Finance Committee Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2012

I. Call to Order: VP Menon calls meeting to order at 11:36am.

II. Roll Call
Members Present: Siddharth Menon, Raheela Dharani, Sarah Quintana, Qiyun Wu, Melanie Sutrathada, Stan Hebert

Absent Members:

Guests:
Marguerite Hinrichs
Randy Saffold
My-Lan Huynh
Angelica Gutierrez-Cruz
Andy Ma
Tomasa Duenas
Damaris Mendoza
Huy Han

III. Action Item- Approval of the Agenda
Motion: (Dharani) to approve the agenda.
Motion: (Quintana) to amend the agenda.
Amendment I: to add the Global Medical & Dental Brigade seed allocation.
Motion Carries as amended.

IV. Action Item- Approval of the Minutes – February 20th, 2012
Motion: (Quintana) to approve the Minutes from February 20th, 2012.
Motion: (Dharani) to amend the minutes to read Lil Brown Parker as guest.
Motion Carries as amended.

V. Public Comment
Public Comment is intended as a time for any member of the public to address the committee on any issues affecting ASI and/or the California State University, East Bay.

VI. Action Item– Pioneer Soccer Club
- The Committee will consider the approval for a Seed Allocation.
Melanie Sutrathada entered the conversation via conference call at 11:42am.
VP Menon states that a representative from the Pioneer Soccer Club here. They are asking for a seed allocation for this year. The representative states that this club is new on campus and this is their first quarter of being active. We have many great ideas as to how the club will be operated and we hope that we can make the club much bigger by recruiting more students on campus. It is important to have an initial fund to help us start our process.
Motion: (Quintana) to approve the Pioneer Soccer Club for their 2011-2012 seed allocation.

"Students working for Students!"
VP Menon states that this club has made a great effort to start something new on campus. Spring quarters is coming up, and if you guys want to hold an event you can definitely do so.

Motion Carries.

VII. Action Item– Latino Social Workers

- The Committee will consider the approval of the Tennyson High School Panel.
  Angelica Gutierrez, Tomasa Duenas, and Damaris Mendoza speak as the representatives of the Latino Social Workers. The Latino Social Workers are of group student social workers obtaining our graduate degrees here at CSUEB. We advocate for the community and disfranchised populations. Through this event we are hoping to bring more students from Tennyson High to the university and specifically talk to them about higher education. We plan to have a panel where the Latino Social Workers and other grad students and grad social workers advocate for higher education. The goal of the panel is to have alumni as well to represent the outside community. We’re hoping that people from admissions be in the panel as well.

Motion: (Quintana) to approve the Latino Social Workers for their Tennyson High School Panel event.

VP Menon states that he will inform the committee of the numbers and other information about the events so that there is a better idea of how much the club is asking for in order to fund their event. VP Menon states that the event will take place on March 21st, 2012 between 8am-3pm. They expect forty people to attend this event and the amount requested from ASI is $315.00.

Hebert asks where the location of the event will take place. VP Menon states that it is going to take place in the Old Union room 314. Hebert also asks roughly how many high school students will be attending. Mendoza states that there will be about thirty high school students attending. We are also accounting for the panel.

Motion Carries.

VIII. Action Item– EP3

- The Committee will consider the approval of the RLCD 2012.
- The Committee will consider the approval of the Social Luncheon.

VP Menon states that there is no representative present for this meeting; therefore it will be tabled to the next Finance Committee meeting.

IX. Action Item – Society of Women Engineers

- The Committee will consider the approval of the Luncheon.
- The Committee will consider the approval of the Sustainability Conference.
VP Menon states that there is no representative present for this meeting; therefore it will be tabled to the next Finance Committee meeting.

X. Action Item – Global Medical & Dental Brigade

- The Committee will consider the approval of the Talent Show/Silent Auction.

VP Menon states that we will consider the approval of their talent show/ silent auction as well as their seed allocation.

The representatives state that the Global Medical & Dental Brigade is a student organization that started this year by one of our own medical post year. Our goal is to be able to fund our trips in Panama in June 2012. We are taking a group of approximately forty students to go and provide both medical and health services to rural communities in Panama. We’ll need the funding as an organization to provide everything on this trip such as all of the medical supplies. We also have to take our own doctors. As a first year organization we are trying our best to get this all together. Thus far, we have created our first banner for this organization so we can do tabling and promote. We currently have another event which is a life entertainment silent auction. We will provide food and music. We are also planning to have shirts mad for our club. All the proceeds from this event will help fund our trip to Panama. Motion: (Quintana) to approve the Global Medical & Dental Brigade for their Talent Show/Silent Auction event for the amount requested minus the $41.93 for their banner.

ED Saffold clarifies if the club is charging admission to get in as well as fundraising for their trip. The club representatives state that they will be charging a $10.00 pre-sale. ED Saffold states that the club cannot charge people for their event unless the money is donated to a charity or organization. This is not a fundable event in its current request. There may be some modifications that can allow them to have this event. It cannot be a fundraiser in which they raise money for travel.

VP Menon states that if the club has a clear way of showing fundraising that does not benefit them personally as a club; it will then be okay. Hebert mentions that the club can charge any non-CSUEB student. VP Menon states that the club will need to be careful and be sure to check people’s ID’s to clarify if they are a student or non-CSUEB student. If the committee still feels strongly about approve this club we can take action on it; otherwise they would come back next week. Hebert states that there is nothing on the promotional flyer that states that students will be charged; therefore he is fully supportive of taking the action to approve this group. I want to commend this team; this is certainly a noble gesture for students and extending your professional talents to help others in need. Dharani clarifies if there is a limit for the price of shirts. VP Menon states that the limit for shirts is $300.00. ED Saffold asks if the club has used their seed allocation. VP Menon confirms that they have not. The amount total for the event, minus the cost for the banner and the t-shirts will come out to be $812.04. Dharani mentions that the flyers don’t have
the ASI logo and asks if they’ll still be funded. VP Menon states that the club already has the flyers printed out and it wouldn’t be necessary to call them out on that. In the future, we would demand that the ASI logo is on the flyer. From a first-hand standpoint, they have done a great job with documentation and everything seems complete. I am comfortable with approving this without the ASI logo. Motion Carries.

Dharani states that the club still needs to be approved for their seed allocation. 
Motion: (Quintana) to approve Global Medical and Dental Brigade for their seed allocation.
Motion Carries.

XI. Action Item – CMENC
• The Committee will consider the approval of the Music Department Club Day.
Quintana states that the representative will not be coming today; therefore this action item will be pushed to the next Finance Committee meeting.

XII. Action Item – Persian Academic and Cultural Student
• The Committee will consider the approval of the Persian New Year Celebration.
VP Menon states that the committee took into consideration of approving this group, but due to the confusion on the amounts, they have re-worked their documents to bring us an updated total that’s reflective of what they want funded from ASI. Faculty Advisor Farzad Shahbodaghlou speaks on behalf of the PACSA. This is a new student organization. We decided that we were going to do this big bash which was previously done with the Farsi school in the area. I thought it would be a great idea to combine these organizations. This event had been going on at community centers for years, and we were hoping to get more contribution from CSU East Bay. We were under the impression of obtaining greater amounts of funding, but recently found out that the amount of funding is less than what we thought we would get. If fifteen students show up that is our break-even point, but if more than fifteen show up it will affect the cost. I am under the impression that if this is someone else’s fundraiser; ASI will charge for it. The fundraiser has always been for the Farsi school and its annual event. I don’t know if we can do something with that, but I know that we certainly won’t be able to afford the whole event. We have printed out fifty tickets that would be given to students for free, and that was only a quarter of our fundraising event. If we go for the $700.00, the event would not be able to support itself. Fifty tickets will be about $2500.00. The Farsi school would have to pay for that. This event is so big; we would have not been able to do this if it wasn’t for the help from the Farsi school. We are hoping that we can get the $700.00 as a part of their fundraising through the campus so we don’t have to offer the free tickets and maybe offer discounted tickets to the students. VP Menon
clarifies with the club representative that if a club has an event on campus that is funded by ASI, they cannot fundraise for themselves. If they fundraise, those proceeds will have to go to an outside charity or organization. CSUEB students cannot be charged for an event, but any non-CSUEB people can be charged. Bottom line is if you were to get the $702.00, you will not be able to charge students admission. Farzad Shahbodaghlou states that the club will reconsider the funding requests from ASI due to the policies of fundraising. I think that we are going to decline the funding of $702.00. VP Menon informs the committee that he has spoken with the club and advisor and gave them options for making their event happen. They had ideas of partnering with another organization to receive higher funding; unfortunately we have to work with the winter quarter constraints of funding only up to $1000.00. Maybe we can work with this club next year when all of the things are set in stone. ED Saffold states that it is important that an event happening on campus relates to a student organization and not just fundraising for an outside organization. Outside organizations should not get access to using campus facilities for free using a student organization. It has to be a student organization event. VP Menon states that since this club cancelled their request for funding, I will take this action item out of consideration from this meeting.

XIII. Informational Item—Executive Order 1068

- The Chair will share with the Committee the details of this policy and discuss its significance on the funding process for the current academic year and future years. VP Menon states that he will read through the entire document. The Executive order of 1068 includes the following:

  Revision of the formal charting and recognition policies for student organizations to include an open membership requirement in addition to the non-discrimination and student organization requirement.

  ED Saffold states that there is really only one major section that applies to what this committee does. I don’t know if you want to do it for information purposes, but I didn’t want you to think that I wanted you to read the entire document to everybody. If you do so, I am right here with you.

  Hebert states that this is not new information; it’s clarifying information. The former Executive Order just wasn’t specific in this document. The role of recognizing student organizations was referenced in our state laws and education code, but not specifically echoed in the Executive Order. This Executive Order now goes to clarify that particular distinction. The role is within the university is to request new student clubs and organizations, and will make that determination. This is more of a clarification in a single document of those responsibilities. The committee agrees to go over the main section that applies to their duties. VP Menon states that the committee will skip down to the section that concerns ASI. Role of auxiliary organization’s and recognizing student organizations states the
following:

- Campuses may not delegate the process of approving or managing student organizations or their activities. Auxiliary organizations may not manage student organizations or approve student activities. Auxiliary organizations may not provide auxiliary funds of facilities to student organizations that are not currently recognized by the campus. Funding and use of facilities are available only to student organizations that are currently recognized by the campus. ED Saffold states that the reason why he brought this up was because of funding policy and practice. We have to make sure that our policies aren’t really approving what students can and cannot do. We set our funding goals and strategies, but when we start getting into the evaluation of approving certain things, that belongs in student life and leadership or of the university as a whole, and within ASI. I just want us to be careful as we look at what we want to do and what we fund. We don’t want to accidently or inadvertently violate 1068.

VP Menon states that his point of confusion for board activities was if they are looking at it from a regulatory stand point, which is anything that is done as an activity. ED Saffold states that in the past some student organizations have been recognized by associated students, and it wasn’t until we started getting into issues around club sports that they really started looking at who actually is responsible for managing the risk and these things around student clubs and orgs. It wasn’t until 969 came out and basically said campuses are responsible for recognizing clubs and organizations. Hebert states that Randy is right. The auxiliary organization should not determine the type of activities that a student club or organization may want to engage in. Approving the funding for your policies is quite acceptable. The only thing this mentions is that you can’t approve the funding of ASI funds for a non-recognized club or organization. ED Saffold states that VP Menon’s question deserves more exploration as we move forward.

VP Menon states that it is true that student government or any auxiliary organization should not be doing what the campus can already do. If you cannot approve or cannot determine whether an event should be held or not; that’s a tricky situation. At that point, it makes no sense to have a Finance Committee in any ASI or give out any source of money because the university might as well take over and handle that. ED Saffold states that there are student funds being given for students by students. It is a group of your peers determining whether or not the idea you have or whether or not you want to use it or if it’s not a good idea. In that case, I do think that the students have a role. Adversity is not allowed to give away funds collected from students for students. For now, let’s go by what we have been doing and if that is a deeper discussion item that gets brought up later; maybe Stan can give us some feedback of whatever the university is looking at or doing. One thing that 1068 has left out is who is responsible for managing the funds of organizations because ASI has still been the banker. Hebert states
that it is not a requirement for ASI to fund any clubs or organizations. The types of items that ASI would like to fund are within the decision of the body of ASI. The types of activities that will be funded are under the decision of folks who are not students.

XIV. Informational Item–Funding of Omulu Capoeira & other programs.
- The Chair will share with the Committee the recent action taken by the ASI Board to fund programs held by student clubs and discuss its significance on the funding process for the current academic year and future years.

VP Menon states that we covered this information item at the last meeting. They have been approved by the Board for funding for the entire year. Personally, I was not fully comfortable with them giving a blanket pass of funding to one club but not for another. ED Saffold states that that is not what they approved. The debate was if there is a difference between an ongoing program and an activity. That's what the Board had as a question. The Board voted that Omulu Capoeira can use their ongoing activity to qualify as an activity that is fundable by this group in the same way we fund other clubs and orgs. So it's not a blanket for the year; they would still have to come each quarter and apply up to $1000.00 just like every other club and org. It does not giving them automatic funding for each quarter. It’s not a one-time event; it’s an ongoing event. VP Menon states that from the motion that was passed; they were guaranteed funding if they were to ask. There is a difference between guaranteeing a club versus them being eligible. The club was guaranteed money that they will be funded for fall, winter, spring, and for every other club on campus there is a stipulation of what you are eligible for, but there is no promise. ED Saffold states that he would like to go back to the minutes and clarify what was said. Hebert states that from our actions at the last meeting; the club asked for funding of an event for the winter quarter. They also mentioned that they may do some additional things, but approval was for a specific event which was a workshop that would support their annual baptizado. It was approved for that particular event. ED Saffold states that the permanence was that they would be treated like every other club. That's what I believe I heard. I fully support that there should not be any perpetual funding. VP Menon states that he talked with Christopher Prado and he stated that the club was funded for fall winter and spring. ED Saffold suggests that we go back and look at the minutes.

XV. Roundtable Remarks
Hebert: I want to re-emphasize something that Randy brought up. You will hear two types of requests from ASI facilities and for ASI funding. ASI facilities are available for rent. Clubs, orgs, fundraising organizations, non-profits, and private organizations, can use ASI facilities. Randy has a team that takes care of all the requests and make sure that they have all...
the permits. It’s to generate recoverable funds to the operations of the ASI facilities. ASI as a Finance committee receives funding requests, and it’s like the spirit behind what we receive. Events do one of three things; they create community among students here at CSU East Bay and promote cultural awareness, foster co-curricular learning, and to advance student advocacy for student interests. If it doesn’t fit into those; then it really shouldn’t be considered an activity in student life to be approved or considered for funding from the ASI Finance Committee. Everything we’ve received so far fits within those general guidelines. As we’re looking to the Persian Club description and Randy pointed out; if the Farsi school wants to do an event on campus, they can do an event on campus. They rent the facility, but if the Persian student association wants to do an event on campus, they don’t have to rent the facility but they cannot be the shadow host for another organization. Staff keeps a good eye for those kinds of things. **ED Saffold:** I get very concerned that outside groups will use students to get free rent. That has occurred in the past and it’s not just outside groups; it’s sometimes campus departments will use their guys of a student organization to get them things that they don’t wish to pay for or are unable to pay for. We have to use judgment when we look to see if it’s really a student event or if it’s a student departmental event; and if this a student event or an outside organization trying to use a student group to not pay the university or associated students. **VP Menon:** what would happen if we do find that out? The departments have all the clubs using their expenses or ASI dollars, but it was a department activity. What do you do at that point if they are a recognized club and all of that is fine, but you can clearly see that it’s a department running the show and it’s not a student driven event. The source was not the students. It was driven by the university where they say let’s have an event on campus, but then they are using the student organization to not use dollars out of their pocket. What does the committee do at that point?

**Hebert:** I don’t want to generalize on that type of scenario because there are a large number of student events that have a genesis in a classroom or faculty member or a department. A third of our clubs are academic clubs and so they will often have their programs that are stimulated through their class activities where there is a music performance, dance, lectures, science workshops and things like that. Right now, departments on campus would receive the same benefit for use of the facilities as a student clubs. If you’re an administrative department on campus, you can rent the facilities; there is no benefit there. There are some wonderful things that can be started by an outside group which students then take over. You just want to make sure that it really remains a student event. I think that that was made clear by ASI and the Board. Rather than focusing on origin of, it’s how the actual event or program looks from the eyes of the community and the staff.

**Sutrathada:** I really appreciate that we’ve had a lot of great discussion today. I’m also realizing that you should never phone in because you miss out on half of what is said.

**Menon:** I just want to share one quick update with you guys. I do know there is a survey that is out there. I believe at the next Board meeting I’m going to essentially force all my fellow Board members to fill out the survey and give their thoughts on it because we’re here for the students. I’ll have them do that, and I encourage you guys to post things on your Facebook
pages and spread the word about it and let people know that we do have administrators here who want to capture your feedback.

XVI. Adjournment
Motion: () to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting at 12:46pm.
Motion Carries.

Finance Committee Chair
Name: VPF Siddharth Menon

Minutes Approved On:

Date: 03-05-12