

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH**

**THE SENATE/BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES**

**Meeting #10  
October 31, 2007**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Montano at 3:37 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Voting Members Present

Senator Justin Alfonso  
Senator Moad Bensaid  
Senator John Blowers  
Senator Philip Bustamante  
Senator Rosannara Chhun  
Senator Ruben Cordova  
Senator Alex Cortez  
Senator Marilei Denila  
Senator Minh Thi Doan  
Senator Greg Lim  
Senator Megan Miller  
Senator Raul Preciado  
Senator Erin Swetland  
Senator Juliana Wise  
Senator Denise Wright  
Senator Jeff Yutzenka  
Vice President Lucy Montano

Voting Members Absent

Senator Jessica LaVenter  
Senator Pia Talamayan

Non-Voting Present

Mr. Richard Haller (Executive Director)  
Dr. Chris Burnett (Faculty Rep)

Non-Voting Absent

Dr. Jeane Caveness (University President's designee)  
Ms. Kim Hinckson (Advisor to the Senate)

**3. INVOCATION**

The invocation was done by Senator Bustamante, who played the Imperial March from Star Wars to emphasize that the Senate is not an imperial group. He stated that a Senator's job is to represent students, and Senators are "no more than common men and common women endeavoring to do extraordinary things with a little bit of power. We must always remember to go with the humbling notion that we are only as uncommon as we make ourselves."

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were none.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair wished everyone a happy and safe Halloween, and then yielded the floor to President Andrews. The President introduced to the Senate the matter of CSULB's membership in CSSA, a statewide organization representing students from the California State University system. The organization is currently facing financial turmoil, but it is important in regards to representing CSU students for the Chancellor's Office. President Andrews emphasized his desire for CSULB to remain a member of this organization, but called for the resignation of the Executive Director of CSSA. He stated that the position of Executive Director, as exemplified by Mr. Haller, was to provide stability to the organization. President Andrews also attributed the budget crisis of CSSA to the current Executive Director. He submitted that, if CSULB calls for this resignation, the University should once again consider contributing financially to CSSA.

Senator Preciado inquired whether the President had found any other supporters in this matter. President Andrews replied in the affirmative, stating that he had talked to other campuses and met support in calling for change within the CSSA organization. He emphasized that if the current financial problems continue, the organization will soon be filing for bankruptcy.

Dr. Burnett asked how many other Universities are non-dues paying members, and what influence the University has in the organization as a non-due paying member. The President replied that 7 schools are non-dues paying members, and as a non-dues paying member CSULB would have a minimal role in influencing who the new director would be.

Senator Wise asked why funds were pulled initially. Mr. Haller explained that the University had been a non-dues paying member for two years, and previously had gone through periods of paying and not paying. The reason for the most recent withdrawal of funds is the disproportionate voting mechanism used in CSSA. The dues paid by each campus are determined by its total student population; however, no matter what the size of the University, each campus only gets one vote. It was the Senate that made the decision to pull funds, partially out of a feeling that CSSA did not provide enough direct benefit to students. There was also concern over the fact that CSSA derives a third of its budget from the Chancellor's Office, which is the group that it's supposed to be watching. The CSSA is meant to be students' defense to the Chancellor's Office. The money that would have gone to CSSA is currently being put to use as funding scholarships for CSULB students.

President Andrews made a comparison between the disproportionate voting mechanisms used by CSSA to the early trials of the United States Government. He continued to state that he met with other CSU schools in an attempt to form a strategic plan with the goal of initiating a statewide fee to fund CSSA so that it would be independent from the Chancellor's office. However, the process would be hindered by the chance for abuse of the statewide fee. The President added that to have more influence in changing CSSA, the University should consider reinvesting in the organization.

Senator Cordova inquired what the Executive Director of CSSA had done to alienate President Andrews. The President accredited the Executive Director with poor work competency. He also attributed the fiscal problems of CSSA to the Executive Director, stating that the Executive Director is allotting more money to new programs when the organization is already in debt.

He also said that many of the Board members had voted not to accept the recent audit. The President then addressed the argument that the organization was in debt because schools like CSULB had stopped contributing financially, stating that the organization was in financial trouble before the University stopped paying, and giving the organization more money would not fix the problem. The CSSA must face the spending problem in order to resolve their financial hardship.

Senator Cordova asked for clarification regarding the President's statement that the organization had encountered financial troubles before CSULB revoked funding. President Andrews replied that he had reviewed the audit, but did not have specific examples. He reiterated the importance of the position of the Executive Director, stating that the purpose of the position is to provide consistency in the organization when all other positions have such a high turnaround. The Executive Director is a person to be trusted because of his or her experience.

Dr. Burnett inquired as to who would fire the Executive Director, and whether the Chancellor's Office has any say in the matter. The President replied that he was unsure because, as a non-dues paying member, the University is not allowed to attend the meetings in which another officer is being recalled.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING**

There were no corrections made to the minutes from the last meeting.

(M) Yutrzenka (S) Preciado to approve the Senate Minutes #9 dated October 23, 2007.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Approval of Minutes from Subsidiary Boards**

- 1) Board of Control Minutes, Meeting #10 dated October 23, 2007

**B. Receipt of Minutes, Reports, and Communications**

- 1) President's Report
- 2) Vice President's Report
- 3) Treasurer's Report
- 4) Administrator's Report
- 5) Executive's Report

(M) Yutrzenka (S) Cortez to approve the consent calendar.

Vice President Montano explained to the Senate that President Andrews' speech to the Senate was his report. Knowing that the Senators would have questions, he delivered it verbally.

Senator Alfonso reported on the activities of the BOC meeting.

Mr. Haller explained that his report was distributed at the beginning of the meeting, and reminded the Senate that next week he is scheduled for verbal engagement.

Senator Cordova pointed out that in the BOC Minutes, in the section for the approval of last meeting's minutes, there was a typo indicating that the BOC had approved the minutes from a meeting two weeks prior instead of the previous meeting's minutes.

Mr. Haller said he would inform the BOC and confirm that they had in fact approved the last meeting's minutes.

**Motion carries.**

**8. WAIVERS OF THE SENATE RULES/URGENT BUSINESS**

There were none.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. SR#2008-01: Water conservation (J. Yutrzenka and M. Miller) – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading  
(M) Chhun (S) Cordova to approve the resolution as a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

Mr. Haller commended Senators Yutrzenka and Miller for their fine work on drafting the resolution.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. BOD#2008-27: Election of Student Representative for the International Education Committee  
Vice President Montano explained that, instead of waiting for additional people to apply before approving them in the Senate, she preferred to approve applicants as they come.  
Vice President Montano nominated Senator Denila.  
Nominations were closed.  
**Motion carries unanimously.**

**11. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS**

- A. PA#2008-23: Confirmation of Vanessa Lopez to be Assistant Secretary for System-Wide Affairs  
B. PA#2008-24: Confirmation of Joan Mace to be Secretary for Academic Affairs

In the absence of both Ms. Lopez and Ms. Mace, Vice President Montano invited the Senate to decide whether to confirm appointees without meeting them, or postpone the confirmation until next week.

Senator Alfonso motioned to postpone the approval of the presidential appointees.

(M) Alfonso (S) Lim to postpone until next week.

Senator Cordova agreed that the Senate should meet the appointees first, but pointed out that meeting the assistant was not absolutely necessary.

Vice President Montano agreed, stating that these appointees will be the ones to deal with CSSA.

Senator Miller also asked that the Senate meet appointees first; pointing out that she was unable to read their applications.

Senator Preciado inquired as to the necessity of meeting with the Assistant Secretary. He said he could not recall personally appearing before the Senate for approval when he served in that role. Vice President Montano responded that the Senate had confirmed Preciado before meeting him, but she wished to press towards meeting candidates before approving them.

Senator Alfonso informed the Senate that the next CSSA meeting will take place November 9<sup>th</sup>, thus, the Senate has enough time to postpone the confirmation.

Mr. Haller explained that the Assistant Secretary does not deal with the CSSA, but forms part of the Lobby Core on campus.

**Motion carries.**

**12. SPECIAL ORDER BUSINESS**

There was none.

**13. VOLUNTARY CLOSING COMMENTS**

Senator Swetland distributed CSULB basketball schedules and flyers for Monsoon Maniacs.

Senator Wright announced that she will be selling Halloween candy grams for her sorority, and added that next week her sorority is hosting Zeta week. The first event will be a blood drive on Monday. She also reminded the Senate that the canned food drive is continuing and cans of food may be placed in the box near her desk.

Senator Preciado requested a volunteer for the College Jeopardy Team, to which Senator Miller replied that she had a volunteer lined up already. Senator Preciado went on to announce that the La Raza organization is hosting an event on Friday at 6 pm in the Soroptomist House.

Senator Cordova told the Senate of the Halloween Carnival hosted by Delta Sigma Phi taking place that evening for the Boys and Girls Club of Long Beach.

Senator Wright distributed flyers regarding a discussion of Jena 6 event hosted by the AS Cabinet Secretary of Campus Diversity Relations.

Senator Alfonso announced that CPAC is raising labor prices to almost double what they currently are. He emphasized that Senators should inform student organizations.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Without objection, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:18 pm.

**RECORDED BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Danielle Gilstrap, Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**APPROVED BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lucy Montano, ASI Vice-President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**VETO OR WAIVE VETOES BY:**

\_\_\_ Waive Veto

\_\_\_ Veto

Items: \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Andrews, ASI President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date