

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

**SENATE MINUTES
Meeting #29
Wednesday, March 29, 2006**

1. Call to Order

Vice President Okahana called the meeting to order at 3:33pm.

2. Invocation

There was no invocation.

3. ROLL CALL

Present

Mr. Brian Campos
Mr. Kenneth Cooper
Ms. Naomi Cruz (Ar @ 3:38pm)
Mr. Guido D'Onofrio
Mr. Mike Emenhiser
Ms. Elisa Herrera
Mr. Aminul Km (Ar @ 3:50pm and Dp @ 5:00pm)
Mr. Juancarlos Mariano
Ms. Shelena McClinton
Ms. Shefali Mistry (Ar @ 3:54pm)
Ms. Sandra Olmedo (Ar @ 3:45pm)
Ms. Zion Redie (Dp @ 5:24 pm)
Mr. William Sanchez
Ms. Shauntel Smith
Ms. Ashley Mara Stanton (Dp @ 5:04pm)
Mr. Clint Sylvestre
Mr. Justin Todoroff (Dp @ 5:12pm)
Ms. Jessica Vieira (Ar @ 3:50pm and Dp @ 4:45pm)
Mr. Kory Witt
Mr. Hironao Okahana (Dp @ 5:25pm)

Voting Members Absent

Ms. Elaine Chau

Non-Voting Present

Dr. Jeane Caveness
Dr. Wayne Dick (Dp @ 5:25pm)

Non-Voting Absent

4. Approval of the Agenda

Without objection the Chair stated a time certain for a discussion on the plus/minus grading system-Item 12B at 4:00 pm or immediately following public comments.

Without objection Item 10B will only be an informational presentation and no discussion will be permitted.

Mr. Todoroff objected to item 10B. He told the Board since items 10B, 11A, and 11B were submitted too late, they needed to be removed from the agenda.

5. Approval of the Minutes from the last meeting

(M) McClinton (S) Herrera moved to approve minutes from Meeting #27 on March 22, 2006.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 14-0-1

6. Public Comments

a) James B. Davis: As the Academic Senate representative, he congratulated the Senators of Engineering for helping pass a resolution in their College Council on the plus/minus grading system. On Thursday, March 30 the Academic Senate will be having a first reading on the plus/minus. The second reading for the plus/minus system in the Academic Senate is Thursday, April 20, 2006. He also stated that he would be sending the Board other emails updaters on committees he is on currently seating on.

b) Uduak-Joe Ntuk: He told the Board that he created an online petition that currently has over 600 signatures and asked the Board to support his effort by informing their constituents. Lastly, he stated that will be an Operations Bylaw Amendment he co-authored with Senator Herrera and urged the Board to look at it carefully.

c) Cortney Ronald: She is the Government Elections Officer who announced that the past 2 days of voting had yielded a little over 1000 votes due to the rainy weather and she was hopeful that the good weather today will bring more people to the polls. She stated that Thursday March 30th at 9:00 am the election committee will be meeting to count and certify the number of votes for the ASI Spring Elections. Then at 10:00 am the Committee will announce the winners in the USU Ballroom C and again at 12:00 pm on the South West Terrace. The Board had a few questions.

Olmedo: She was concerned that students were not getting the correct ballots. Ronald assured the Board that the wrong ballot problem was fixed when it was brought to her attention.

Herrera: She asked if the sturdiness of the ballots would be compromised due to the rain and moisture. Ronald responded that the balloting counting agency would make that determination and all precautions are being made to keep the ballots dry.

d) Dr. Mike Hosteler: He wanted the Board to know that the Director of Student Life and Development, Jeff Klaus spent all day Monday and Tuesday helping with the Elections due to illness of Dr. Caveness who is the Committee representative.

Sanchez: He is the Elections Committee Senate representative and stated that he appreciated the Director of Student Life and Development helping out with the elections.

e) David Kirsten: He stated he was disappointed that the turnout for the Executive Debate. He did not like the fact that there were only nine CSULB students that attended and the rest were ASI officers. Also he did not like the location of the Debate (the Nugget) and suggested next time to move it to the Friendship Walk. Secondly he was disappointed on the lack of promotion of the event. Thirdly he stated that there has been a lack of communication throughout ASI as a whole. Fourthly he stated that students did not know where the rainy day poll locations were and even the students running for office did not know the locations. Next he suggested that the ASI Bylaws should be made public on the internet. He stated that it does not make sense that the Senate's Minutes or Bylaws are not posted publicly. Finally he ended that last week when he attended a Senate meeting he noticed that Vice President Hiro Okahana was rejecting students' voices, which was a joke.

7. Chair's Report

Report from the Chair were distributed please see attachment.

8. Reports from Senators

Reports from Senators were distributed please see attachment.

9. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes from the Subsidiary Boards

1) Board of Control, Meeting #28, dated March 21, 2006

B. Received Minutes, Communications, and Reporters

1) Judiciary Minutes #4, Dated March 31, 2006

(M) Witt (S) Sanchez moved to approve the consent agenda.

10. Business Referred to the Senate Floor

A. BOD-BOC-2006-10 “Revisions to the Policy on Revenue”

Senator Emenhiser was asked to explain the changes and updates on this resolution that Board of Control revised.

Sylvestre: He suggested change on page 6 under User Fees.

Emenhiser: The revenue flows from Child Development Center, to Board of Control and then to Board of Directors.

Caveness: The resolution does not enforce student organization revenue. She just wanted to make sure the Board knew that ASI has never done this.

(M) Emenhiser (S) D’Onofrio moved to approve BOD-BOC-2006-10.

VOTE ON MOTION

PASSES 17-0-2

11. Introduction of New Business

A. S.Res. #2006-25 “Resolution Addressing Library Services in the Lower Campus Area” (Km, Okahana)

Senator Km was asked by the Chair to introduce the resolution. He gave the idea behind the resolution and why it was written.

(M) Km (S) Cruz moved to agree on the resolution.

Okahana: He announced that Senator Sanchez will be added as a sponsor to the resolution.

Vieira: She stated that the title was not specific enough and suggested that the change to be from “Lower Campus” to “Horn Center”.

Emenhiser: He responded that he already talked about the title option before hand with Dr. Soni and chose “Lower Campus”.

Km: He stated that now the Library oversees the Horn Center starting last semester.

Olmedo: She stated she understood that the Horn Center was working on twenty-four hour service and did not think it was necessary to be in the resolution.

Caveness: She stated that there is a need for this resolution, so the Board and ASI can continue putting there input on this issue.

Dick: Dean Kochan was already hinting towards this idea, so he is going to take it to the President.

Okahana: The second reading for this resolution will be on next week’s agenda.

12. Special Order of Business

A. Committee of the Whole Senate to Discuss State of the Associated Students

The Chair announced that the Board will be resuming the debate from last week at the meeting.

Okahana: He told the Board that tomorrow the Academic Senate will be discussing the plus/minus system as a first reading. He also stated that it will be an option for faculty members, not equal straight across the Board with all professors.

Sylvestre: He reported that the College of Engineering are against the plus/minus system. First he found a flaw in the argument of lack of competition for graduate school. Secondly he found a huge problem with the inconsistency with faculty situation of an optional grading system. Thirdly his college passed a resolution against the plus/minus grading system on March 24, 2006.

McClinton: She stated that the College of Liberal Arts was against the plus/minus grading system. They many concerns like when it is going to be applied, is it only going to affect freshmen, and why was the process rushed. She also stated that she felt that proper research was not done on the plus/minus grading system. McClinton started a petition that students from all colleges can sign and told the Board to encourage as many students as possible to sign the petition.

Emenhiser: He asked McClinton if the petition was online and suggested that it would be a great idea to go online. McClinton answered that the petition is not on the internet, but it is in the ASI office.

Dick: He encouraged the Board to think their arguments through and make them as strong as possible. He also told the Board to state they are against the plus/minus system, but to be careful of wording because the Academic Senate has 74 members.

Vieira: She stated that students have been signing the plus/minus petition because this is an important issue to many them.

Stanton: She asked Vieira what information is signed. Vieira stated that only the students name, major, and signature.

Okahana: He asked the Board what message the Board would like to give to the Academic Senate tomorrow on the plus/minus system.

Km: He stated that California State University Long Beach is the 3rd best public university according to the Princeton Review. He was making the point if Long Beach State is the 3rd best public university in the country without the plus/minus system, then why change the colleges standing. He pointed out flaws with the new system which are (1) creates a new system, (2) creates new discrimination, (3) look at California State University Fullerton who implicated the grading system in Fall 2006, and (4) encouraged the Board to lobby to the Academic Senate.

Vieira: She stated that graduate school just does not base admission of G.P.A., but many other aspects.

McClinton: Her main argument against the plus/minus grading system was the university's retention rates. The effect of the new grading system could decrease the retention rates.

Vieira: She asked what the Board should put on the resolve. Her suggestion was (1) cannot force professors to do the grading system and (2) that students are against the plus/minus system.

Olmedo: She stated she is against it because of the universities current standings in the Princeton Review. Students would have to adjust to the plus/minus system, which could decrease GPA and increase academic probation. The retention rate would also decrease because of the new grading system.

Herrera: She stated she disagreed with the plus minus/system for three reasons. (1) the university's purpose is to help students get a better education, (2) this is a bad move for students sake, and (3) students who are going to graduate school already have the drive to get good grades and the motivation needed.

Km: He is against the plus/minus system for three reasons. The first argument was that more students will be on probation. Secondly he argued that the Math Department at Long Beach State is number one in the nation getting accepted in any PHD program. Thirdly he argued that other universities do not care what grading system is used.

Emenhiser: He agreed with Km and other Senators that the academic probation rates would increase.

Dick: He warned the Board to avoid certain arguments like (1) professors do not have the expertise to grade with plus/minuses, (2) there are not many positives to this system, and (3) do not attack good will. He also told the Board that the Art program was the best in the nation. He stated that a good argument is poor retention will increase with the plus/minus grading system.

Emenhiser: He asked how many arguments should be brought up to the Academic Senate. Dick suggested only three or four main arguments.

Mistry: First she stated that she does not see how the pros out way the cons. Her four main arguments were: (1) The issue of prestige, (2) the increase in retention rate, (3) the accuracy of student's grades, and (4) the college will have an increase in the retention rate.

Smith: She brought up the withdraw issue and requested if the date could be moved later.

Mariano: He asked how much weight is a 3.0 regular versus a 2.7 on a plus/minus grading system. Dick stated that he has not looked into the weighting of the 2.7 on the plus/minus grading system. He explained there were three different ranges and the boundaries were not even close to the regular system.

Hiro: He announced that Senator Km, President Pollock, Chief-of-Staff Godina, Academic Reps Davis, Amirel and himself, will be speaking at the Academic Senate tomorrow. He reviewed what he got as the main points to the Board to make sure nothing else needed to be added.

Redie: She stated that she was a peer counselor for EOP and these expectations would be hard to meet for those students. Also she questioned the affect on transfer students. Dick stated that graduate school does not look usually at your first two years in college.

Sylvestre: He suggested that the resolution have retention rates added.

Emenhiser: He also stated that retention rates should be added to the resolution because this is the strongest argument. The second best argument against the plus/minus grading system is an increase in academic probation. The third best argument is that Long Beach State is a good university already, why not keep it that way.

Okahana: He told the Board that the resolution could have more than four main points, but when brought on the Senate floor only three arguments are feasible. He told the Board to feed thoughts on the grading system to him through email by Friday afternoon. The resolutions first reading will be next week Wednesday.

Cooper: He requested that the Board see the presentation before the seven representatives present it to the Academic Senate.

Dick: He stated that he seen students turn the Senate around and the Academic Senate will listen to students.

B. Report from the President of the Associated Students

Ms. Pollock stated that he report was emailed to the Board and answered questions.

Todoroff: He asked why at the Board of Control meeting she supported athletics over organizations. Pollock stated that she never supported athletics over organizations; that was worded incorrectly.

Witt: He asked how she was doing with the text book requisitions. Pollock stated that the faculty members who have already submitted the text book requisitions, will be acknowledged in an ad in the Daily 49er newspaper and the University Student Union newspaper.

Herrera: She asked who is funding the ads in the newspaper. Pollock stated that it was half and half pricing by AS and the Bookstore.

Herrera: She asked if there is an effective way to get that across that text books requisitions need to be done. Pollock responded by stating that the General Manager of the 49er Shop, Fred Neely, has already been cutting the cost of text books. Lastly she responded by saying hopefully next year textbooks will all be online to reduce the cost.

Without objection, the Chair asked that Mr. Haller report on the 2006-2007 budget be presented as an informational session.

C. Report from the Executive Director of the Associated Students

Mr. Haller's report was a power point presented and distribution of the 2006-2007 BOC budget recommendations. This will be discussed at next week's meeting.

Without objection, the Chair left the Chambers and the Pro-Temp assumed the post.

XII. College Council Updates

College of the Arts: No Report

College of Business: Emehiser congratulated Dr. Caveness on Meet the Expo event.

College of Engineering: There next meeting will be after Spring Break. Also he thanked all candidates who came and spoke about their platform in the general elections.

College of Health and Human Services: On Wednesday, April 5th the Health Safety Fair will run from 11 am to 2 pm on Friendship Walk. Senator Todoroff personally invited the Chair to the Health Safety Fair. The next college council meeting is Monday, April 3.

College of Liberal Arts: On April 5th, the College will be hosting a bowling event in the University Student Union at 5:00 pm. The cost is \$5.00.

College of Math and Natural Sciences: Km invited the Board to attend the Mayfield Award and Spring BBQ Mixer. The dates are Monday, April 3rd from 11 am- 1 pm and Tuesday, April 4th from 11 am- 2 pm. The location of the CNSM Spring BBQ Mixer on Tuesday, April 4th is the grass areas between PH-1 and PH-2.

XIV. Additional Statements

Emehiser: He encouraged Senators to look very closely at the budget, so that everything matches from last year budget.

Smith: She encouraged Senators to go out and vote. She also stated her disappointment with Executive officers and members of the Board.

Olmedo: She was disappointed that the polling locations were moved and that candidates or other ASI officers knew the rainy day locations. She is also very disappointed in the lack of communication in the polling locations. Lastly on a positive note, she invited the Board to the Step Show on Saturday and told the members that if anyone of them wanted tickets to contact her.

Mistry: She stated also that she was very disappointed with the polling location changes and that no signs were used to show the new polling locations. Secondly she congratulated Senator Olmedo for doing a great event all by herself.

McClinton: She yielded her time to the reporter for the senator.

Cruz: She told the Board that the booklet issue needs to be addressed because some of the election booklets were under the boxes and no pictures were included. Her suggestion would be to put pictures of the candidates in the election booklet.

Cooper: Tonight “Up Till Dawn” event will be held in the Ballrooms at 6:00 pm. He encouraged the Board to come and volunteer for even fifteen minutes.

Emenhiser: He thanked the running candidates for staying the whole meeting, even though they could be outside campaigning.

Caveness: She stated that the experiences in ASI, good or bad, will help you in the long run.

Hallar: He reminded the Board that everyone in ASI is more than students government, so be careful what you say about ASI. For example not what to say about ASI is, “ASI is corrupt.” He has been staying out of elections since he started working for ASI, but if they need him to get involved please contact him.

XV. Adjournment

Without objection, the Chair Pro-Temp adjourned the meeting at 5:50 pm.

RECORDED BY:

Amy Hoekstra, Recording Secretary

Date: _____

APPROVED BY:

Hironao Okahana
ASI Vice President

Date: _____

Jamie Pollock
ASI President

Dated: _____

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

Dated: _____

VETO OR WAIVED WITH VETO:

DATED:
