

LOBBY CORPS MINUTES
Meeting #10
November 2, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jara called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Voting Members Present

Genesis Jara (Chief Government Relations Officer)

Sofia Musman (ASI Vice President)

Stephanie Argent (Senate Representative)

Danielle Carancho (Senate Representative)

Hilda Jurado (Senate Representative)

Amanda Kilian (Student At-Large)

Nicolas Olenslager-Orton (Student At-Large) **(Ar @ 12:36pm)**

Zak Show (Student At-Large)

Autumn Farmer (AVP Legislative & External Relations Designee) **(Ar @ 12:31pm)**

Voting Members Absent

Non-voting Members Present

Guest

Joe Nino (ASI President)

Non-voting Members Absent

Lindsay San Miguel (Asst. Director, Government Affairs & Initiatives)

3. APPROVAL /CORRECTIONS AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(M) Jurado (S) Carancho to approve the Lobby Corps Agenda, Meeting #10, November 2, 2017

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 8-0-0

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

A. Lobby Corps, Meeting #9, October 26, 2017

(M) Argent (S) Jurado to approve Lobby Corps Minutes, Meeting #9, October 26, 2017

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 8-0-0

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dalziel Arambula spoke to the board and let them know that they are working with social media team to bolster social media presence on Twitter and Facebook. They don't really document all of the action that they take, and Arambula believes Lobby Corps would be a good place to start. Asked Lobby Corps to send pictures of events, programs, and district visits to them and they can upload this to ASI social media accounts to let students know what Lobby Corps is doing.

6. REPORTS

A. Chair/Government Relations Officer

Chair Jara reported the following:

- October Lobby Corps Member of the Month – Amanda Kilian
- Killian has been going above and beyond with their duties, especially with organizing the district office visits, phone banking, and legislator lists
- National Hunger and Homeless Awareness week: Yamagiwa would be planning it and Lobby Corps would

just be tabling and would be able to provide different resources and information

- Yamagiwa will provide a specific date/time and decisions can be finalized then
- CHESS – They have 8 applications so far. Jara asked the board to continue to spread the word and do class announcements if possible

B. Vice Chair

Vice Chair Carancho reported the following:

- RISE is having it's 2nd pizza part today at the Library on the 5th floor from 6:30-7:30pm
- Yamagiwa would like to have biweekly meetings, and they will be scheduling and organizing those events
- National Hunger and Homeless – Suggested that while tabling, they can present the bills that are going through CA Senate regarding homelessness and food insecurity

C. Students-at-Large

Students-at-Large reported the following:

- Kilian confirmed meeting with Matthew Harper for Nov. 28 @ 1:00pm
- There was a cancellation with Assemblymember Travis Allen, as well as a couple of weeks ago with Quirk-Silva, so Kilian will be rescheduling these meetings as soon as possible
- Farmer added that it usually takes a couple of weeks to receive student data from the Institutional Research and Assessment Office, but once they receive the schedule for future meetings, they can request that information as soon as possible
- Show – Nothing to report
- Olenslager-Orton stated that there was no City Council on Tuesday; Their schedule says that there is a meeting tonight at 5pm, but will not be able to attend that meeting

D. Senate

Senator Argent reported the following:

- Senate passed the Football Exploratory Committee for its 2nd reading
- 2nd reading passed for their support for Title IX and Preponderance of Evidence
- New Resolution – ASI Stands passed for it's 1st reading
- Confirmed another Associate Justice

E. AVP Legislative & External Relations

Farmer reported the following:

- Tavis Smiley Town Hall meeting was today. There was a good turnout and there were a lot of great questions
- Regarding AB 1064, Carbaugh explained that because there are too many data points to collect, the measure was not well defined in what it sought to measure and achieve and it was too broad in scope
- Farmer looked it up online and found that too many data points can be an issue, meaning that there was too much information to collect that would take too much time, funding, and effort
- They might be able to come back with this resolution once it has been clearly defined

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion Item: Dream Act of 2017 Efforts

Jara stated that regarding phone banking, if they are not able to attend scheduled phone banking sessions, please try to do it during your office hours. Asked board members to continue to advertise it and spread the word about it so students can come and help.

Jara also thanked Jurado, Argent, Carancho, and Olenslager-Orton for their tabling efforts every Monday. Thanked Kilian for scheduling district visits and asked everyone to make sure that their availability is always accurate.

Jurado said that they have not been really had a good turn out during tabling sessions; maybe they can begin tabling somewhere else. Also added that only 4 people on the board have filled out their 10 senators, and asked everyone to please fill out their senators before 11am next Thursday. Jurado will send out an email reminder.

Carancho stated that last week's tabling location was only for that day, they would be at the bottom of the escalator for the rest of the semester. Also suggested that maybe the low turnout could be because of the time frame. The room for phone banking is moved to USU 204, so maybe they will have more foot traffic there.

Musman asked if they have had other students show up to phone banking sessions.

Jara said yes, but it has died out since the beginning of the semester.

Carancho added that one of the things they did last year was have free burritos at the tabling sessions, so maybe they could do that at the tabling sessions before finals.

Musman agreed and said that in the office they usually have candy and things like that, so maybe they could do something small like granola bars or donuts.

Nino recommended that they move phone banking somewhere that is more open and inviting since it can be intimidating for students to join phone banking sessions in conference rooms because it seems like they are in a closed meeting.

Carancho thinks it would be a good idea if they start reaching out to clubs and student organizations to see if they are interested in phone banking. Also added that noise could be an issue with phone banking outside.

Jara suggested maybe having phone banking and tabling sessions simultaneously.

Carancho added that the room is reserved for phone banking, so they might have to cancel reservations for the rest of the semester if they decide to move it outdoors.

B. Discussion Item: District Office Visits Outline

Jara discussed the outline that Carancho presented last week and asked if everyone okay with the outline how it is.

Jurado said that they did not like the picture on it and thinks it would look more streamlined without it.

Carancho added that they don't think they would make it to a 4th topic during district visits due to the time constraints of those meetings and thinks they should just keep the top 3 items.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Information Item: Title IX – Dr. Jeane Caveness

Caveness introduced Anne Chua, Title IX Investigator, and Jacqueline Ortiz, full time Sexual Assault Victim Advocate. Caveness also provided some insight into the status of Title IX and how it will affect the CSU system.

The Office for Civil Rights Department of Education has issued colleague letters and technical advice to higher education institutions. There can be guidance, but there is a difference between the law and guidance. One of the criticisms of the past has been what is that guidance? Is it interpreting the law, is it changing the law?

“Dear Colleague” letter from September 22nd highlights:

- Requires schools to adopt a minimum standard of proof, the preponderance of evidence standard in administering student discipline

- Preponderance of evidence is a standard used in civil litigation
- Appeal processes were previously reserved for students who were accused (respondents), but appeals are now allowed by either party
- Forbade schools from relying on investigations of criminal conduct, therefore schools had to establish their own systems of addressing misconduct with their own investigative processes
- 2011 letter provided that any due process protections afforded to accused students should not “unnecessarily delay resolving the charges against them”

Caveness stated that the heart of the matter is fundamental fairness and in DeVoss’ live address to the nation, they brought up some specific examples of major mistakes that were made by universities across the country where due process was not afforded to the accused.

The guidance that was provided in these previous “Dear Colleagues” letters was not fair; guidance was almost seen as federal government forcing institutions to do certain things. DeVoss stated that the department imposed these “regulatory without affording notice and the opportunity for public comments.”

Chancellor White issued a statement saying that the CSU does provide for fundamental fairness, nothing is changing as far as Title IX protections on campus.

California state legislators encoded in state law things that CSU/UC must include in their policies that relate to Title IX and sexual misconduct issues. Some of these include items such as:

- Every campus must have a full time sexual assault victim advocate
- Every campus must have one or two full time police officers with experience/training in dealing with sexual assault victims
- In the CSU, they are given very specific instructions in conducting an investigation; timelines, procedures, providing notice to both parties, handling evidence, transparency
 - Both parties are given every piece of evidence that will be considered in the decision making process for each case
 - Every effort is made to make sure that both parties have a fair hearing
 - Both parties can appeal the decision after the fact

Caveness pointed out that many situations do not go through a full complaint/investigation process. There is an “Early Resolution” option in which the complainant says that they do not want any contact from the respondent. There is no admission of guilt from the respondent, but students agree that they will not have any contact with one another. Many students that come forward with allegations chose to take this route because they don’t want to continue to have further contact with the student or go through the investigation process. However, the reporting rate is abysmally low because a lot of students do not come forward.

Caveness added that they have hand picked a respondent adviser for students that are specifically trained on how to respond to these cases. They receive training on the executive orders, breakout sessions to learn about their specific roles, and joint mock Title IX hearings.

Caveness also stated that they couldn’t remove privileges from someone. Dean of Students office offers services and conducts an investigation and makes a decision. Then it is handed over to the student conduct office and they decide where to go from there.

Carancho thanked Caveness for taking the time to speak to the board and asked about the “Early Resolution” and asked if those get reported to the university and are added to the sexual assault statistics for the campus.

Caveness answered that if the issue is campus related, they must be reported and that information is included in those statistics.

Nino asked if the message from Chancellor was sent out to all students. The biggest concern for students regarding this issue is not knowing what their resources are and how Title IX is going to change, if at all. Nino believes that communication could have been better.

Caveness stated that Vice President Taylor sent out an email to all students last week. They will be doing more targeted outreach and are working with SOAR to let incoming students know about the resources available to them on campus.

Carancho added that the Communication Studies Department has an event coming up on November 9th regarding violence training and sexual harassment, and it would be nice to have someone out there to speak with students about Title IX.

Caveness stated that they would love to be a part of that and looks forward to hearing from Carancho regarding this event.

Olenslager-Orton asked if there are any changes, relevant information, or programs that they are working on in their office that they could start telling students about regarding Title IX.

Caveness stated that they are working with the office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to look at developing some peer leaders who would be knowledgeable about Title IX and to look at student programming. Dr. Maleta Wilson and Pam Rayburn, from the Women's Gender and Equity Center, are working on that.

B. Discussion Item: CHES Interviews

Jara stated that CHES interviews are on Friday December 1 and would like to know what times people are available that day so they can come up with a schedule for interviews. They will post it on the FB page and asked members of the board to update their availability for this process.

Jara read the potential questions for the interviews and asked for feedback from the board on any changes they would like to make.

Jurado said that they liked the first two because you are able to see the issues that students are passionate about and believes that it is good to have a diverse group of students with different interests.

Carancho spoke regarding #2 and asked if they would they be able to add something about policies to that question. Also, noticed that when you get to question #3 and #5, interviewees start to get repetitive and start mirroring other people's answers, so they might consider removing those questions.

Jurado suggested adding a question regarding their involvement in the community.

Farmer stated that they like question #4 and thinks that they should ask if, after resolving the conflict, they were able to help the other person shift their viewpoints a little bit.

Carancho asked how they are going to be picking these candidates and how they are going to make sure that they pick a diverse group of students.

Jara added that in the past, Lobby Corps members are usually leaders of a group for district visits, so they should look at them as practice for CHES.

Kilian added that they are going to be scheduling these visits around the schedules of people who have not been able to attend district visits this semester.

Jurado suggested scheduling a district visit during the Lobby Corps meeting time so that they can all make it to that meeting.

Jara stated that they would talk to San Miguel about this and would get back to the board with their answer.

Carancho believes that they should start helping Kilian with scheduling CHES visits.

Kilian thinks that this is a good idea and something they should start working on starting at the beginning of next semester.

Jara agrees and thinks they should come up with a list of legislators that they want to meet with.

Jurado suggested scheduling meetings for CHES based on the districts that they live in or have lived in, so everyone is in charge of a different district.

Carancho stated that they would work with Kilian to create a script for sending out emails to legislators. Also added that they created the availability spreadsheet and posted it on the Facebook page and asked everyone to please input their availability by the end of the day.

9. VOLUNTARY CLOSING COMMENTS

Carancho thanked Farmer for getting more info on AB 1064.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection Chair Jara adjourned the meeting at 1:40pm.