

**Associated Students Incorporated
California State University, Long Beach**

**SENATE MINUTES
Meeting #6
August 31, 2005**

1. Call to Order

The Vice President Okahana called the meeting to order at 3:30pm. The Vice President asked the members to observe a moment of silence to pay respect to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

2. Invocation

Dr. Doug Robinson, Vice President for Student Services, read the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL (Roll #11 – Quorum Call)

Present

Mr. Brian Campos
Ms. Heidi Chavez
Mr. Kenneth Cooper
Ms. Naomi Cruz
Mr. Guido D’Onofrio
Mr. Mike Emenhiser
Ms. Elisa Herrera
Mr. Aminul Km
Mr. Juancarlos Mariano
Ms. Shelena McClinton
Ms. Shefali Mistry
Ms. Jeannette Mora
Ms. Sandra Olmedo
Ms. Zion Redie
Mr. William Sanchez
Ms. Shauntel Smith
Mr. Clint Sylvestre
Ms. Jessica Vieira
Mr. Kory Witt
Mr. Hironao Okahana

Not Present

Ms. Ashley Mara Stanton

Non-Voting Present

Dr. Jeanne Caveness
Dr. Wayne Dick

Non-Voting Not Present

4. Approval of the Agenda

Without objection, the Vice President stated that the Senate would proceed as a whole to Executive Business immediately after item XIIA that had a time certain of 3:45pm. He stated that this would be followed by item XA. At the conclusion of those items indicated, the Vice President stated that the Senate would then proceed to receive reports from the Chair and the Senator after which they were to proceed as per the agenda.

Without objection, the agenda was approved and modified.

5. Approval of the Minutes from the last meeting

(M) Ms. Herrera (S) Mr. McClinton to approve Senate Minutes #5 dated August 17, 2005.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 18-0-3

6. Public Comments

Dr. Hostetler, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students announced that per a new US Congressional Act, every federally funded University is required to have a US Constitution Day. He stated that a panel was meeting to discuss and to decide the events that were to be organized for this event. He stated that the panel would be meeting

on Sept 15 in USU 306 from 11-12:30pm. He invited anyone who wished to know more about this event to attend this meeting. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Armando Aguilar, the President of Christian's Unite stated that they would be having an event in the USU Ballroom on Sept 14th at 6:30pm. He added that they conducted food drives for the VAT's every last Saturday. He also stated that they have outreach programs to orphanages every first Sunday.

Mr. Andrew Brooks, Associate Justice encouraged the Senate and all the Students to take up means to save resources such as car-pooling. He also recommended purchasing book from websites like half.com to save money.

Mr. Joe Baclig, Government Recruitment and Training Officer announced that the ASI recruitment night is next Tuesday in the USU Ballrooms at 6:30pm and invited everyone to attend. He also thanked everyone who had helped with SOAR. He also added that T3 is next Saturday and that Sept 6th is that last day to sign up for it.

Ms. Michelle Cooper, New Students Orientation Commissioner reminded everyone about the week of welcome next week. She stated that she needed help with various events and tables for which sign up forms are available in the office.

12. Introduction of New Business

A. General Debate on Plus/Minus Grade System-TC 3:45pm

Before opening the floor for discussion, the Vice President acknowledged Dr. Gary Reichard, Provost/Senior Vice President and Dr. Cecile Lindsey, Associate Vice President for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies and thanked them for coming. The Vice President then opened the floor for discussion on the issue for a period of 45 minutes. The Senators provided their views on the issue and the problems they felt the students may come across as a result of this grading system.

Ms. Herrera stated that the Plus/Minus system would not be an adequate reflection of a student's academic ability. She stated that an A would get only a 4.0 GPA as there would be no A+ in the grading system which would affect A grade students.

Mr. Km stated that it would be useful if more information could be obtained as to how this grading system has affected other schools and what the student reaction has been to the system.

Ms. Chavez stated that she had talked to a few people about it and they all agreed that it would affect their GPA's.

Ms. Olmedo agreed and stated she had heard the same thing from students at UCLA where the grading system is being used.

Ms. Cruz added that most of the responses she received were not in favor of the new grading system.

Mr. Witt expressed concerns regarding the C and C- grade and how it would affect students in terms of financial aid and probation status.

Ms. McClinton expressed concern over how this would affect the norms for financial aid.

Dr. Dick stated that the Board should also remember that the grading system would give the provision of giving a B+ grade to students thus helping to improve a students GPA rather than getting a B under the current grading system. He added that the faculty is very enthusiastic about implementing the new grading system.

Mr. Cooper stated that the minus would be a very discouraging factor to students and would on the whole bring a negative effect on the students.

Ms. Mistry added that the Arts are already such a difficult field to assign grades to and introducing the new system would only make it harder for professors to grade Art classes.

Mr. Mariano pointed out that normally more minus's are given out to students than Plus's.

Ms. Olmedo stated that the university should target the students with low GPA's as they were the ones who were in need of help. They should also improve the facilities to help improve their grades rather than introducing a grading system that would make it harder for them to stay in school.

Ms. McClinton agreed and stated that the Learning assistance center is there to help students but a lot more is needed to reach all levels of students.

Ms. Vieira inquired about the time line on the issue.

Ms. Chavez stated that the Board should remember that this was a Cal State University and not a University of California.

The Board members discussed the pros and cons of the new system. The Senate brought up a lot of issues that would have to be addressed before the new grading system could be implemented. Discussion ensued until the Chair closed the floor at the end of the allotted time period.

Dr. Lindsay stated that she was pleased with the discussion and that she would raise the student's concerns with the BOD at their next meeting.

13. Executive Business

A. PN#2006-25 Appointment of Kevyn Cobos to Public Relations Commissioner

Ms. Kevyn Cobos introduced herself to the Senate. She stated that this was her third year at CSULB as a Business Marketing major. She gave the Board details about herself. She highlighted her strong qualities and stated that she is looking forward to building a strong and enthusiastic commission. Discussion ensued.

B. PN#2006-26 Appointment of Michael Munoz to Sports and Spirit Commissioner

Mr. Michael Munoz introduced himself as a junior in Kinesiology & Sports Psychology. He provided the Board with his qualifications and explained his plans for the position. Discussion ensued.

Without objection, the Vice President moved that Items 9A and B be considered en-bloc.

(M) Emehiser (S) Smith to confirm the appointment of Ms. Cobos and Mr. Munoz.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 19-0-1

10. Special Order Session

A. Report from the President of the Associated Students-TC 4:45pm

The President informed the Board that 10% off Tuesdays would begin on Tuesday September 6th. She encouraged everyone to let students, faculty and staff know that if they are wearing beach attire or sporting a wristband that they will get 10% off at the Nugget, Outpost, Beach Hut, Bakery and logo gear in the bookstore with their CSULB ID card.

Ms. Pollock thanked everyone that attended the retreat and those who took the opportunity to get to know one another on a personal level. She gave an update on the golf cart, which was painted bright yellow and has beautiful Beach Pride embellishments.

Ms. Pollock also thanked Mr. Km and Mr. Emehiser for helping with the Dorm Move-in. A total of 15 people from ASI came out to help move new students into the dorms. They also promoted Week of Welcome, ASI recruitment night and gave out free tickets to the parents for the Volleyball game. She attended the volleyball game Friday night and CSULB won. On Saturday there was a dorm walkover, which included President Maxson. She thanked Mr. Emehiser, Ms. McClinton and Mr. Witt for attending. CSULB played against Sacramento State and of course CSULB won again.

Ms. Pollock provided a report on her meeting with Dr. Margaret Merryfield, the Chair of the Academic Senate. They had a brief conversation about the plus minus grading system, and ensured her that ASI will take full advantage of filling the vacant seats on Academic Senate and the Sub-councils.

Ms. Pollock reported that the Executives are handing out Go Beach wristbands to athletes. Monday, August 29th they handed out wristbands to the Men's Basketball team and the Men's and Women's Golf Team. Friday, September 2nd they will be speaking to the Baseball team.

The President reminded the Board that Week of Welcome would take place on Sept 6, 7, & 8th from 11-2pm on Friendship Walk. She further reminded the Board that ASI Recruitment Night would take place on September 6th from 5-7pm in the USU Ballrooms. She highly encouraged everyone to attend and participate.

7. Chair's Report

The Vice President thanked the members who attended the AS Retreat last week. He also reported that President Pollock had appointed Mr. Michael Munoz as Sports and Spirit Commissioner, upon Mr. Adam Clark's resignation. He further reported that Ms. Pollock had appointed Mr. Joseph Calmer to Conservation Commissioner. The Vice President reported that he and the Secretary for System wide Affairs had attended the California State Student Association Board of Directors meeting held last weekend at California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo. He stated that the next CSSA meeting would be held at CSULB on September 17th-18th. He encouraged the Board to attend the meeting and indicated that lunch would be provided on both days. If interested, he mentioned that they could RSVP with Secretary Billoo by the end of the week. On behalf of CSSA and the System wide Affairs Secretary, he invited the Board to participate in the Voter Registration Training

scheduled to take place on September 16th at CSULB. He stated that if anyone is interested they should contact Secretary Biloo at the AS Government Office.

8. Reports from Senators

Documents & Bylaws: Ms. Chavez stated that they would be meeting this week. She encouraged everyone to attend the meeting and express any concerns that they may have over any Bylaws that are being discussed or approved by the committee.

Rules and Ethics: Mr. Witt reported that normal office hours were back in effect. He added that only one absence is permitted from the Senate during the semester and that they should inform him in advance if anyone cannot attend the meetings.

Board of Control: Mr. Emenhiser requested a smooth approval of items 11B.1, 2 & 3. He stated that if the Board had any questions regarding these items, he could provide clarification.

Union Board of Trustees: Mr. Km stated that they would be having a meeting on Sept 2nd at 1pm.

Senators:

Ms. Olmedo thanked Treasurer Tinoco and Ms. Cruz for attending the Latino Student Welcome.

Ms. Mistry stated that she has a class that ends at 3:45pm and indicated that she would be late to every meeting. She also added that she would have to leave at 5:30pm to help a friend moving in from out of town.

Senator Cooper announced that he too would have to leave at 5:30pm due to prior commitments.

Senator Smith stated that the Program Council would be meeting next week.

9. Consent Agenda

- A. Concurrence for recognition of new student organizations
 - 1) The KS Society
 - 2) Students for Academic Freedom

The Vice President explained the process and indicated that the Office of Student Life and Development reviews the Bylaws and Constitution of student organizations. He gave the Board details concerning the organizations and their objectives. The Board discussed the organizations.

(M) Mr. Emenhiser (S) Ms. McClinton to approve consent agenda.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 11-4-4

11. Business Pending on the Floor

- A. Senate Working Rules
The Board the discussed the changes made to the Senate working rules.

(M) Vieira (S) Emenhiser to pass the Senate Working Rules.

Ms. Herrera stated that the document is not yet in its final form and that the Senate should wait for to be prepared completely to approve it

(M) Herrera (S) Chavez to refer the Senate Working Rules to the Committee on Documents and Bylaws.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 19-0-1

- B. Approval of Revision to Policies of the Associated Students
 - 1) Gifts and Awards for Employees
 - 2) Procurement
 - 3) Executive Director Succession

(M) Emenhiser (S) Km to approve items B1, B2 and B3.

Ms. Olmedo inquired about the procurement policy and asked if all organizations have to be notified about the new policy or is it only the ones requesting funding for procuring new items. The Board discussed the definition of bulk in the policy. They felt that the term has not been adequately defined. Discussion ensued.

(M) Herrera (S) Mariano to change the term ‘bulk’ to ‘any’ in section 9.1 of procurement.

Ms. Vieira made a suggestion to recommend the Board of Control to amend Section 9.1 of Procurement Policy by replacing “bulk” to “any”.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 14-1-5

VOTE ON THE MAIN MOTION (Exclude Procurement Policy)

PASSES 17-0-3

12. B. Appointment of Student Representative to Academic Senate Committees and Councils

The Vice President explained the positions that were available and the nominations that had already been received by the Senate. The following nominations were made:

Curriculum and Educational Policies Council (2)

- 1. Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez
- 2. Fmr. Senator Jennifer Sharp

Program Assessment and Review Council (2)

- 1.
- 2.

University Resources Council (2)

- 1. System wide Affairs Secretary Zahra Billoo
- 2.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement Committee (1)

- 1. Vice President Hironao Okahana

International Education Committee (2)

- 1. Ms. Anchal Bibra
- 2. Ms. Ma Khin Sandar Aung

Teacher Preparation Committee (2)

- 1. Senator Jessica Vieira
- 2. Fmr. Senator Courtney Ronald

University Library Committee (2)

- 1. Sen. Elisa Herrera (graduate)

Academic Integrity Committee (1)

- 1. Chief of Staff Robert Godina

Financial Aid Advisory Committee (1)

Trustee Mathew S. Hackanberger

Learning Assistance Center Advisory Committee (2)

Ms. McClinton nominated herself.

Mr. D’Onofrio nominated himself.

(M) Emenhiser (S) Smith to appoint the individuals mentioned above to the respective committees.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 17-0-1

Ms. Olmedo and Ms. Redie received the most votes, therefore they were appointed to the Committee on Athletics.

C. Appointment of Student representative to Student Fee Advisory Committee (4)

1. Fmr. Senator Morgan Wheeler
2. System wide Affairs Secretary Zahra Billoo
3. Trustee Mathew S. Hackanberger
4. Edgar Molina
5. Kevin Cape

Mr. Emehiser nominated Mr. Mariano

Ms. Smith nominated Mr. Km

(M) Emehiser (S) Herrera to postpone this item with speculation that all nominees are informed and are represented adequately at the next meeting.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 15-0-2

D. S. Res #2006-06 "Resolution to oppose House Resolution 609" (Okahana)

(M) Chavez (S) Vieira to waive the first reading

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 16-0-1

The Board discussed the Resolution.

(M) Km (S) Vieira to pass S. Res #2006-06.

VOTE ON THE MAIN MOTION

PASSES 16-0-1

14. Additional Statements

Mr. Km informed the Board that Beach Board is now no longer on campus and that the server has been shifted to Washington.

Ms. McClinton stated that applications for T3 are available and that the deadline is Sept 6th.

Ms. Cruz yielded her time to Fmr. Senator Ntuk. Mr. Ntuk stated that he dropped by to greet the new Senate and to encourage them to work hard in order to make changes and reach out to the students. He added that he is looking forward to working with the Senate.

Ms. Olmedo recommended that the Senators ride the Beach Cruiser so that they can experience first hand the difficulties the students go through and make suggestions on improvements.

Ms. Chavez congratulated everyone for attending the first Senate meeting of the semester.

Mr. Witt stated that if any of the members wish to arrive late or leave early, they should inform him in advance.

Mr. Km reminded everyone to attend his or her committee meetings.

Ms. Chavez reminded everyone that the Committee on Documents & Bylaws would be meeting at 3pm on Friday, September 2, 2005.

15. Adjournment

Without objection, the Vice President moved for the adjournment of Senate until 3:30 pm on September 6, 2005.

There was no objection. At 6:30pm, the Senate adjourned.

RECORDED BY:

Manoj Nair
Recording Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Hironao Okahana
ASI Vice-President

VETO OR WAVE WITH VETOES BY:

Jamie Pollock
ASI President

Dated: _____

Dr. Michael Hostetler
Associate Vice President for Student Services/
Dean of Students

Dated: _____