expenses beyond tuition?

Diana: I'll write that down.

Analiz: Yeah like this tells me a master plan from the 60s, but not really what we are supporting. I can't think of anything to add to the action plan now, but this isn't going to get passed at CSSA?

Diana: No it's just a discussion. So there will be more recommendations. I just wanted to bring it to your attention first and see if you have anything to say.

Analiz: Yeah no I'm excited now, this is the first time I'm seeing this. I feel like there's a lot that can be added to it, but this is a good start. To me this is very general.

Diana: It kind of has to be since we are talking about all 23.

Analiz: No I'm saying it's a general issue. I think there's a lot we can add to it which is good.

Diana: Anything else? I did want to let you all know that the other resolutions, I didn't get a chance to work on the other two resolutions, but one is about subsidized parking and housing resolutions. This year a lot of ASI students are working really hard on advocating on behalf of students. I do hope that a lot of you tune in to this weekend's CSSA. I'm pretty sure a lot of people will have something to say. Okay the fourth one I'm not sure what it is. If you do have any further recommendations or questions you can always let me your Analiz know and we can bring that up during CSSA.

## Reports:

ASIVPPA: For myself I don't have much to report on other than what you already saw what we are working on. I do have CSSA this weekend, and I am also working on the Free the Period campaign so now we have a quote of what it will cost I will be working more on the advocacy portion. I do have some interns that will be coming onto our team soon with myself and Brooke. I am hoping they can help us with the Free the Period campaign project. We do have two candidates for the Diversity and Inclusion officer, so I'll be bringing that to BOD this Thursday, I'm still waiting for one candidate to respond. We will hopefully have a new DIO by our next Leg Affairs. I will also be going over our budget in particular. Brooke if you can go ahead and talk about the new event you have coming up.

Civic Engagement Officer: Yeah so um my report- I have that event with Nithya that's going to be either April 6th or April 7th I'm just waiting to hear back from our second best to see what date is best for her. I have reached out to Kei Ai Los Angeles nursing home who has worked with CSULA in the past. One of the directors there is going to send me a list of names via email and so all that's left for that is to submit the final proposal and set a date for that. I also met with an intern from the organization TreePeople and was talking to him about some outreach opportunities. He would be open to holding a volunteer orientation or canvassing orientation for their WaterTalks program but we would need to be sure that people would sign up for it. What we would be doing is trying to get people to improve water infrastructure with LA to have cleaner tap water and have our water sourced from within California. So that's a possibility I'm still trying to sort that out. We're getting our new interns soon.

Analiz: Can you add if anything's happening with the committees you're sitting on?

Brooke: ED Search committee hasn't met because of scheduling, but I think we're going to be meeting next week.

Analiz: So that's pretty much it, can I get a motion to adjourn this meeting?

Adjournment: Ivan motions to adjourn the meeting. Diana seconds. Consensus is established. Analiz adjourns the meeting at 4:12 p.m.