

Student Affairs Committee  
Minutes Wednesday, April 27, 2016

**Attendees:** Alexandra Tower - Chair, Esau Tovar - Vice Chair, Laurie Guglielmo, Deyna Hearn, Denise Kinsella, Lucy Kluckhohn-Jones (left at 2pm), Karen Legg, Alicia Villalpando, Betty Wong, Benny Blaydes, Gail Fukuhara, Nathalie Laille, Johnathon Hughes (Student Rep), Heather Haro (Student Rep).

**Excused/Absent:** Dione Carter

**Guests:** Robert Myers Esq.

1. Call to order: 1:00 pm

2. Public Comments

- a. Johnathon Hughes apologized on behalf of the AS Board for the disruptive behavior in the 4/6/16 meeting. He mentioned that the AS Board is very passionate about this issue, but apologized for any disrespect that took place.
- b. In response to student Jesse Randal's question from the 4/6/16 about why he could not nominate members to serve on a Committee in the middle of a meeting, Alex Tower referenced Board Policy and advised the Committee that Board Policy 2240 States that:  
The selection of all student representatives to serve on all appropriate college committees, appropriate Academic Senate Joint Committees, task forces, or other governance groups shall be made by the Associated Students after consultation with the Superintendent/President and the President of the Academic Senate.  
Alex Tower recommended that even though these policies were not followed for the appointments of Johnathon Hughes (Student Rep) and Heather Haro (Student Rep), the nominations still be accepted because the AS president Jesse Randal did provide these nominations in advance of the Wednesday April 27th meeting in consultation with the Academic Senate President Fran Chandler. The Committee unanimously agreed with the acceptance of the appointments of Johnathon Hughes (Student Rep) and Heather Haro (Student Rep).
- c. Alex also researched how student's votes are recorded on various Committees and was unable to find any clear or consistent policies currently in place in the Academic Senate Bylaws to follow. Alex suggested the Student Affairs Committee include the student member's votes, and the Committee unanimously agreed.

3. Old Business

- a. AR 4342 Standards of Student Success - Probation and Disqualification
  - i. Alicia and Karen updated this regulation to reflect the agreed upon uniform 50% completion rate and made some additional updates for clarification purposes.
  - ii. Students cannot be denied admittance to SMC because they were previously expelled from another institution for reasons other than academic or lack of progress, however students applications are placed on hold if they identify as having been previously disqualified from another school on their application to SMC. At this time, the Common Application SMC is going to move to does not allow for this to be addressed at the application level. Language was added to the AR to identify a process for students to remove enrollments holds of this nature per Esau's request.
  - iii. Motion to approve the amended AR by Laurie Guglielmo, 2nd by Karen Legg. The Committee voted 10 yes - 0 no - 0 abstain, to approve the amended AR as presented.

- b. AR 4420 Enrollment and Scholarship Standards for Participation in SMC Student Government
- i. Alex Tower expressed that as a faculty member her goal is to see her student's progress and graduate and she therefore feels uncomfortable setting the unit enrollment requirement standard to serve on student government at below a half time load.
  - ii. Robert Myers, College Legal Counsel, shared that the legal opinion from the Chancellor's Office citing 5 units as the minimum requirement for student trustees serves as a basis for the College's policy on students serving in student government. While we would not go under the minimum requirement, it is the legal opinion of the College that we do have the discretion to impose a higher unit requirement to Associated Student's elected positions. Mr. Myers noted that the unit requirements for participation in student government varies between 5 and 12 units throughout California Community Colleges.
  - iii. Benny Blades mentioned that the state set 5 units as the minimum requirement for student trustees because in other college districts the student trustees serve multi school districts.
  - iv. Lucy Kluckhohn-Jones also expressed her goal as a faculty member to see her student's progress and graduate and she wondered if students could be given credit for participation on student government, rather than reducing the unit requirement.
  - v. Benny Blades advised that students can get up to 4 units of credit through the internship program, but that the internship program cannot be made a requirement for student government participation.
  - vi. Benny Blades suggested student be given priority enrollment and that they be allowed to make up units in the winter and summer semesters.
  - vii. Karen Legg asked if there is time to fill a student's spring student government seat if the student is enrolled in a winter class to make up missing units from the fall and then they decide to drop their winter course.
  - viii. Laurie Guglielmo does not want students to take units for the sake of taking units. Laurie believes units should be taken to contribute to completion.
  - ix. Deyna Hearn mentioned that EOPS offers students the option to use intersession courses to make up for unit requirement deficits.
  - x. Laurie Guglielmo favors priority enrollment.
  - xi. Johnathon Hughes expressed his desire to reduce student government turnover. He expressed that the entire ICC just turned over. He also expressed that the students work an average of 20 hours per week on student government.
  - xii. Heather Haro mentioned that taking extra units could negatively impact financial aid and priority enrollment. She also mentioned that many students use winter and summer to work and earn money to sustain them throughout the fall and spring semesters.
  - xiii. Alicia Villalpando suggested that the units be reduced from 8 units to 6 units.
  - xiv. Benny Blades mentioned that most student government members are already taking courses in winter and summer.
  - xv. Alex Tower asked if we can include language to address the concerns the students had regarding inclusion of disabled students in student government.
  - xvi. Natalie Laille stated that disability accommodations vary by activity and by student and that DSPS evaluates each student on a case by case basis.
  - xvii. Robert Myers, College Legal Counsel, stated that the unit requirement cannot be under 5 units for disabled students per AR 4353.1
  - xviii. Esau Tovar stated that he will look into Enrollment Priority as an option for AS government board of directors but he does not support the idea of units being made up in the winter and summer sessions.

- xix. Benny Blades stated that most students have to drop their positions between fall and spring and therefore he would like to offer at least winter session as an opportunity for students to make up unit requirements.
- xx. Alex Tower asked how the students have addressed the 20 hour a week student government requirement.
- xxi. Johnathon Hughes stated that it takes a great deal of time to serve the needs of the students on campus. He started a program to feed students and he serves over 60 students a day that are hungry. He stated that due to a lack of resources he has to turn away roughly 30 students a day. He does not want to take away time from working on important programs such as these.
- xxii. Esau Tovar suggested that students first and foremost priority needs to be academics and that perhaps a solution to accomplish their student government projects could be to add more commissioners to reduce individual workloads.
- xxiii. Laurie Guglielmo asked what the student government is asking the Committee to approve.
- xxiv. Johnathon Hughes said they are advocating for a 5 unit requirement for the board members.
- xxv. Laurie Guglielmo asked if the students had a back-up suggestion.
- xxvi. Heather Haro stated that as representatives of the AS board they were only asked to advocate for the reduction of unit requirements from 8 units to 5 units.
- xxvii. Esau Tovar suggested that there is perhaps not a one size fits all solution and that the students should meet with their counselors so the students can be properly advised about how the choices they are making impact their financial aid, priority enrollment status, and transfer opportunities and what solutions might be best for them. He again reiterated that he will investigate enrollment priority for the AS board of directors only.
- xxviii. Alicia Villalpando asked why some positions require 6 units and other positions require 8 units.
- xxix. Esau Tovar stated that the Board of Directors are the elected student leaders and they coordinate multiple projects and require 8 units. Commissioners are assigned to specific projects and require 6 units.
- xxx. Jonathan Hughes stated that he would like student government to be representative of the student body and the current 8 unit requirement prohibits that.
- xxxi. Heather stated that lowering the units would allow for the student government to be more inclusive.
- xxxii. Benny Blades said that 8 units isn't a high standard. Benny said that 12 units is a high standard. Benny believes that if you set the bar high, students will rise to the occasion.
- xxxiii. Heather Haro stated that the 8 units is high for STEM students.
- xxxiv. Language was added to the AR to advise students that: Any unit requirement in this AR 4420 may be reduced to not less than five units by the student making a request to the Coordinator, Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS), or designee, in accordance with AR 4353.1 and obtaining approval for such request.
- xxxv. Motion to approve the inclusion of information for disabled students by Alicia Villalpando, 2nd by Johnathon Hughes. The Committee voted 10 yes - 0 no - 0 abstain, to include the new language as presented.
- xxxvi. Deyna mentioned she liked the internship option for student to receive 4 units for participation in student government
- xxxvii. Esau stated that imposing internships on students is outside of the scope of the Committee and that option would be a joint decision between the student and their counselor.
- xxxviii. Motion to reduce the required units for the student government board of director from 8 units to 5 units by Johnathon Hughes, 2nd by Heather Haro. The Committee voted 2 yes - 8 no - 0 abstain, to reduce the unit requirement for the student government board of director from 8 units to 5 units.

4. Motion to approve minutes from April 6, 2016 by Karen Legg, 2nd by Jonathan Hughes. The Committee voted 10 yes - 0 no - 0 abstain, to approve the minutes as presented.

5. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Ann Marie Leahy

Date: <u>4/27/16</u> .			Vote 1 1:40 PM			Vote 2 2:35 PM			Vote 3 2:40 PM			Vote 4 2:45 PM		
			AR 4342			AR 4420: inclusion of DSPS language			AR 4420: reduction of required units			mins: 4/6/16		
			yes	no	Abstain	yes	no	Abstain	yes	no	Abstain	yes	no	Abstain
Voting Members	arrival	depart												
Alexandra Tower, Chair	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x				x		x		
Esau Tovar, Vice Chair	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x				x		x		
Laurie Guglielmo	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x				x		x		
Deyna Hearn	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x				x		x		
Denise Kinsella	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x				x		x		
Lucy Kluckhohn-Jones	1:00 PM	1:55 PM	x											
Karen Legg	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x				x		x		
Alicia Villalpando	1:50 PM	3:00 PM				x				x		x		
Betty Wong	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x				x		x		
Student Representatives														
Johnathon Hughes	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x			x			x		
Heather Haro	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	x			x			x			x		
Interested Parties (non-voting)														
Benny Blaydes	1:00 PM	3:00 PM												
Dione (Dee Dee) Carter														
Gail Fukuhara	1:00 PM	3:00 PM												
Nathalie Laille	1:00 PM	3:00 PM												
Total			<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1st			Laurie Guglielmo			Alicia Villalpando			Jonathan Hughes			Karen Legg		
2nd			Karen Legg			Jonathan Hughes			Heather Haro			Jonathan Hughes		
notes:			approved: the amended AR as presented			approved: the inclusion of the DSPS language			denied: reduce the required units for the student government board of director from 8 units to 5 units			minutes approved as is.		