

Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes March 20, 2020

- I. CALL TO ORDER at **12:03 PM**
- II. ROLL CALL
Present: Yajaira Ortega- Huerta, Mounika Thorupunuri, Imaad Ghazali, Madison Jeong, Karen Iniguez, Asim Watts, Bidemi Animashaun.

Absent: Miguel Rogers, Julissa Madrid
- III. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of the Agenda**
Motion to approve the agenda of March 20, 2020 by **M. Thorupunuri**, second by **I. Ghazali**, motion **CARRIES**.
- IV. ACTION ITEM - **Table Approval of the Minutes of February 13, 2020**
Motion to table approval of the minutes of February 13, 2020 by **K. Iniguez** second by **I. Ghazali** 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.
- VI. INFORMATION ITEM:
 - A. UPDATES – The Chair will update the committee on future meetings.
Y. Ortega-Huerta states that she will update you all on the committee in future meetings.
Y. Ortega-Huerta states that they are doing everything the university has told them to do, at this point they will continue to carry meetings through zoom. We are inviting all members of the public and from here on out it is important to reach out to folks and let them know what is going on through zoom. If they want to join, they are more than free to do so and to listen to everything that is going on. Does that sound like a plan? **K. Iniguez** states Yes. **Y. Ortega-Huerta** states does anyone have any questions about this whole thing? **A. Watts** states can you repeat that, it keeps going on and off? **Y. Ortega-Huerta** states that moving forward ASI will continue to meet through zoom meetings, just because we still need to



conduct business. Especially for students at a time like this, we understand that it is a rough time, but we also know that we are all leaders and holding a position in ASI. Students need us the most, so we will conduct business per usual, here through zoom, but now I believe it is the best time to publicize what you all are doing in the committee. Therefore, let people know on Instagram or any social media platform that you are in this meeting or what is happening. Just to keep students engaged. Does that make sense? **M. Thorupunuri** states yes. **A. Watts** states Yes, thank you. **Y. Ortega-Huerta** states thank you all for being here.

4:43

B. CENSUS – The committee will plan for CENSUS.

Y. Ortega-Huerta states this meeting were going to discuss about the census. I want to propose an idea, we all know the census is still happening whether we are on lock down or not. We still need to count people. Especially students at this moment, due to a lot of students being displaced. I have an idea as to how to incentivize students to do this. ASI is working on Rafel where students that take part in the census can win prizes in the future. She had proposed that the Legislative Affairs Committee can work on a video, with a little collage with some main points on the significance and impact of being part of the census through examples like federal aid funding to students, debunking myths and putting across the facts in a 10 sec video and making a collage. This video can be sent out to people and spread it on social media. Furthermore, does anyone have any inputs on this idea and how can it be worked out. **A. Watts** agreed with the video and stated it as a good idea. **K. Iniguez** mentioned that anything at this point is kind of good. However, I was wondering if housing is not going to do anything. **Y. Ortega-Huerta** states that they are going to start working on the same plan. As of now, there's time transition due to housing addressing the issue of the outbreak. RA's would be informed what they can do to help the census to be successful, which may be through emails. I wonder how many students are prone into looking at an email compared to social media. We can partner up with housing in the future, but for now, we could start our initiative as we have tabling lined up for a couple of weeks. Let's start a movement next week and we can build up on that every week, it could be like info trading like "East Bay counts". There's a girl in charge of census on social media, we can ask her to post information or make graphics. We will do whatever we can do from our home being safe and spreading awareness about the census. Does that sound good for everyone? **K. Iniguez** and **A. Watts** both agreed with the idea. **Y. Ortega-Huerta** states that we should all divide the work as to video responsibilities based on what kind of topics we want to talk about. In the following weeks update the document that is shared to the committee with the agenda.



8:40

VII. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. CHESS

Y. Ortega-Huerta states that this is the time intended for the people listed on the agenda to explain what is going on. As per today's agenda, we have CHESS members, so two people can describe their experience and talk about CHESS or everyone can talk, for example you can discuss what you liked about CHESS and your experience. **K. Iniguez** states she was fascinated to see all the CSUs gather around and discuss issues. Lobbying was the shortest day among the three days of the CHESS. My team didn't get to meet with the all the legislators, we discussed with the staff in charge of the legislator. They seemed to be careful enough to listen and take notes and were prepared more than I thought they would be. I was glad to be prepared by CSU and through workshops at CHESS with the flyers and information sharing sessions that helped to story tell and lobby. It was nice to connect with other CSU students and our school as a whole. **Y. Ortega-Huerta** stated that it was a funny experience. We all had an opportunity to really get to know each other and get to know other people. **M. Thorupunuri** states that it's altogether a great experience, it's a memorable one to see all 23 CSU students together and getting to know and connect with them. It was great to know what each of the campuses is doing at the campus level. Each of the workshops during the CHESS, especially the CIVIC engagement workshop was informative along with the other workshops that helped in preparing for the lobbying day at the capitol They could not meet the all the legislators as well, yet we as a team made sure to raise the point and address the concern to the staff was also an experience. Spirit competition was fun towards the end of the day two at CHESS. **Y. Ortega-Huerta** asked B. Animashaun how different was this CHESS compared to the one she had attended in the past. What was her experience or anything that she wanted to share? **B. Animashaun** stated that this CHESS was interesting and cool, the energy was different last time as there were a lot more students, lobbying more, and maybe there were a lot many other things going on at the capitol at that time. I really enjoyed talking to staff than the representatives because the staffer were going to push the issue. The mayor of Oakland and thirteen other mayors of the Bay Areas were meeting in the governor's office but I'm unsure if they were talking about COVID19 or something else. **Y. Ortega-Huerta** states that she agrees with the fact that we didn't have a rally or have space in front of the lawn to build up momentum and probably felt less impactful but still had enough energy in the hallway. **B. Animashaun** states that there was a lot of us, couple staffers stopped us to see what we were all doing. **Y. Ortega-Huerta** states I'm glad you all had an opportunity to go, if you are returning to school next year, I encourage you all to



attend again. This would be beneficial to talk to other people who have the same motivation as you to help fix our system.

15:12

VIII. ROUND TABLE REMARKS

Y. Ortega-Huerta states if anyone would like to discuss anything. I hope everyone is safe and your family is doing well. I know it is a very stressful time right now. I am still on campus if you all need anything let me know.

K. Iniguez states I sent it to group me, but my professor Dr. Lee started a website online on how to connect to food sources. We have Hayward as a safe city. The police are working with us and not doing any raids for undocumented people. If you need more information, feel free to contact me or Dr. Lee. we can send you the link to the website. There are many food pantries if you can't afford to get food. There are some churches doing open pantries from certain times. If you are from Hayward, which most of us are, check it out if you need help.

Y. Ortega-Huerta states thank you Karen, what is the website you found this information from.

K. Iniguez – states “Hayward Community resource”, Hayward helping hands, etc.

Y. Ortega-Huerta states that they are looking for people who deliver items to elderly, fill out forms and all you must do is deliver the paid groceries. I hope you all can spread the message about this website especially since a lot of us aren't getting paid. I am hoping they are still able to get the resources they need. Does anyone else need to add anything?

I. Ghazali and **B. Animashaun** state no.

19:55

IX. ADJOURNMENT at 12:40 PM

Minutes reviewed by:

Director of Legislative Affairs & Chair

Name: Yajaira Ortega-Huerta

Minutes approved on:

Date:

