



Environmental Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Day/Date: September 27, 2019
 Time: 8am – 10:00am ASI Conference Room
 Location: ASI Conference room
 Attendees: EPC Committee Members, Damarea, General Public

I. Organizational Items:

Call to order by: Chair Environmental Affairs Commissioner, @ 8:08 AM

b. Roll Call

Ugbad Farah	Environmental Affairs Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Absence <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Absence
Amy Vasquez	ASI Environmental Policy Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Absence <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Absence
Simone Benjamin	ASI Environmental Policy Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Absence <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Absence
Hannah Valliere	ASI Environmental Policy Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Tardy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Absence <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Absence Recognized at 8:11am
Aurora Sarmiento	ASI Environmental Policy Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Absence <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Absence
Matiana Parra	ASI Environmental Policy Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Absence <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Absence
Marlen Milan	ASI Environmental Policy Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Tardy <input type="checkbox"/> Excused Absence <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused Absence Recognized at 8:10am
Damarea Parker	Senior Program Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Late <input type="checkbox"/> Early Leave

Ugbad: Quorum has been met.

c. Adoption of Agenda: September 27, 2019

Offered By:	Simone	Seconded by:	Amy
Motion to approve Agenda for Friday, September 27, 2019			
All in Favor	4	Opposed	Abstained
Motion: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> passed			

d. Consensus for the Approval of Minutes: August 30, 2019

Consensus has been reached.

e. Consensus for the Approval of Minutes: September 13, 2019

Consensus has been reached.

II. Public Forum

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.

III. Action Items

Ugbad: I nominate Matiana for Vice-Chair. Do you accept the nomination?

Matiana: I accept.

Offered By:	Simone	Seconded by:	Aurora			
Motion to appoint Matiana Parra as Vice-Chair of the Environmental Policy Committee.						
All in Favor	5	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

IV. Discussion Items

1. Habitat-Restoration at Debs Park

Ugbad: I'd like to briefly discuss program proposal. Please send in your completed portions of the program proposal so we can start advertising. Any discussion? All information (time/location/what to bring) was sent in the previous email.

2. ASI Sustainability Guide, Policy 019

Ugbad: Continuing where we left off last time, which was the procedural guidelines – section 4.0. But for the definitions portion we will be including the three pillars of sustainability which just need to be cited in the policy with the references. Aurora had sent the

Aurora: I have the references for the citations

Ugbad: Energy star portion will be removed completely and replaced by raising awareness, something related to education on campus because our main goal is to raise awareness regarding sustainability around campus and with students & basically how we can go about achieving that – whether that means holding events, roundtable discussions, having our meetings open to the public. Any discussions?

Aurora: So you mentioned something about wanting to open to the public. Someone suggested that they'd like to get involved, but can't get too involved because they don't have time but would like to hear about what we're doing. Someone mentioned wanting to move our meetings to the auditorium/theater – open meetings.

Ugbad: Technically, this meeting is already open to the public. But what you're saying is having it more accessible/in a larger area. For our next meeting we can have our meetings in the U-SU rooms on the third floor. What does everyone think?

Marlen: I remember last year it cost us money to actually book rooms through the U-SU.

Aurora: So we'd have to see people are actually interested?

Simone: It comes out of our budget?

Damarea & Marlen: Yes.

Matiana: I think its really important to get the message out that we exist – one thing is accessibility, but that students also know about it. So that's one step we can work on – promoting the EPC so that students know its available if they're interested and can learn about what's going on. Before we move on to another room.

Ugbad: So focus on promoting the existence of the EPC itself.

Marlen: Maybe we can promote by doing a month-long sustainability campaign. Each day, we post on Instagram one thing you can change about your lifestyle that is more sustainable to Earth.

Damarea: Would you all tie sustainability into wellness?

Matiana: Yes. We can talk about environmental justice and issues that affect certain populations, health, things like that.

Aurora: In the CSU guidelines, they tie sustainability with sustainable food services. It states, "All campus food service organizations should track their sustainable food purchases.." Link: <https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/sustainability>

Damarea: The reason I bring it up is because there will be a wellness-week and there can be student representatives present in programming and get everyone in touch with people involved (for example CSI). This will be October 14th -18th.

Ugbad: Back to the policy, the last part is the procedural guidelines. Rather than performing a quarterly carbon footprint, but based on discussions with Brad (Energy & Sustainability Manager) and research, we should provide the report that is already being done.

Aurora: So we would present it to the board?

Ugbad: Yes, similar to the Climate Action Report. We can provide the information to the students and greater Cal State LA community.

Amy: For wording, we should change it to recommending a switch to energy saving star appliances.

3. Water Refill Station Map:

For this project, the committee will add onto an already existing map. Rather than just water refill stations, we will also incorporate recycling receptacles, per Simone's suggestion. We will also add food pantry locations, per Marlen's suggestion and adding dates/times per Matiana's suggestion. We will also add legends/identifiers. This won't be an interactive map and rather than solely being water-refill station map it will be a sustainability map.

4. Group Discussion:

Regarding garden: Damarea will appropriately loop us in with those involved in the wellness garden.

Amy: Thinking about visibility about campus, we should have the trees on campus identified for students to see and be more aware of their surroundings. Addressing plant blindness.

Matiana: And include "brought to you by EPC". Also include plant background (native history along with species).

Aurora: There are roses by the health center, and it was mentioned that it's an homage to the fact that this campus used to be a rose farm – but this is not common knowledge.

Simone: Would we also be looking to get the Naturalist club involved to help with identification?

Amy: This could be a collective effort and also include research labs.

Matiana: We could make an event out of it have people involved.

Ugbad: Citizen science!

Aurora: The facilities should have a list of all plants on campus (as a resource).

Simone: For earth week, could we have a "plant walk" so could we have the project done by then?

The committee agrees on completing this project before our earth week event.

Matiana: What Simone brought up is really cool, and we could do a scavenger hunt and have students find similar trees around campus and have students involved. We can also invite any other clubs involved in environmental issues.

Simone: We can also facilitate tours around campus with people, such as Dr. Fisher and other professors, who would give backgrounds about the trees. We can also have adopt-a-tree event and plant [native] trees, but we should also make sure it's possible to happen.

Ugbad: Any other discussions?

Hannah: On Instagram, Loretta Allison (@spadeandseeds) who does workshops on gardening, plants nurseries, and we could potentially have her come to campus for workshops. She also does gardening consultations, as well as planting gardens on campuses.

Ugbad: This is great, maybe we can have workshops led by Loretta during de-stress weeks. It would also be open to the public so we're not just impacting students, but the greater LA community.

V. Reports

Damarea: Firstly, Where are we in regards to the transportation piece. Do we have a follow-up discussion (purpose)?

Ugbad: Yes, let's look at what data is available and go from there. I think it would be great if we talked about it at our next meeting. If anyone wants to meet and discuss the purpose of this study let me know.

Damarea: Second, in regards to the mind matters garden I will connect you to Dr. Monica so that we can get involved with those who are leading the meetings.

VI. Adjournment

Offered By:	Simone	Seconded by:	Aurora			
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:54am.						
All in Favor	6	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:54am.

DRAFT