

Minutes of the Meeting of the
University Student Union Board of Directors
of the California State University, Fresno Association, Inc.
February 1, 2016

A meeting of the University Student Union Board of Directors of the California State University Fresno Association, Inc. was held on Monday, February 1, 2016.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following voting members were present:

Mr. Juan Guzman, Chairperson	Ms. Angelica Reyes
Mr. Christopher Beck	Mr. Christopher Kent
Ms. Lilit Grigoryan	Ms. Simone Chambliss
Ms. Abigail Hudson	Mr. Andrew Escamilla
Mr. Ethan Moreno	Dr. Carolyn Coon*
Dr. Jose Diaz**	

The following voting member was not present:

Dr. Ignacio Hernandez***

The following nonvoting members were present:

Mrs. Gerry Elizondo	Ms. Mehrzad Zarrin
Mr. Nicholas Stephens	Ms. Shawna Blair

The following guests were also present:

Ms. Athena Niayesh	Mr. Fernando Flores
Ms. Patricia Thomason	Mr. Sebastian Wenthe

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MSC to approve the agenda for Monday, February 1, 2016 as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC to approve the minutes of Monday, November 16, 2015 as written.

MSC to approve the minutes of Monday, December 7, 2015 as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Simone Chambliss – Ms. Chambliss announced to the Board that the month of February is Black History Month and there are a lot of events happening on campus this month. The calendar of events for Black History month can be found under BSU on OrgSync. Ms. Zarrin stated that the calendar is posted in USU room 306.

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Carolyn Coon – Dr. Coon reported to the Board that planning for Commencement is underway with Mrs. Elizondo providing planning oversight. Dr. Coon stated that the search for Associate Dean of Student Involvement officially closed on January 22, 2016, but people can still apply for the position. Now they are able to start reviewing the applications.

*Representative of Vice President, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

**Designee of University President

***Academic Senate/Faculty Representative

Dr. Coon said that she is working on the search committee and will need student representation from the Board, staff representation from the University Student Union, and Dr. Diaz will be on the search committee. Dr. Coon stated that she would like the Board to select the student representation for the search committee. When the candidates come to campus, students will have an opportunity to meet them and share their observations. Dr. Coon spoke of the possible new University Student Union/Faculty Center. She stated that the architects came up with three proposals and will present their final proposal in the beginning of March. The project the architects are proposing is about 100,000 sq. ft. with the cost between \$60 - \$70 million.

Dr. Jose Diaz – Dr. Diaz welcomed everyone back. He stated that for the past couple of years he has sat on the USU Board of Directors, he has been impressed with the leadership the Board has provided for the University Student Union. He asked the Board if anyone has tried the campus shuttle.

Ms. Hudson answered that the timing is a little off.

Ms. Reyes answered that it is nice and fast, but the signage is not visible from afar.

Dr. Ignacio Hernandez – Dr. Hernandez was not present.

Associated Students, Inc. – Ms. Hudson stated that she has several updates for the Board. The first is about the Bulldog Express. She met last week with Mr. Tom Gaffery about the signage for the Bulldog Express. They discussed making the signage blue or red and larger. There will also be east and west bound signs. They are also working on making it timelier and making sure the route is the desired route.

The second update is regarding the Testing Center. Ms. Hudson stated that this semester the Testing Center is on a pause. The purpose of the Testing Center will be reevaluated this semester.

The third update is about the Associated Students, Inc. elections. It will be from March 15, 2016 – March 17, 2016. The petitions for elections will be due by February 12, 2016. Ms. Hudson asked Board members to encourage student to run for a position.

The fourth update is about the Arts & Humanities senator position. The position is currently vacant and applications are being accepted for the position on OrgSync until February 2, 2016.

The fifth update is about the Associated Students, Inc. winter retreat. This past weekend Associated Students, Inc. held their winter retreat. They reflected on the things they accomplished last semester and what they want to accomplish this semester. Ms. Hudson said that this semester she will be devoting her time on acquiring an on campus polling place for Associated Students, Inc. elections.

The sixth update is about the library technology endowment. They voted on providing two charging stations in the library through a company called Quick Booth. Unfortunately it was discovered that the company is not very reliable so they are working with the library to either find another company or use the funds for wireless charging.

The seventh update is about the College of Social Science. The College of Social Science just started a Leadership Council.

The final update is about Associated Students, Inc. having two action items for resolution. One is from the divestment from Turkey. Now the resolution is asking the Foundation not to make any direct investments in the future and to investigate the feasibility of divesting from mutual funds. The other action item is to commend the administration and police for working so quickly with the Yik Yak shooting at Fresno State.

Guests – There were no guest reports.

External Committee Reports – There were no external committee reports.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Juan Guzman – Mr. Guzman reported that the Board had its winter training on January 25th from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the University Student Union room 308. The purpose of this training was to introduce the new members, reflect on the past semester, convey the expectations for this semester, and allow Board members to create individual goals, review the responsibilities of all the committee, and to discuss future projects. The new Board member training was on January 21st from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the University Student Union room 303. Mr. Guzman, Ms. Reyes, and Ms. Blair met with the new Board members and discussed with them who they are, what they do, how they function, the structure of the Board, went over the Board bylaws, and gave them a tour of the Student Involvement Office. Mr. Guzman said that there are three new Board members and they will be voted in today. Mr. Guzman informed the Board that in the next few weeks they will begin to discuss their strategy for recruiting new members for the next academic year. They will be modifying their recruitment strategy in order to obtain a wider and more diverse pool of applicants.

Mr. Guzman announced that the Bulldog Bowl Open House is this Thursday from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. The Board will be present and helping out at the event.

NEW BUSINESS

Action Item: Vote on New Voting Members of the USU Board of Directors: Athena Niayesh, Michael Kreins, Sebastian Wenthe – It was MSC to approve Athena Niayesh, Michael Kreins, and Sebastian Wenthe as new members of the USU Board of Directors for the 2016 spring semester.

Information Item: Bulldog Bowl New Signage – Ms. Zarrin informed the Board that a new masking unit has been installed in the Bulldog Bowl. The proper signage above the Pavilion doors and the Bulldog Bowl doors has been installed. The front counter of the Bulldog Bowl has the Fresno State Bulldog and on the left side of the front counter has new signage that says, “Welcome to Bulldog Bowl.” There are two more things being worked on for the walls in the Bulldog Bowl and will take longer to complete. The banners and flags above the bowling lanes have been changed. The flags have the Fresno State bulldog and dog paws images. The banners are now red and blue.

OLD BUSINESS

Information Item: Reservation Center Remodel – Ms. Zarrin stated that the USU Reservation Center remodel was completed right before school ended in December 2015. The office has moved from the USU Pavilion back to USU room 301. It took a little bit longer to complete, but it is now more welcoming and looks really nice. The staff and students are enjoying the remodeled office. There will be an open house for the USU Reservation Center. It will be on Thursday, February 4, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. There will be snacks and hot chocolate at the event. Golden 1 Credit Union will also be having their open house that day. It will be from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Information Item: HVAC Project – Ms. Zarrin said that the HVAC Project is a major project that was started in the beginning of last semester and was completed in December 2015. The project consisted of rewiring all of the HVAC for the building. Ms. Zarrin stated that now they have to work with Plant Operations, Industrial Technology and the company to program the system to our computers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Relations & Marketing – Mr. Beck gave his report on the projects the Public Relations & Marketing Committee is working on. The committee is looking into promotional items that will be useful and unique to students. The committee has almost completed the University Student Union brochure; all they need are the final photographs of the newly renovated USU Reservation Center. For the display board, the committee is working on some new tabling materials and updating the display board. Mr. Beck informed the Board that the Public Relations & Marketing Committee has renamed “Breakfast with the Board” to “Get to Know the Board” and the next one will be on February 24, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The committee will also be working on updating the maps and locations displayed within the USU directories that are located near the staircases. It will be adding Robertito’s and changing the USU Recreation Center to Bulldog Bowl. Mr. Beck stated that the Public Relations & Marketing Committee would like to welcome their two newly voted in members, Mr. Michael Kreins and Ms. Athena Niayesh.

Ms. Reyes corrected the time of the February 24th Breakfast with the Board. She stated the correct time is from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. She also informed the Board that Mr. Beck is the new chair for the Public Relations & Marketing Committee.

Budget & Operations – Mr. Kent updated the Board on the projects the Budget & Operations Committee is working on. The committee has been reviewing the new budget and will be going through the budgetary process for recommendations to the Association. In order to complete the budget transparency handout, they are waiting on the debt service carry over amount. The Board of Directors display case should be up and available for viewing within the month. The purpose of this project is to better acquaint the student population with the University Student Board of Directors. The field trip project has been temporarily postponed. The committee is determining if the Board even needs to take a field trip to another university. Mr. Kent stated that he has been working on the student employee handbook. He has been proofing it, simplifying it, and trying to make it easily accessible online. Mr. Kent stated that Mr. Sebastian Wenthe has joined the Budget & Operations Committee and welcomed him onto the committee.

Ms. Reyes informed the Board that Mr. Kent is the new chair for the Budget & Operations Committee.

Campus Involvement Ambassadors – Mr. Moreno reported to the Board that the Campus Involvement Ambassadors are still giving presentations for clubs and organizations. They have one more Emerging Leaders Retreat this semester. It will be from February 26, 2016 – February 28, 2016. Their goal is to have 100 students and right now they are at 75 students. They have also been helping out with recruitment.

USU Campus Events – Mr. Escamilla reported that USU Productions had a Bulldog Wednesday on December 2, 2015. It had a theme of “to be giving.” They had two activities. One activity was to “Send a Snowflake.” Students had the opportunity to write a message for the homeless in the form of a snowflake. The snowflakes were given to the Poverello House. The second activity was called the Candy Cane Exchange. Students wrote positive messages for the next student who came to the activity table for a candy cane. The next Bulldog Wednesday is on February 3, 2016. USU Productions will be collaborating with the USU Board of Directors. The USU Board of Directors will be informing students how they can acquire a free ticket to the Fresno State Men’s and Women’s Basketball games. They will also host “Good Luck” banners for both of the teams. The March Bulldog Wednesday will be on March 2, 2016 and has yet to be planned. The likes, followers, and friends for the USU Productions social media accounts are still rising.

Campus Events helped out with the Bulldog Bowl Ugly Sweater Theme Night on December 3, 2015. Over 3,600 students were served at the December 14 – 17, 2015 Finals Cram Jam. On Thursday, January 28, 2016 Campus Events had a Karaoke Night. It had a great turnout. They were at capacity. Next week the comedian Drew Lynch will be coming to campus. He is a comedian runner up from America’s Got Talent. It is free for Fresno State students and \$5 for the general public. The event is being cosponsored with the Services for Student with Disabilities office and with the Advocates for Students with Disabilities Club. Tickets went on sale today for the Monterey Bay Aquarium Bus Trip on March 5, 2016. The ticket prices are \$35 for Fresno State students and \$40 for student guest.

DIRECTORS’ REPORT

Ms. Mehrzad Zarrin & Mrs. Gerry Elizondo – Mrs. Elizondo reported that this Thursday Bulldog Bowl will be having their open house at 7:00 p.m. The USU Reservation Center will be having their open house from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The Golden 1 Credit Union will have their open house from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. There has been a staff change in the Student Involvement Office. Effective January 1, 2016, Mrs. Breanne Scogin is the Senior Program Coordinator for the Center for Leadership and Greek Life. Mr. Eddie Dominguez is the program coordinator for Club Sports, Off Campus Bulldogs, and Outdoor Adventures.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC to adjourn the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Mehrzad Zarrin & Mrs. Gerry Elizondo,
Interim Co-Directors of Student Involvement

By Ms. Susan Chavez, Office Assistant