Legislative Affairs & Lobby Corps Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Leopold calls meeting to order at 2:26 PM.

II. ROLL CALL
Members Present Absent Members Guests
Jordan Leopold Marie Alexandra Ibarra
Shuaib Amiri Derek Aitken
John Quach David Lopez
Rosa Hernandez Jesse Brown
Riddhi Sood

III. ACTION ITEM - Approval of the Agenda
Amendment I: (Quach) to move Political Week between Legislative Update and Mayoral & Congressional Debate Event.
Motion carries as amended.
Amendment II: (Sood) to move Unfinished Business before New Business.
Motion carries as amended.
Amendment III: (Quach) to move Political Week under Unfinished Business.
Motion carries as amended.
Motion: (Quach) to approve the agenda.
Motion Carries.

IV. ACTION ITEM – Approval of the Minutes of December 6, 2013
Motion: (Quach) to approve the Minutes of December 6, 2013.
Motion Carries.

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.
No Public Comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VI. INFORMATION ITEM – STUDENT AMBASSADOR
Chair Leopold addresses the following:

- Student Ambassador Program focuses on the local level.
- Strengthen local ties to county officials, city council, and school board.
- Went to a city council meeting last month and introduced himself to them.
- Does not need to be a full committee, but they could have a Student Ambassador delegate to
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lobby on a local level and update the committee on findings.
- Delegation to one person would be more effective than the entire committee.
- Start in Hayward first and then expand to Oakland and Concord.
- Hernandez mentions that freshmen should be student ambassadors because it would be a good experience for them.
  - Chair Leopold mentions that this is a good idea but they should also target other groups. He further mentions that you have to already have been a student at East Bay for at least a quarter to qualify to be a part of the committee.
- Chair Leopold mentions that it is not enough time to implement the Student Ambassador Program right now.

25:10

VII. DISCUSSION ITEM – VOTER REGISTRATION EFFORTS

Chair Leopold addresses the following:
- Past efforts - pushed voter registrations on paper and online to students.
- Difficult to physically count how many students register.
- They could do a joint effort with The League of Women Voters or do it solely through ASI.
- Suggests using a service or a URL link that counts how many students have registered.
- Suggests a visual representation to students to show how many students have registered, and have different locations on campus.
- Amiri suggests creating a Legislative Affairs Facebook page to let students know about their events and mentions that he likes the idea of excel timesheets for table voter registration. He also suggests they contact Dr. Bergman, a Political Science Professor, to help them create an online form to help them find out how many students register.
- The committee discusses the use of personal and ASI laptops to help people register.
- Brown suggests using ASI staff to help get people to register to vote and also to table where a lot of people are such as in front of the bookstore.
- Amiri suggests to table in the afternoon and to make sure that the students know they’re a part of ASI.

39:25

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEM – POLITICAL WEEK

Chair Leopold addresses the following:
- They won’t be doing the AB540 event at this time due to logistical issues.
- Have a week of political events such as Immigration Reform and Mayoral and Congressional Debate.
- Amiri suggests a short immigration lecture preview with professors, authors, senators or congressman on March 11.

Motion: (Quach) to have immigration reform event on Tuesday March 11.
Motion Carries.
- Political Week will be in the spring.
Chair Leopold will work with Michelle to coordinate Political Week.

The committee discusses having the Mayoral and Congressional Debates on different days.

Amiri suggests they be flexible with the candidates for the Congressional Debate and having the Mayoral and Congressional Debates in the theatre.

At the events they could have people register to vote.

Chair Leopold mentions that the Mayoral and Congressional Debate will be beneficial because it will build a relationship with the city legislators and councilmembers and allows students to interact with officials. He also mentions to prepare questions to ask at the Mayoral and Congressional Debate.

Amiri suggests that the questions they ask at the Mayoral and Congressional Debate should be questions that affect the students.

1:19:57

NEW BUSINESS

IX. INFORMATION ITEM – DARK MONEY IN POLITICS FORUM

Chair Leopold addresses the following:

- President of Women League of Voters of the Eden Area, Dr. Jennifer Ong, is working with Randy Saffold on a Dark Money in Politics Forum Event which is scheduled to be on Monday, April 7th at 5:30pm-7:00pm in the MPR.
- Speakers at Dark Money in Politics Forum are Ann Ravel and Erin Peth.
- This will be a pretty big event.

1:23:00

X. INFORMATION ITEM – GOVERNOR BROWN’S PROPOSED BUDGET

Chair Leopold addresses the following:

- 2013-2014 Budget:
  - CSU funded 2.3 billion dollars which is 21% of higher education of the budget.
  - Community colleges are funded 4 billion dollars which is 34% of higher education budget.

- 2014-2015 Proposed Budget:
  - CSU has increased to 2.7 billion dollars compared to 2.3 billion dollars.
  - UC receives 3 billion dollars compared to 2.9 billion dollars.
  - Community colleges receive 2.4 billion dollars compared to 4 billion dollars.
  - Budget establishes Middle Class Scholarship Program which covers up to 40% of tuition fees with any family income of up to $150,000.
  - The budget takes eighteen months to prepare and is not allowed to die in legislature.
  - The budget must pass by June 15.

- Current budget: currently being spent – 4 year plan
- Budget year: current 2014-2015 budget in legislature
- Planning year: figures have yet to be submitted
1:39:18

XI. INFORMATION ITEM – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
Chair Leopold addresses the following:

- Tracked bills of interest from CSSA and Legisweb websites.
- Governor Brown gave CSU East Bay 149.4 million dollars in the budget.

Bills that passed and affect East Bay and CSU students:

- AB 386 - by 2015 CSUs must provide students the opportunity to enroll at other CSU campuses.
- AB 447 - authorized nonvoting student trustee during the first year of his or her term except to vote at CSU Board of Trustees Meeting if a voting member is absent.
- AB 1358 - hold campus wide elections in order to potentially increase student fees.
- SB 44 - requires each internet website that is maintained by the State to include a hyperlink to the State’s home page to the online voter registration page of the Secretary of State website.
- SB 141 - CSUs, UCs, and community colleges are exempt from nonresident tuition change under specific circumstances.
- SB 150 - community college students who are part-time do not have to pay out of state tuition.
- SB 325 - expanded to sophomores and tuition and fees are waived for the time the student is a trustee.
- SB 595 - prohibits CSUs, UCs, and community colleges from contracting with any depository institution that requires a student to open an account with that entity for his or her financial aid disbursement and requires offering students financial aid disbursement via direct deposit.
- Resolution - urges Congress and the President of the United States to report and pass legislation that allows private student loan debt to be dischargeable in the case of bankruptcy.

1:53:39

XII. INFORMATION ITEM – MAYORAL & CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE EVENT
- Already discussed under Political Week

1:54:08

XIII. INFORMATION ITEM – IMMIGRATION REFORM EVENT
- Already discussed under Political Week

1:54:08
XIV. ROUNDTABLE REMARK

Amiri: Suggests an idea to have an ASI lunch or dinner with the Board for students to get to know them. Editor of Chief of the Pioneer Newspaper will be at the next meeting to talk about media relations in terms of the debate.

Leopold: Looking forward to this quarter and next quarter, and encourages the committee members to keep up the great work.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:22PM.

Minutes Reviewed by:

Legislative Affairs Committee Chair
Name: Pablo Garnica

Minutes Approved on:

1-22-16
Date: