

**Associated Students Council  
Humboldt State University  
Monday, March 23rd, 2009  
University Center, South Lounge  
Minutes #18**

**Call to Order**

Jennifer DeBoer, Legislative Vice President, called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. in the University Center South Lounge.

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Kale Roberts, Rachel Cooke, Dina Haigounian, Desiree Woods, Morrissa Hudson, Joyce Tam, Zachary Beshore, NightSnow Vogt, and Alex Kramer.

Members Absent: Alex Gradine (Excused)

Officers Present: Sofia Pereira, Jennifer DeBoer, Corey Fenton, Brandon Chapin, Dorothyann Guido, Melissa Gussin

Officers Absent: Steven Dixon (Excused), Dylan Sutherland (Excused), Gabe Shames (Unexcused)

Advisors Present: Gail Wootan, Joan Tyson

**Approval of Agenda**

MOTION: TAM/BESHORE move to approve Agenda #18. APPROVED

**Chair's Report**

DeBoer had no Chair's Report.

**Special Presentation**

Provost Dr. Robert Snyder and Radha Webley, Associate Director of Diversity and Inclusion were both present. Snyder and Webley are working on creating a framework for tracking, monitoring and reporting on diversity related issues at HSU. Snyder and Webley have been soliciting input from different groups on campus and are interested in getting input from the Associated Students on the proposed matrix that will be used to measure diversity related issues.

Webley explained that there were be four different measurements: Institutional Viability and Vitality, Education and Scholarship, Access and Success, and Climate and Intergroup Relations. Webley stated that the draft of the matrix that is provided to the Council is only a rough draft and welcomes any comments or suggestions that Associated Students may have.

Cooke asked Webley if the matrix would identify reasons that students aren't returning for the Junior year. Webley replied that students who do not return to HSU will be contacted for exit interviews to identify any common issues that may be creating the problems. Woods asked Webley if focus groups

would be different each year or if a standing focus group would be used. Webley explained that the focus group would be different ever year and that a cross section of students would be used. Webley also noted that focus groups for staff and faculty would be developed later on in the process.

Snyder explained that the WASC Accreditation Group is looking at developing a portfolio of best practices for different situations and that the proposed matrix would help to identify areas where best practices could be instituted. DeBoer asked which diverse populations would the matrix work to identify. Webley explained that information is already available on students in regards to race, gender and income but that additional information on Sexuality and National Origin would be able to be collected. Webley also stated that it would not be feasible to try to measure some of the groups. Webley also explained that the way that information is collected on race and ethnicity is currently changing to allow students to identify as bi-racial and multi-racial. The new information collecting systems will be used with new students arriving in Fall 2009.

Haigounian asked if a rubric would be used to turn qualitative data into quantitative data. Webley explained that she'll be working with Graduate Sociology Students to evaluate the data. Snyder gave an example of how focus groups could be used to help solve quantitative data problems. Cooke asked who would be able to access the information that was gathered. Webley explained that she intends for the results to be distributed widely, but a method for distribution has not yet been established. Gussin expressed that she supported more options for students to choose from when identifying their ethnicity.

### **Approval of Minutes**

A. Approval of Minutes #17 dated March 9th, 2009 -- Action Item

MOTION: WOODS/ROBERTS move to approve Minutes #17 dated March 9<sup>th</sup>  
2009. APPROVED

### **Public Comments (As per the Gloria Romero Open Meeting Act of 2000 authorized by Section 89306.)**

There was no public comment.

### **Appointments to Committees and Council**

#### **A. S. President (Sofia Pereira)**

MOTION: WOODS/TAM move to appoint Morrissa Hudson to the AS Elections  
Commission. APPROVED

MOTION: ROBERTS/HAIGOUNIAN move to appoint Joyce Tam to the AS Elections  
Commission. APPROVED

#### **A. S. Administrative Vice President (Corey Fenton)**

No appointments.

**A.S. Legislative Vice President (Jennifer DeBoer)**

No appointments.

**A.S. Student Affairs Vice President (Gabe Shames)**

Absent.

**Old Business**

- A. An Act to Amend the Associated Students Elections Code – Action Item  
The AS Elections Code currently requires that all candidates for an AS elected office pay a performance bond when filing for candidacy. This act would amend the Elections Code by removing the requirement for a performance bond.

MOTION: HAIGOUNIAN/HUDSON move to approve An Act to Amend the Associated Students Elections Code.

APPROVED  
AS AMENDED  
(2) OPPOSED  
(1) ABSTENTION

Roberts explained that the Act would remove the requirement for a refundable performance bond that students must pay in order to take out an elections packet. Roberts explained that in the past the performance bond may have deterred students who were interested. Beshore asked if having the students pay the performance bond upon return of their application materials would allow more students to run. Tyson noted that language could be changed to have the performance bond collected when the application is returned. Gussin asked for clarification about why the bond is used. Tyson explained that the bond is in place to help guarantee that candidates follow the Elections Code. Chapin stated that he asked other campuses at the CSSA meeting if they used performance bonds and that only CSU Northridge has a bond system in place. Woods expressed her support in getting rid of the bond because students often don't have cash available to pay for it. Woods noted that other incentives should be used to ensure that students follow the Elections Code. Cooke stated that she is in support of removing the requirement for a bond and that the bond can be a difficult concept for a student new to the organization to understand. Beshore stated that he supports the idea of a performance bond, although he feels that the bond should be collected when the packets are turned back in, rather than when they are picked up.

MOTION: HAIGOUNIAN/BESHORE move to amend the motion to make the performance bond due upon the return of application materials. Elections Code Section 7, General Elections – Filing for Candidacy, 7.02 shall read:  
At the time nomination materials are filed, the Candidate shall also file a signed statement indicating candidate's understanding of the Constitution, Elections Code and other election materials of the Associated Students of Humboldt State University. *Candidate shall also file a performance bond as described in Section 8, General Elections Performance Bond.*

APPROVED  
(3) OPPOSED

Tam stated that she is still opposed to the performance bond. Haigounian stated that she doesn't feel

that the performance bond needs to be removed and that she believes that it helps to guarantee a level playing field. Woods asked what information students receive at the orientation meeting. Wootan responded that candidates learn about rules, important dates, and have their picture taken for the voters guide. Woods stated that she is still against the idea of the performance bond. Cooke noted that no one has ever actually lost a performance bond in an AS Election. Kramer stated that he feels that the bond adds more barriers to those who are interested in participating. The Council then proceeded to vote on the amendment

MOTION: VOGT/BESHORE move to amend Section 8, General Elections – Performance Bond, 8.01 to read that the amount of the performance bond to be fifteen (\$15) for each candidate.  
8.01 shall read: Prior to each General Election, the Elections Commission will establish a performance bond of fifteen (\$15) for each A. S. Council, All University, Graduate, A. S. President and Vice President candidates. This bond must be paid at the A. S. Business Office at the time of filing.

APPROVED

Pereira also noted that the current amount of \$30 may be to high for a student who wants to run for an executive office. Pereira suggests that the Council lower the bond amount for all candidates to \$15.

MOTION: HAIGOUNIAN/HUDSON move to call the question.

APPROVED  
(1) OPPOSED

**Official Reports (10 minutes limit each speaker, additional time at discretion of Chair)**

**Committee Reports from Students-at-Large**

There were no reports.

**College Representative Reports**

Cooke – College of Natural Resources and Sciences

No report.

Roberts – College of Natural Resources and Sciences

No report.

Tam – College of Professional Studies

Tam reported that she will be meeting with Kramer after the meeting to discuss the College of Professional Studies mixer.

Kramer – College of Professional Studies

No report.

Haigounian – College of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences

No report.

Woods – College of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences

Woods reported that the Educational Policy Committee is still working on defining the changes between Independent Study and Directed Study and will be taking action on it soon. The Educational Effectiveness Review Committee is reviewing a draft report on the Learning Outcomes which will then be forwarded to the Academic Senate for approval.

Hudson – College of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences

Hudson reported that CAHSS will be reserving the events field for a Kickball tournament within the next week.

Vogt –All University

No report.

**Residence Hall Association (RHA) Representative Report (Zachary Beshore)**

Beshore reported that RHA week is coming up. Beshore also reported that RHA is currently in the middle of their elections process for the 2009-10 school year.

**General Manager (Joan Tyson)**

No report.

**Associate Director of Student Life (Gail Wootan)**

Wootan reminded the Council to talk to classes about positions available on AS for the 2009-10 school year. Wootan also reported that she will e-mail Council Members who indicated that they were interested in sitting on panels for Spring Preview in the near future.

**Elections Commissioner (Dylan Sutherland)**

Absent.

**Public Relations (Dottie Guido)**

No report.

**AS Presents (Melissa Gussin)**

Absent.

**CSSA (Steven Dixon)**

Absent.

**CSSA (Brandon Chapin)**

Chapin reported that the Executive Director of CSSA will be resigning on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. CSSA will be beginning a search to select a new executive director. CSSA has chosen to lobby on Assembly Bill 462 during the CHESS conference. Assembly Bill 462 would place a cap on student fees at the UC, CSU and California Community Colleges for five years and would only increase student fees at the rate of inflation after the five year period. To cover the cost it would create an additional one percent tax on income over \$1,000,000. CSSA is also sponsoring a bill that would allow 17 year olds the opportunity to vote in a primary election if they will be 18 by the general election date. CSSA has also indicated their support for Assembly Bill 656 which would tax oil and revenue in California to fund higher

education. Chapin also reported that the HSU Associated Students Lobby Corps met with Senator Wiggins' and Assembly Member Chesbro's district offices before spring break. The AS Lobby Corps will also be meeting with Chesbro and Wiggins during the CHESS conference. Chapin also reported that CSSA has approved their reorganization at their last meeting and also chose their CSU President and Legislator of the year awards.

#### **Legislative Vice President (Jennifer DeBoer)**

Deboer reported that she was only able to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the last Academic Senate meeting where the Academic Senate approved the awards for Faculty Members of the year.

#### **Student Affairs Vice President (Gabe Shames)**

Absent.

#### **Administrative Affairs Vice President (Corey Fenton)**

No report.

#### **President (Sofia Pereira)**

Pereira reported that the University Budget Committee met on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> to review the role of the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee also discussed that summer school benefits the campus budget. The Student Trustee is coming to campus this Friday and will be meeting with students from 12-1 in the South Lounge. Last Friday, Pereira met with President Richmond and Dr. Butler to discuss the quad policy. Clubs can table in the Art Quad—they would register to do so in the Clubs Office. Pereira will update Shames on the meeting. More enforcement of the food policy will begin soon. There are concerns about the enforcement of the health code. Faculty Advisor training will begin for Faculty members who advise clubs.

#### **General Council Discussion**

Chapin stated that there is a bill for the legalization of marijuana and that CSSA has chosen not to take a position on the bill, although CSSA has recognized that it would benefit the budget through tax revenue. Vogt asked Chapin if Wiggins and Chesbro are sympathetic to higher education. Chapin replied that Chesbro and Wiggins are both sympathetic to higher education, but are only able to sponsor 15 bills. Neither Chesbro nor Wiggins will be sponsoring any higher education bills in the legislative cycle. .

#### **New Business**

- A. 2009-10 Associated Students Recommended Budget. –Information Item  
Council will receive a copy of the 2009-10 Associated Students Recommended Budget. Action will be taken on the budget at the April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting.

Fenton and Tyson handed out the 2009-10 Associated Students Recommended Budget and reviewed the process for the budget with the Council.

#### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**Adjournment**

DeBoer adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:49 p.m.

Recorded by:

Rob Christensen  
AS Secretary

Approved by:

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Jennifer DeBoer  
Legislative Vice President