



Legislative Affairs and Advocacy

Meeting Minutes

Day/Date: Tuesday October 19, 2021
 Time: 3:15
 Location: <https://calstatela.zoom.us/j/94560342251>
 Attendees: Legislative Affairs committee, General Public
 Type of Meeting: General

I. Organizational Items:

- a. Call to order by: Vice Chair Arya Ravichandran, Campus Lobby Corps Officer @ 3:18 pm
- b. Roll Call

Diana Chavez	ASI President	Present
Analiz Marmolejo	Vice President for External Affairs and Advancement/Chair of Leg Affairs	Excused Absence
Rana Rozi	Civic Engagement Officer	Present
Hope Hua	College of Natural and Social Sciences Representative	Present
Aarya Ravichandran	Campus Lobby Corps Officer	Present
Barnaby Peake	Executive Director	Present

Guests: Amber Beasley, Crystal Meza

- c. Adoption of Agenda: September 21st, 2021

Motion by:	Hope Hua	Seconded by:	Diana Chavez
Motion to approve the agenda for September 21 st , 2021. Consensus established.			
All in favor	Opposed	Abstained	Motion: Passed / Failed

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 Policy Agenda

Aarya: Analiz has requested that we move this item to the next committee meeting so that she is present

b. Defunding Campus Police

Aarya: I was actually sent the wrong zoom code for that meeting so I was only able to join near the end but the main problems that I heard were about the university police still doing their training with the LAPD and a lot of students are worried and anxious about this because the LAPD has been known to enforce a lot of brutal practices with minority populations and the current demands are that training with LAPD should be severely limited, aggressive police tactics like having firearms and aggressive form should be eliminated. And they also want to shift 5% of funding from the police department to the Center for Black Student Success and regarding this demand, ASI recommends that a 3% shift would be more reasonable. And another thing that Analiz was discussing with me about the meeting in general, was that a lot of the statistics and data were outdated, and the meeting was more information-focused and seemed less action-oriented. So we were wondering if there'll be a new resolution and like where are we sitting with this right now, and how will we be moving forward? So Diana, what is your point of view on this issue?

3:22 pm: Rana Rozi, presence acknowledged

Aarya: So Diana, what is your perspective on this issue and how will we be moving forward with it?

Diana: Ok, so we're on the Defund the Campus Police, right? So I wanna ensure that we get the verbiage right, so this is regarding the ASI resolution right? So Analiz kind of worded it wrong; it's not Defund the Police. This event was regarding the ASI resolution to reform the UPD and demand transparency. So currently what's going on statewide is that, SQE is an organization, a student-run organization, it's more like a club. I think we

have one here at CalStateLA and what they do is that they focus on Student Equality to Education; that's the name of the program. And all the organizations from other Cal States teamed up last year in support of what was going on nationally regarding this movement of defunding or reforming the police department and especially because of what was going on racially with the you know, the police attacks, the police killings of innocent Black and Brown men, and so forth. So SQE decided to get together from other Cal States and present this resolution to CSSA and CSSA acts as a governing board for all Cal States. And for each campus it was really up to each ASI president to do one for their very own. I wanna say we were the first, and I take pride in that. We were the first ones to pass a resolution to reform UPD. It was only a few, it wasn't all Cal States. But each SQE in their campus worked with the ASI president or their ASI organization to do one similar for each campus. So some were successful and some weren't. But. I wanna talk mainly what happened in that event and in that Townhall. So last year, in the efforts and the interest of students were to pass a resolution like this and students, you know, it takes several months to even come up with like the idea of writing a resolution like this and it was just getting student input back and forth every day...Students wanted a resolution in solidarity with what was going on nationally. So then I decided to write that up with my knowledge of UPD and literally read their whole policy book which is hundreds of pages, and till this day, I can't believe I did that. But literally just reading their policies and seeing what's wrong and what needs to be updated and that's how I created the resolution. I drafted up like a six page and then from there, I started condensing that to like 4 or 5. I was meeting with student leaders, student activists. I was meeting with campus communities. I was meeting with everyone. And even on social media. There was a huge debate on social media that asked like why this shouldn't be passed and why this should be passed. I was getting hate, I was getting likes. This topic is controversial to some but it's what the students wanted from what I got. I finally finalized the resolution with other help of a few student leaders and student activists on campus so it was presented at BOD and it passed. And then it went to the academic senate which is a governing body of faculty, lecturers, staff, and administration and it also took a month or so to get that on the agenda and see if it would pass. And it fortunately did pass and it was one of the hugest success in ASI history as it was only the third resolution in little than 4 years. So that's where we're at right now and that's where we're at statewide. Not sure if Analiz has heard anything whether CSSA will take up on this but they also have a resolution that they passed so there needs to be some sort of response this year to the resolution that was passed last year at CSSA. I know that other Cal States are currently continuing the movement and trying to you know, hold more accountability to raise resolutions that are passed. So the town hall was just a way to inform what happened last year, to inform the student, the new students really, about what happened last year. And we just went over

the resolution so that's pretty much it. I still haven't heard that much yet regarding this resolution but I know some students are still interested and I know that CSSA also passed a resolution, so we'll see whether or not in the next few months they will be working on something similar or they will be taking accountability on their resolution that they passed. But this is really such a unique situation in that not all Cal States passed something similar and I think that we're pretty historic in that. So it's pretty excited to be part of that movement and that space. Is there anything specific that Analiz wants me to talk about?

Aarya: Not really but, it's just that, as I said earlier, it was more information-focused and less action-oriented and she just wanted to know what we're gonna do moving forward. Like what's next?

Diana: Yeah so that's the question that everybody keeps asking me. "So what's next?" The resolution was passed so what's next? And now, it's just like, it's in the hands of the administration so it's just like having to continue that relationship with administration wherein. They created this council which I sit on. We haven't met yet but we'll hopefully meet sooner than later, so just having to be in those spaces where these conversations come up about public safety, well being, you know. And having student leaders involved in those spaces. So I wish it can be more of a concrete kind of action but it really isn't. Cause there was just so many demands and recommendations in that resolution that it would take years to even like get to it or even have some changes. So the town hall was more informative, just informing the student body of the resolution and the next step is just really having to be communicate with administration, making sure that their efforts are still there. That's pretty much it.

Aarya: Alright, sounds good. Thank you Diana.

c. Civic Engagement Event Ideas

Aarya: So let's go to Rana.

Rana: I hope everyone is doing well. Sorry for being late today. I don't have many ideas but I did wanna collaborate with hopefully someone. Cause I'm in the Arts and Letters and I was hoping to collaborate with Emily [Chen]. I don't know if that would be good for my position or if we could come up with something else that could be beneficial to both our roles. What do you guys think?

Hope: Are there any topics that you plan to outreach for?

Rana: Mainly for voting but the thing is that I'm not sure how we can; because she is the Arts and Letters College. It's not really about politics and you know civic engagement. I'm trying to come up with an idea that could benefit us both because I am really passionate about my department and what my department does. But other than that, I think that's like my main focus right now.

Aarya: Alright, is that all? Okay, we'll keep moving to the reports then.

IV. Reports

a. Report on Behalf of Analiz

Aarya: So she mentioned that she is working on finalizing the CSSA policy agenda and trying to make this a system-wide agenda so that it applies to other campuses as well. And she will most likely get back to us in the next meeting. And next, she is working with Professor Jennifer Hicks, from the College of Arts and Letters, about civic engagement. So Analiz will attend a meeting on October 27 to watch Professor Hicks' students present their ideas on civic engagement, to see whether we can make use of some of those ideas. So she'll keep Rana in the loop about this meeting so that should probably help you with some event ideas in the future. And last but not least, she received an application for our diversity and Inclusion Officer, so she'll work that out and it is likely that we will have filled that position by our next meeting. As for our next report, I'll hand it off to Rana, our Civic Engagement Officer.

b. Civic Engagement Officer

Rana: Hi sorry, I don't have much reports to report on.

c. Diversity and Inclusion Officer

None

V. Adjournment

a. Aarya: Can I get a motion to adjourn this meeting at 3:36 pm?

Diana: I motion.

Aarya: Can I get a second?

Hope: I second

Aarya: This meeting is adjourned at 3:36pm.