

Associated Students of Solano College
Retreat
MINUTES

September 21, 2013 9:19am-3:08pm.

*Solano Community College
4000 Suisun Valley Road
Student Union Building Room 1421
Fairfield, California*

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:19am. Secretary Collins took the minutes.

II. OFFICIAL ROLL CALL

Executive Board Members Present:

Gabriel Johnson, Latifah Alexander, Jesirae Collins, Leilani Quesada, Jonathan Alexander-Barkley, Arturo Castillo, Charlene Alimboyao

Senators Present:

Kyle Todd, Wesley Thomas, Casey Bess, Tony Guevara, Christian Ogden, Luis Garcia

Associates Present:

No Associates seated at this time

Quorum achieved with 6 of 9 seated Senators present.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A. ASSC Retreat Agenda September 21, 2013

Motion to approve the agenda by Senator Ogden. Second by Senator Bess. **Motion passes (6,0,0).**

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. AB955 – Gabriel Johnson

President Johnson spoke with Dr. Laguerre on Thursday. Dr. Laguerre informed him that Solano Community College is still about 500 students short in order to implement the bill. Dr. Laguerre would like to implement the bill when Solano reaches the attendance threshold. Dr. Laguerre informed President Johnson that two thirds of proceeds received would go back to the faculty that teaches the summer session and that money would not need to come out of the regular school year budget.

Senator Jaramillo checks in at 9:24am.

Senator Baig checks in at 9:27am.

Motion for ASSC to oppose AB955 by Senator Bess. Second by Senator Guevara. **Motion passes (8,0,0).**

Vice President Castillo and President Johnson read the opposition letter proposed by Senator Baig.

Motion to approve Senator Baig's statement as written in opposition to AB955 by Senator Bess. Second by Senator Todd.

Motion rescinded by Senator Bess.

Motion to approve Senator Baig's statement with the addition of other amendments by Senator Ogden. Second by Senator Garcia. **Motion passes (6,2,0).**

Motion to suspend the orders of the day and skip item VI by Senator Guevara. No second.

Motion to suspend the orders of the day and skip item V. Team Building and move to item VI. Breakfast. by Senator Jaramillo. Second by Senator Ogden. **Motion passes (6,2,0).**

V. TEAM BUILDING

A. "Who Am I" (The Office Game)

Senator Jaramillo leads the team in a team building exercise.

VI. BREAKFAST

Senator Guevara Exits at 10:13am

Motion to resume the orders of the by Senator Ogden. Second by Senator Jaramillo. **Motion passes (6,1,0).**

Senator Guevara Enters at 10:14am.

VII. PUBLIC FORUM

Toni Murray informs the senate that she is representing a new company which will be using alternative marketing to raise money for people that can't afford it. It will be on kickstarter.com and the project will use music to raise money. Their target goal is \$500,000. One of their fundraising ideas is bidding on a major music album. She would like ASSC to endorse their support for the project.

Leilani Quesada informs the senate that her friend, Nitny Matott, has been diagnosed with stage IV terminal cancer. They have made a nonprofit called One Tough Chick to raise money for the family's medical expenses. There was a golf tournament on Thursday that raised about \$10,000.00 already and they will also be holding a rummage sale in Petaluma on Saturday. The fundraiser can be found on Facebook, One Touch Chick – Nitny S. Matott.

Professor Wilson reminds the senate about the Model UN Conference and anyone who is interested to contact him for more details.

Senator Guevara exits at 10:46am.

Senator Guevara returns at 10:50am.

Motion to suspend the orders of the day and move to item IX. A by Senator Ogden. Second by Senator Todd. **Motion passes (8,0,0).**

VIII. INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT

A. Felipe Wilson

Professor Wilson commends the ASSC members for taking the initiative in their specific positions.

Parliamentary procedure overview:

Professor Wilson states that ASSC has been using parliamentary procedures effectively and well. Parliamentary law traces its origins to 750 BC and the Ancient Greeks. During this time, being part of political life was essential so they formed rules in which individuals could participate. The British Parliament codified. These parliamentary procedures spread to the American colonies. Parliamentary procedure is important in order to ensure that everyone has a voice.

Why Parliamentary Procedure? "When people meet or work together to reach decisions... they represent *democracy in action*"-Edwin Griswold, Dean of Harvard Law School. Parliamentary procedures teach a respect for the Democratic decision making process. This can often take a long time to occur and sometimes moves at a glacial pace. It is designed this way for a reason - to expedite business. Once a person becomes familiar with the process it moves quicker. Parliamentary procedure ensures that meetings are focused and orderly. It helps to eliminate the issue of chaos. Parliamentary procedure protects both the rights of the majority (right to prevail) and the rights of the minority (right to be heard). It is important to have dissension. This is the sign of a good functioning body and helps to keep the governing body honest. The principles of Parliamentary Law are Equality, Order and Justice. Introducing Business - Make a motion: present a plan of action. There is a hierarchy of motions. Privileged Motions: not related to pending business. Subsidiary Motions: deals with main motion. Examples are: Lay on the table, previous question, limit debate or extend it, postpone it to a definite time, amend principal motion, postpone indefinitely, refer or commit, recommit. These take priority over a main motion.

Senator Thomas returns at 11:05am.

Senator Baig exits at 11:05am.

Senator Jaramillo returns at 11:09am.

Senator Baig returns at 11:14am.

Senator Todd exits at 11:24am.

Main Motion: Include Recognition, Proposal, Second, Statement, Debate, Vote, Result "The ayes have it and the motion to....has been adopted." Implementation.

Amendments: Friendly motions are a change in a motion that the maker of the motion would have wanted (Dr. Powell reports that it is an adopted practice in many assemblies, a senator may help another to senator to properly state the motion if they do not know how to word it, etc. Friendly amendments are not in Roberts Rules. It is not a practice that is mandated or endorsed). Proper motions: adding words at the end of a sentence or phrase, inserting words, striking out words, replacing a major section with a new section, replacing the entire motion with another motion.

Senator Todd returns at 11:31am.

Discussion/Debate: Never attack personalities or motives, use only facts and provable statements, disagreements are handled agreeably, recess is taken when fatigue threatens good judgment and lucid thought, raise your hand to be recognized to speak, try not to repeat any point which has already been made (important

to keep the debates moving forward). Need to have more pro/con sides, go back and forth. Points of order, point of information, move to limit or end debate, move to reconsider.

Tabling vs. postponing: Move to table means the issue will not be discussed again until someone makes a motion to take it off the table.

Move to postpone: Moves the issue to a definite period of time. When the time comes, the item is automatically put on the agenda again for discussion. No motion is necessary to reopen.

Legislative Advocate Alimboyao exits at 11:44am.

Senator Thomas exits at 11:49am.

Legislative Advocate Alimboyao returns at 11:51am.

Senator Thomas returns at 11:52am.

Treasurer Quesada exits at 11:52am.

Treasurer Quesada returns at 11:57am.

Senator Guevara exits at 11:57am.

Motion to suspend the orders of the day and move to item XIV. A. Dr. Powell's Report by Senator Jaramillo.

Second by Senator Todd. **Motion passes (7,0,0).**

Vice President Castillo exits at 12:00am.

Brown Act Overview:

Senator Guevara exits at 1:09pm.

History: The Brown Act was passed in 1953. It was enacted in response to growing public concerns about informal, closed-door meetings held by public officials. Officials would often hold "workshops" or "study sessions" to avoid public attention.

Brown Act states: "The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created".

Senator Jaramillo exits at 1:11pm.

Legislative Advocate Alimboyao enters at 1:12pm.

Senator Jaramillo returns at 1:12pm.

The Brown Act applies to the Student Senate because it is an "advisory body" to the Community College District Board of Governors, which is defined as "a local agency".

Senator Guevara returns at 1:13pm.

Professor Wilson informs the Senate that this is why we have to have a "Public Forum" item on our Agenda. The public must have the opportunity to voice their opinions. He suggests that we publicize this more to the community in order to make them aware of the opportunity they have to voice their opinions to the student senate.

Closed Session: The board may adjourn to “closed session” when discussing; pupil discipline, security of public buildings, personnel, collective bargaining, real property transactions, legal advice, and insurance claims.

Closed sessions must also be stated on the agenda together with the reasons therefore. It is vague in terms of the wording on who may or may not be included in closed sessions. You are still obligated to inform the public about what occurred during a closed session.

Regular Meetings: Time and place are to be set by the board. Meetings need not be held within the boundaries of the district. Agendas must be posted in conspicuous area at least 72 hours in advance containing a time, date, location of meeting, and the items to be covered.

Mailed Agendas: The legislative body, or its designee, shall mail a copy of the agenda or copies of all documents in the agenda packet, to any person who has filed a written request for such materials. This must be mailed at the time the agenda is posted.

Public Discussions: The board must have procedural regulations whereby the public may address the board on items within the board’s jurisdiction; however, **NO ACTION CAN BE TAKEN** until a properly noticed and subsequent meeting, where the item is properly noted on the agenda.

Public Records: Agendas, Meeting Minutes, Proposals.

Common violations of the Brown Act: Caucusing (Discussion of items on the agenda by two or more voting members). Failure to post the agenda 72 hours in advance. Taking action on items that have not previously gone before the board as an information item prior to action.

Lingering Questions: Questions have been raised about enforcement of the Brown Act.

President Johnson transfers the gavel to Vice President Castillo at 1:39pm.

President Johnson exits the meeting at 1:39pm.

If anyone has any questions regarding parliamentary procedure let Professor Wilson know.

IX. ADVISOR’S REPORT

A. Jose M. Ballesteros

Advisor Ballesteros commends the senate for their hard work in planning the retreat. He would like to distinguish the differences between the roles of the Senate and the Executive Board members. The Executive Board members handle the planning process. They put together the weekly agendas for the meetings and maintain structure during the meetings to ensure the meetings run smoothly and efficiently. The Senators have a voting position whereas the E-Board members do not. The President may suggest ideas and pass those ideas on to the legislature to take action. The Senators have a voting position and decide on which actions move forward and which actions do not. Once the Senate has acted on a motion, the Executive Board members handle the execution of the motion. The Executive Board and Senators must work together as a solid unit. He has received a lot of good feedback from faculty that ASSC has been very active so this semester and are acting as student leaders. He reminds the ASSC members to listen to the student body and bring up any pertinent issues they are informed of.

Advisor Ballesteros requests that all ASSC members read the minutes and looking at the agendas to assure they are correct. He also informs the Senate that business cards are being processed. He suggests ASSC members hand them out to everyone that they talk to, including family and friends. He also suggests preparing a thirty second speech including their position in ASSC and what their job entails. He reminds the ASSC members that it is important to introduce yourself as your position in ASSC when meeting new people. Advisor Ballesteros also suggests assigning specific issues to individual ASSC members in order to not overwhelm those individuals that we are working with. This will help to establish good relationships with those individuals on campus. He also reminds the ASSC members to make sure they only make promises that they know they can keep. This will help to establish a good reputation for them and for ASSC.

Senator Jaramillo exits at 11:00pm.

Senator Thomas exits at 11:02pm.

Motion to resume the orders of the day by Senator Todd. Second by Senator Bess. **Motion passes (6,0,0).**

X. TRAINING SESSION

A. Sensitivity Training

Senator Jaramillo exits at 1:41pm.

Toni Murray leads the group in a sensitivity training exercise with the goal of training the senate to empathize and help students with anxiety disorders.

Senator Jaramillo returns at 1:45pm.

Legislative Advocate Alimboyao exits at 1:52pm.

Toni Murray informs the senate that there are a lot of different anxiety disorders and stress elevates those conditions.

Legislative Advocate Alimboyao returns at 1:54pm.

Toni Murray states that it is easy to sympathize with those who have disabilities you can see, but it is harder to empathize with those who have disabilities you cannot see. It is important that you do not assume the value of a person by their appearance. What can you do to be sensitive? Being sensitive sometimes means just listening. Instead of asking what is wrong, try to ask why. Simply listening to where a person is coming from can help the individual to not feel judged by you. Toni Murray feels that this group of ASSC students is a gift and thanks them for being supportive of her.

Motion to resume the orders of the day by Senator Baig. Second by Senator Todd. **Motion passes (8,0,0).**

XI. LUNCH

XII. TEAM BUILDING

A. Pictionary

Senator Jaramillo leads the group in a team building exercise using Pictionary to depict historical events.

XIII. GUEST SPEAKER'S REPORT

A. Dr. Shirley Lewis

No report at this time since Dr. Shirley Lewis was unable to attend the meeting.

A. Dr. Joel Powell

Dr. Powell informs the group of the meaning of "Shared Governance."
Shared Governance-Education Code 70902(b)(7) – The right of students to be involved in shared governance. Shared Governance is the idea that students, faculty and the district board should be working together on policies, curriculum, etc. It is not an "equality" in terms of the governance role. The term Collegial Consultation or Participatory Decision Making means the roles are not all equal between these three parties. The goals of Shared Governance include: encourage appropriate delegation of authority, enhance access to governance mechanisms, encourage expression of opinions at college and district levels and give reasonable consideration of diverse viewpoints. As an ASSC member it is your responsibility to have knowledge of the issues going on and know who to speak to regarding specific issues.
Title 5 Regulations-51023.7 Students- Students shall be provided an opportunity to participate in formulation and development and district and college policies and procedures that have or will have a **significant effect on students**. This right includes the opportunity to participate in processes for jointly developing recommendations to the governing board regarding such policies and procedures.

Senator Guevara enters at 12:02pm.
Vice President Castillo returns at 12:03pm.

What items are considering as having a "significant effect on students"? Grading policies, codes of student conduct (discipline), curriculum development, addition/deletion of courses or programs, institutional planning and budget development, standards/policies for student preparation & success, student services planning and development, student fee, any other district and college policy, procedure, or related matter that the district governing board determines will have a significant effect on students.

Professor Wilson exits at 12:09pm.
Profess or Wilson returns at 12:13pm.
Senator Garcia exits at 12:20pm.

Dr. Powell informs the senate that the Legislative Advocate and Student Trustee positions are important to keep the ASSC proactive. Last semester the Legislative Advocate position was not filled. He also reminds the senate that the Governing Board meets over the summer, but ASSC does not. If the Student Trustee cannot make it to the meetings over the summer then he suggests that perhaps ASSC can appoint someone to attend the summer meetings.

Title 5 states that the Governing Board shall recognize each Associate Student Organization as the representative Body of the students. The Selection of student reps to serve on college or district committees, task forces, or other governance groups shall be made, after consultation with designated parties, by the appropriate officially recognized Associated Student Organization(s) within the district. Except for unforeseeable, emergency situations, the Governing Board shall not take action on a matter having a significant effect on students until it has provided students with an opportunity to participate in the matter. The Governing Board shall give **reasonable consideration to recommendations and positions** developed by students.

Dr. Powell states that this means the Governing Board should not take action without student involvement. "Reasonable consideration" is a term that is up for debate. Dr. Powell reminds the student that there is still some inequality and therefore the students must to be very involved in the decision making process.

Senator Garcia returns at 12:27pm.

Motion to strike item XI and to insert the word "and lunch" to item XII by Senator Baig, Second by Senator Todd. **Motion passes (8,0,0).**

Motion to have a 10 minute recess by Senator Garcia. Second by Senator Ogden. **Motion Passes (8,0,0).**

Meeting is adjourned for 10 minute recess at 12:44pm.

President Johnson calls the meeting to order at 12:56pm.

Senator Jaramillo enters at 12:57pm.

Motion to reconsider the action taken on AB-955, amendment to the statement, by Senator Bess. Second by Senator Todd. **Motion passes (8,0,0).**

Motion to submit the proposed AB-955 resolution as is with no additional amendments by Senator Ogden. Second by Senator Bess.

Motion by Senator Ogden to call the question. Second by Senator Baig. **Motion passes (7,1,0).**

Original motion to submit the proposed AB-955 resolution as is with no additional amendments passes **(7,1,0)**.

Legislative Advocate Alimboyao exits at 1:05pm.

XV. TEAM BUILDING

A. Two Truths and a Lie

Senator Bess leads the group in a team building exercise.

XVI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Brainstorming Session

Senator Todd suggests throwing a charity event around Thanksgiving/Christmas. Senator Todd also met with Julian and they have spoken to Barnes and Noble. The bookstore will be issuing two checks, one for last year and one for this year, in the amount of \$20,000.00 to ASSC.

PRO Alexander-Barkley suggests throwing a Halloween party. There will be a Haunted House open for 3weekends in October and he suggests having a BBQ event at same time.

Senator Bess asks if anyone knows if the stadium can be rented out for other events or if it is currently being rented out.

Toni Murray would like to coordinate a fundraising event that coincides with the theatre's play.

Senator Baig would like some ideas on more creative ways to advertise on campus. Senator Bess suggests sidewalk chalking on campus. Treasurer Quesada suggests making announcements in classes. Senator Todd is suggests a Youtube broadcast. Toni Murray suggests advertising on Ozcat radio. Senator Baig suggests using public broadcast systems.

Vice President Castillo introduces the idea of an ASSC Action Proposal document. For those wishing to present ideas to the ASSC as information items, it would be a way to present it formally and efficiently. The document would be given to the President or Vice President at least 24 hours prior to the meeting when it would be presented.

XVII. TEAM BUILDING

A. Guitar Hero/RockBand

Guitar Hero/RockBand did not take place during the meeting due to adjournment.

XVIII. UPCOMING AGENDA

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Bess. Second by Todd. **Motion passes (8,0,0)**.

Meeting adjourned at 3:08pm.

