

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of October 16th, 2024

- I. CALL TO ORDER at **12:06 PM**
- II. [ROLL CALL](#)

Present: Nolan Calara, Erick Loreda, Charan Reddy Doolam, London Deguzman, Deepthi Bhimanapati, Kartik Tripathi, Germione Villegas, Jana Ramos, Nidhi Sharma, Joe Trujillo, Sai Lokesh Gayam, Sophia Dela Cruz, Venkata Anirudh, Yashica Avhad, James Carroll, Ashley Depappa, MyLan Huynh, Maureen Scharberg

Absent: Martin Castillo, Steve Spencer, Stephanie Ann Lustina, Terry Buttchen
- III. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to first discuss the C. INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Introduction and Welcome from Interim Vice President of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Dr. Brenda Amenson-Hill, by **E. Loreda**, seconded by **V. Anirudh**, motion **CARRIED**.

Motion to approve the agenda of October 16th, 2024, by **L. Deguzman**, seconded by **S. Cruz**, motion **CARRIED**.
- IV. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of the Minutes of October 2, 2024**

Motion to approve the minutes of October 2nd, 2024, by **D. Bhimanapati**, seconded by **L. Deguzman**, motion **CARRIED**.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT – **Public Comment is intended as a time for any member of the public to**

recognized student organizations, underwent periodic updates in the past, including the removal of inactive organizations and the repainting of the space. However, these activities were paused during the pandemic, and SLIC has since reached out about resuming the process. **J. Carroll** explains that the project has become increasingly cost-prohibitive due to safety concerns. Painting on the hill now requires contractors to adhere to safety regulations, including the use of harnesses, which has significantly increased the cost, estimated to be over \$50,000. In response to these challenges, the idea of creating a committee to

love about CSU East Bay and what changes they would like to see, with a focus on improving the student experience and addressing barriers to graduation.

B. Amenson-Hill mentions her career trajectory, which included time at the University of Illinois in Chicago, 18 years in Wisconsin, and her most recent position at UC Merced. She explains that she is now consulting, drawing on her extensive experience in higher education across large public, private, small, and regional institutions. Despite being near the end of her career, she emphasizes that she is not ready to retire and is eager to contribute through consulting. She assures the group that she is there to listen and learn about the big issues for students on campus and is open to returning for further conversations. **B. Amenson-Hill** invites questions from the group, making it clear that she values their input. **L. Deguzman** asks if **B. Amenson-Hill** has any upcoming initiatives or projects.

B. Amenson-Hill responds by explaining that her main focus, as directed by the university president, is on addressing enrollment challenges. She notes that while she hasn't yet met the president in person due to only being on campus for three days, their upcoming meeting will clarify priorities. **B. Amenson-Hill** highlights that enrollment has significantly decreased at CSU East Bay, a trend seen at many universities due to fewer high school graduates and more students opting for alternatives like two-year colleges or skipping college altogether. She emphasizes that enrollment isn't just about numbers, it's about the entire student experience. **B. Amenson-Hill** points out that factors such as campus life, professor engagement, ease of accessing services, responsiveness, and whether students feel cared for all contribute to enrollment and retention. Her goal is to not only attract more students but also ensure they stay, succeed, and graduate.

input moving forward. **B. Amenson-Hill** also mentions that she was working with the Educational Advisory Board, which is conducting a system-wide analysis of enrollment, though she is unsure if students were involved in that process.

N. Calara adds a comment about enrollment, bringing up how multiple CSU campuses, including CSU East Bay, are struggling to meet enrollment goals and facing potential funding challenges. He asks if **B. Amenson-Hill** has plans to engage in system-wide discussions about how to support all the CSU campuses that are facing similar challenges.

B. Amenson-Hill replies that she will indeed be part of those broader discussions. She mentions an upcoming conference in LA where all CSU campuses will be involved in discussions related to enrollment. **B. Amenson-Hill** notes that her experience working with the University of California system and other public institutions, such as in Minnesota, will help her contribute to these conversations. She stresses the importance of learning the unique aspects of CSU East Bay and advocating for its strengths. **B. Amenson-Hill** adds that, while her schedule is packed, she is committed to being deeply involved and engaged with the

teaching them how to advocate, program effectively, and represent every city and community on campus.

Motion to appoint Natasha Cuadra, Rolando Munos, Alexa Rodriguez Martinez, Sarah Cruz Trejo and Nathan Toomey as ASI academic mentees, by **13 YES**, motion **CARRIED**.

33:32

F. ACTION ITEM - ASI Committee Candidates 24-25 (5 minutes)

The ASI Board of Directors will take action on the ASI Committee Candidates 24-25.

Motion to appoint Nikita Desale, Sanjana Annpureddy, Priyanka Ayaggari, Saksham Jain to the **Wellness and Recreation Committee**, Maria Moreno, Hanzalah Kaif, Mojdeh Sadat Najafi Zadeh, Nandini Vemuganti to **Sustainability Affairs Committee**, Nikhil Chowdary Nettem, Kushal Reddy Reddipally, Isabelle Lens and Dharmi Kanth Cigiri to **Internal Affairs Committee**, Lizet Garcia, Ketaki Shinde, Rithika Pagadala and Andrew Mendoza to **Finance Committee**, Giovanni Aldaz to **External and Legislative Affairs Committee**, Harshitha Sontika, Rajat Bakshi and Aditi Yogesh Vaidya to the **Elections Committee**, by **E. Loredo**, seconded by **D. Bhimanapati**, motion **CARRIED**.

D. Bhimanapati mentions that she interviewed candidates for the Internal Affairs Committee and found all of them to show great commitment and enthusiasm for the work. She believes that their diverse experiences align well with the goals of the committee.

G. Villegas shares that she interviewed candidates for the Wellness and Recreation Committee and observed that all four candidates demonstrated strong engagement with Cal State East Bay. She believes their professional backgrounds, skills, and abilities make them a perfect fit for the committee.

J. Ramos states that she interviewed candidates for the Sustainability Affairs Committee, selecting them because they showed a passion for engaging with the East Bay community. She notes that their varied backgrounds and experiences will create a positive environment for the committee.

L. Deguzman, as the Chair of the External Affairs Committee, says that he interviewed **Giovanni Aldaz**, his sole candidate, and found him to be a strong choice. **G. Aldaz**'s background in legislative advocacy, student government, and leadership roles in clubs makes him a solid fit for the role.

A. Depappa explains that she selected three candidates for the Elections Committee, highBDC qaf1 0 0 1 122.42 176.9 Tm0.133 g0.133 G(highBDC qaf1 0 0 1it)-Aldaz

C. Doolam, speaking about his interviews for the Finance Committee, notes that he selected four candidates due to their enthusiasm and strong communication skills. He believes their diverse backgrounds make them strong candidates for the committee.

Motion to appoint the committee candidates, by 13 YES, motion **CARRIED**.

37:35

G. INFORMATION ITEM - [Sustainability Spotlight: Waste Wizards](#)

The ASI Board of Directors will be informed about Sustainability Spotlight: Waste Wizards. **J. Ramos** states that her first event will be in celebration of Sustainability Day, which falls on the last Wednesday of October. She has planned two events during that week, one on Monday and another on Thursday. The Thursday event, October 31st, will be a waste management visit. She explains that this idea originated from the now-inactive Sustainability Student Initiative Group, and she hopes to revive it to raise awareness of sustainability issues on campus and engage students in sustainable practices.

J. Ramos mentions that she has been in discussions with **Mark Sterling**, head of Pioneer Dining, to collaborate on a waste management campaign. The plan is to set up a table by the bins during lunch at the Pioneer Kitchen, where she and another board member will discuss waste management and risk reduction. They will hand out flyers, giveaways, and encourage students to volunteer for other sustainability events throughout the year. **J. Ramos** is requesting a budget of \$50 and is working on an informational video about proper recycling, composting, and landfill waste that will play in the background. **J. Ramos** adds that she plans to repurpose donated clothes to create costumes for the waste visits, as was done in previous events. She requests clothing donations for this purpose.

C. Doolam asks if **J. Ramos** is collaborating with other clubs or organizations, to which **J. Ramos** replies that she currently has no specific contacts but hopes this event will help foster interest in creating a student organization focused on sustainability. She has also created a feedback form for students to express interest in working on sustainability initiatives with ASI.

J. Ramos explains that her second event, scheduled for October 28th, is called Mindful Munching. The aim is to raise awareness about food waste and waste reduction through a teaching kitchen with Pioneer Dining. The event will focus on demonstrating how students

tablecloths, but not for personal use. Club funding is for events that provide resources to the student body. **J. Ramos** inquires whether there is a deadline for student organizations to request this funding. **C. Doolam** responds that seed funding can be requested throughout the year, while club funding must be requested 30 days before the event. **J. Trujillo** asks for clarification regarding whether the balance is yearly or semester-based. **C. Doolam** explains that seed funding operates on a yearly balance, while club funding is semester-based. **A. Depappa** clarifies that seed funding is specifically for newly founded organizations or clubs with 75% new leadership or those reactivating after two years, whereas club funding is available to all clubs without such requirements.

51:41

- [Upcoming initiatives by Senator of Science](#) (5 minutes)
S. Gayam, the Senator of Science, presents his upcoming initiatives for Fall 2024. His primary focus is on student representation, ensuring that the voices of science students are heard in university meetings, such as board discussions, and advocating for curriculum improvements, course offerings, and access to research and job skills. He also aims to work closely with faculty to enhance these areas. Additionally, **S. Gayam** is dedicated to professional development for science students. This includes organizing hackathons, coding challenges, and resume workshops to support their growth. He highlights his ongoing collaboration with the Deans of the College of Science, with whom he meets monthly. One of the major initiatives he's working on is advocating for the inclusion of specific programming languages in the capstone exams for computer science students. Discussions with professors are ongoing, and if progress is not made, he plans to draft a resolution. **S. Gayam** also mentions his efforts to connect with students through events, such as his upcoming tabling event, "Brainstorm with the Senator." Furthermore, he is working on organizing a hackathon, "Datathon," scheduled for November 16th and 17th, in collaboration with other departments. **S. Gayam** closes by stating that more initiatives are in the pipeline and expressing his commitment to the betterment of science students.

54:11

IX. ROUND TABLE REMARKS

E. Loredo mentions that he sent out an email regarding one-on-ones he will be having in the upcoming week, possibly extending to the next two weeks depending on everyone's availability. He appreciates those who have already booked appointments and reminds those who haven't to do so. He also highlights the importance of using the spreadsheet for weekly updates. While many have

