

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of March 13th, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER at **12:04 PM**

II. [ROLL CALL](#)

Present: Nolan Calara, Kushal Sheshadri, Sai Charan Attili, Erick Loreda, Carlos Martinez-Aguilera, Dane Lopez, London Deguzman, Guadalupe Felix, Saira Garcia, Hailey Corum, Sharn Basi, Anahi Rodriguez, Elijah Quineri, Charan Reddy Doolam, James Carroll, Ashley Depappa, My-Lan Huynh, Steve Spencer, Stephanie Ann Lustina, Christina Chin-Newman, Terry Buttchen

Absent: Martin Castillo

III. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to amend the location to be changed from Mountain Lion CORE Room to Old UU Room 307ABC by **D. Lopez**, seconded by **N. Calara**, motion **CARRIED**.

Motion to approve the agenda of March 13th, 2024 by **UNANIMOUS CONSENT**, motion **CARRIED**.

IV. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of the Minutes of February 28th, 2024**

Motion to approve the minutes of February 28th, 2024, by **E. Loreda**, seconded by **K. Sheshadri**, motion **CARRIED**.

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.

3:27

VI. UNFINISHED ITEMS:

No unfinished items.

3:44

VII. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** [Sustainable Crafts and Kickback](#)



The ASI Board of Directors will be discussing the Sustainable Crafts and Kickback event. **H. Corum** shares details about a successful event held in December, aimed at promoting sustainability and celebrating the CORE’s LEED award. She outlines plans to host a similar event, which involved crafting tote bags and braids for a rug at the CORE. Faith Neuberger, a library ambassador, will co-lead the event, with additional ambassadors and ASI representatives assisting at craft stations. The event will feature the same crafts and a Zine presentation from 1 PM to 4 PM, along with a raffle for sustainable prizes. She requests \$170 to include vegan cupcakes from a local bakery, Sweet Art of Cake, to encourage participation. She highlights the cupcakes’ sustainability due to their plant-based nature and minimal transport emissions. **D. Lopez** suggests including leftover ASI merch in the raffle to clear storage space, offering attendees additional incentives to participate. **G. Felix** propose a round of applause to commend the CORE for their achievement in winning the award.

6:52

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. Academic Senate

E. Quineri presents an overview of the recent Academic Senate meeting, underscoring the robust participation and deliberations that characterized the session. The meeting primarily focused on several key agenda items, notably the approval process for GE minors, discussions surrounding a potential transition from Google to Microsoft accounts, and the contentious issue of a vote of no confidence in President Sandeen. Regarding the GE minors, he indicate that while progress has been made, further refinement of the proposed curriculum was required before final approval could be granted. He also elaborate on the rationale behind the proposed transition from Google to Microsoft accounts, citing potential cost-saving benefits facilitated by the latter’s financial support from the CSU system. The central point of discussion, revolve around the vote of no confidence in President Sandeen, which had garnered significant attention and debate among the academic community. He provides context for this resolution, noting that it stemmed from various concerns, including issues related to former Provost Walt Jacobs, campus culture, tuition increases, course cuts, and recent blackouts at the start of the spring semester. While acknowledging the concerns raise, he express his personal opposition to the vote of no confidence. He highlights the administration’s efforts to address these concerns, including enhanced communication efforts and responsiveness to feedback. He further underscored the importance of learning from past experiences and implementing robust procedures to better handle future

emergencies. He assure the board that additional details would be disseminate via email following the meeting, allowing for a more comprehensive understanding of the issues discussed in the Academic Senate session. **N. Calara** addresses the Academic Senate’s trajectory regarding the resolution, acknowledging the significance of the discussions. He highlights the need for collaboration between ASI, Academic Senate, and administration to improve emergency response protocols, citing plans to invite Tom Poon from Facilities to a future Board of Directors meeting for input. Further, he advocates for ASI to remain neutral in the vote of no confidence to avoid straining relationships with faculty and administration. He sought clarification on the potential outcome of the resolution, querying whether it would automatically lead to President Sandeen’s dismissal or trigger a specific process. **C. Chin-Newman** provides insights into the complexities surrounding the vote of no confidence, emphasizing the potential repercussions and the collaborative efforts involved. She highlights faculty concerns about potential repercussions and the lack of transparency in the decision-making process. She also detailed attempts at a softer approach, such as the resolution for an external review of shared governance, which did not yield the desired response from the administration. Expressing disappointment with the lack of engagement from the Chancellor’s office and the Board of Trustees, she explains the rationale behind her decision to write a letter to the editor, aiming to draw attention to the issues faced by faculty and students. Further, she expresses a preference for diplomatic solutions and collaboration, underscoring her reluctance towards a vote of no confidence due to potential strained relations. Reflecting on her interactions with President Sandeen, she expresses frustration over the delayed response and perceived lack of willingness to engage in dialogue regarding shared governance concerns. She highlights the importance of transparency and effective communication in addressing faculty and student concerns within the university community. **N. Calara** raises the question of whether the Academic Senate would address the issue during public comment at the next Board of Trustees meeting if the Board did not receive the communication. **C. Chin-Newman** expresses her perspective on the challenges of communication, noting that even if the emails were sent, they might not have been given due attention amidst the volume received by the faculty trustee. She suggests that public comment during the Board of Trustees meeting might offer a better opportunity for their concerns to be heard, acknowledging that although some trustees may be distracted, at least some would be attentive.

19:50

B. [CHES Report](#)

G. Felix provides a detailed account of the recent CHESS/March Plenary event, starting with the journey to the location. She outlines the schedule of events, noting that the plenary meeting began on Saturday at 10 AM and extended until 5 PM, with the subsequent Sac State reception running until 6:30 PM. She highlights the bills discussed and passed. AB 2458 aim at providing more support for student parents, including housing and lactation spaces on campuses. AB 2407 focused on establishing state audits for sexual harassment complaints in public post-secondary education. AB 2586 address student employment for undocumented students, emphasizing opportunities for on-campus jobs. AB 2608 advocates for standardized sexual violence and harassment training across campuses. Lastly, AB 3112 tackles tuition increase issues by referencing the consumer price index and advocating for fair future adjustments. She highlights the passing of a CSSA resolution regarding a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, which received unanimous support. She underscore the significance of this resolution as we are the first higher education institution that has passed this resolution, making it a milestone. **N. Calara** emphasizes the significance of the resolution passed by the largest student advocacy group, CSSA, regarding a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip. Despite not being able to contribute due to Wi-Fi and blackout outages at East Bay, he reiterate the importance of addressing this issue. He expresses his desire to discuss the possibility of a similar ceasefire resolution at the campus level with the Board of Directors, highlighting its impacts students across all CSU campuses and urged for its consideration and action. **N. Calara** addresses the proposed Title V changes, highlighting concerns regarding the elimination of Area E and its potential impact on GE breadth for both transfer and first-year students. After engaging in discussions with various stakeholders, he expresses his stance against the removal of Area E due to insufficient data and the need for a comprehensive impact analysis. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining GE breadth courses, particularly in areas like First Aid, Self Defense, and GS, to preserve the diversity of course offerings. He expresses intentions to make a public comment on this matter, especially considering recent course reductions, advocating against a singular pathway for GE for first year and transfer students. **C. Chin-Newman** provides an update on the discussions held in the executive committee regarding a proposal from the curriculum committee regarding a one-unit GE requirement on campus. The propose course would serve as a success course, akin to the previous GS for first-year students. However, complexities arose regarding its application to transfer students, particularly those without Associate Degree for Transfer (ADTs). She states that while some colleges have proposed suitable courses, others are yet to do so, leading to concerns about course availability. Ultimately, the matter was referred to the curriculum committee for further discussion. She encourages student input on the issue, highlighting the opportunity for students to share their perspectives during the



curriculum committee meetings. She notes the importance of maintaining GE-specific offerings on campus, acknowledging the varying requirements across different universities. Additionally, she mentions the consideration of making the requirement recommended rather than mandatory to accommodate the current situation.

Motion to add 10 minutes to the report by **N. Calara**, seconded by **C. Martinez-Augulera**, motion **CARRIED**.

N. Calara pose a question to **C. Chin-Newman** regarding ASI's role in ensuring that freshmen continue to be required to take GS classes, emphasizing the importance of this requirement in informing students about critical issues such as tuition increases and budget cuts. He expresses ASI's commitment to maintaining GS classes and sought guidance on how ASI can collaborate with Academic Senate to uphold this requirement, even after potential changes are voted on by the Board of Trustees. **C. Chin-Newman** suggests connecting with Amy June Rowley, the chair of the Committee for Instruction and Curriculum (CIC), and inviting Danvy Le, Chair of GS, to attend the next CIC meeting. She highlights the importance of engaging in discussions about maintaining GS classes and emphasizes that there is still time to address the matter. She encourages individuals to attend meetings or communicate via email with the CIC chair to provide input and feedback on the issue. **N. Calara** shares the exciting news of the nominations for President and Administrator of the Year for CSSA. Dr. Luke Wood from Sac State was nominated for President of the Year, while Kathleen Wong, the university's Diversity Officer, was nominated for Administrator of the Year. He explains the unique approach taken for the Administrator of the Year nomination, which results in Kathleen Wong winning the award. He expresses his enthusiasm for her achievement and highlights her significant contributions. He also mentions plans to collaborate with CSSA on an article to celebrate Kathleen Wong's accomplishment, pending approval from University Communications. He emphasizes the need to keep the news confidential until official announcements are made. **G. Felix** states that on Sunday, a variety of workshops were held, covering topics such as the state policy process, state budget process, Cal Grant reform, student housing, Title IX, student parents, Lobbying 101, and a Q&A session with a CSSA alumni. One particularly impactful session was the discussion on student housing, which shed light on the widespread issue of housing insecurity among students across the CSU, UC, and CCC systems. The conversation revealed the significant challenges faced by students, including working multiple jobs to afford rent and having limited funds for meals. She highlights examples from various campuses, including Humboldt, where students are living in parking lots due to housing shortages and affordability issues. At East Bay, despite having excess housing capacity, affordability remains a barrier for many students. The session prompted discussions on how



to address housing affordability and the complexities involved in finding solutions, including considerations of financial aid and personal income. **N. Calara** highlights the Cal Grant reform workshop that focused on the expansion of financial aid eligibility to a broader range of students, eliminating age restrictions and other barriers. However, he notes that the reform does not address the cost of living and overall cost of attendance, which has implications for students like him and **G. Felix**, who have seen their financial aid affected due to their roles as RAs and involvement in student government. A common issue raised was the loss of the middle-class scholarship for some RAs. He emphasizes the importance of including the cost of living and overall cost of attendance in the reform discussions. He expresses intentions to further engage with assembly members to advocate for these considerations in future discussions on Cal Grant reform. **G. Felix** jokingly mentions that the spirit competition seemed rigged. She expresses satisfaction with the team's performance, highlighting their coordinated uniforms, designed by **A. Depappa**, which included hats, glasses, and pom poms. While Sac State ultimately won with a choreographed dance routine, she remark that their team felt like winners in their heart. She then briefs about the schedule on Monday's lobbying activities. She shares that they were unable to visit the State Capitol directly and instead met with staff at a nearby building. Though disappointed not to meet with Senators or Assembly Members, they discussed various legislative matters, including Cal Grant Reform, the honoring the Compact Bill, and an Infrastructure Bill related to education facility bonds. Despite the absence of direct meetings with Legislators, she documented the scheduled appointments with Assembly Members and Senators, clarifying that they had met with their staff instead. The day concluded early at 2:30 PM after a series of back-to-back meetings, providing a respite for them compared to others who departed later in the day. **N. Calara** states that during a meeting with Gavin Newsom's Higher Ed team, they discussed the need for a master plan for higher education, an initiative not revisited since the 1960s or 70s. Ben, a Harvard Law graduate representing the team, emphasized the urgency of this plan. **N. Calara** states that he stressed the importance of ensuring equal educational opportunities across all CSU and UC campuses, aiming to provide students with equitable workforce prospects regardless of their institution's prestige. He states he currently is in discussions to invite the team to East Bay to further explore these ideas. He expresses the prevailing desire among students to attend prestigious universities like UC Berkeley and Stanford, acknowledging that not everyone can secure admission to these institutions. He emphasizes the importance of developing a master plan that ensures students feel valued and appreciated in their academic pursuits, regardless of whether they attend a CSU or UC campus. He highlights his efforts to convey this message to Governor Newsom's team during the meeting. **G. Felix** shares some photos taken during the trip, featuring the team,



their office spaces, and a performance. She humorously recounted an adventure with **A. Depappa**, as they visited the Capitol. She also mentions that Nolan managed to get only four hours of sleep during the trip. **N. Calara** mentions that there's a TikTok video posted on their ASI Instagram and TikTok accounts, showcasing the amount of sleep each campus got during CHESS. He humorously added that he did not get as much sleep as shown in the video. **G. Felix** highlights various moments captured in the photos, including her attire in a suit, a shirt with a unique design reading "Miss Bay," and the recognition of Diana as Trustee of the Year. She expresses gratitude to everyone for their attention to the visuals presented.

44:25

IX. ROUND TABLE REMARKS

C. Martinez-Augulera gives a reminder to all regarding the GS class presentations sign-up email sent the previous week. It's crucial for everyone to review the email and select suitable presentation times. He mentions that this exposure to GS students is significant as they may express interest in ASI involvement in the future.

E. Loreda reminds that the coming week marks the "Hey, Be Nice!" campaign week, during which ASI will be tabling throughout the week. He mentions that he lacks volunteers and assistance in tabling from Monday through Thursday, 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM at the UU walkway, would be greatly appreciated.

H. Corum extends heartfelt thanks to **J. Carroll** and **A. Depappa** for their indispensable contributions to CHESS, which their journey of Advocacy and Unity would not have been possible. **A. Depappa** commends everyone for their commendable efforts over the weekend and expresses pride in witnessing their dedication, particularly highlighting **N. Calara's** performance at Plenaries; she reminds the team to prioritize self-care amidst the demanding semester workload and assures support from ASI if needed, encouraging continued engagement and participation before the semester's end.

J. Carroll appreciates everyone's hard work, particularly at CSSA, and highlights two important upcoming dates: Saturday, April 13th for Welcome Day where ASI will have a strong presence, with **C. Martinez-Augulera** and **A. Depappa** coordinating tabling efforts. Additionally, Office of Student Outreach, Student Life and Leadership Programs, and ASI are partnering to organize a prize contest for clubs and organizations tabling, featuring secret judges and potential prizes such as East Bay's flag or a pizza party. Furthermore, James reminds everyone about EB Jamboree on Tuesday, April 16th, with Lauren coordinating team involvement, offering opportunities for attendance, volunteering, and the promise of prizes and performances, including a headliner yet to be disclosed until the contract is finalized.



T. Buttchen raises two important issues. Firstly, regarding the Academic Senate, he highlights the Second Start program, a four-year pilot initiative allowing individuals who left Cal State East Bay over three years ago with less than a 2.0 GPA to return with preferential registration. Secondly, he introduced the Alumni Connect program, emphasizing its potential for mentoring, internships, and career opportunities for current students, encouraging participation through the application process at alumniconnect@foreverpioneer.com.

A. Rodriguez introduces herself and expresses her excitement to be the new Senator of CBE.

N. Calara informs the Board Members about the upcoming “Pies with the Presidents” event happening the next day from 12:15 PM to 1:15 PM, inviting volunteers to help with pie cutting and tabling preparations in the ASI office at 11:45 AM, with further details to be shared on email. Additionally, updates were provided regarding collaboration with **G. Felix** on legislative staff support and GS presentations scheduled for next week, urging sign-ups for “Hey, Be Nice!” and emphasizing the importance of student voices in the upcoming Board of Trustees meeting, particularly concerning the proposed singular pathway. **N. Calara** mentions the visit of three trustees in the coming week and welcome input from students to share with them, closing with early wishes for St. Patrick’s Day.

55:45

X. ADJOURNMENT at 1:00 PM

Minutes reviewed by:

Chair of the Board

Danny Lopez

Daniel Kristofferson D. Lopez

Daniel Kristofferson D. Lopez (Apr 5, 2024 18:43 PDT)

Minutes approved on:

03/27/2024

Date:

