

**LOBBY CORPS MINUTES**  
**Meeting #10**  
**October 28, 2021**  
**(APPROVED)**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Sierra Darwin called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Voting Members Present

Carson Aceves, ASI Student At-Large  
Isabel Cameron, ASI Student At-Large  
Isaac Julian, ASI Senate Representative  
Sierra Darwin, ASI Chief Government Relations Officer  
Jesus Gonzalez, ASI President

Voting Members Absent

Karen Galindo, ASI Senate Representative  
Ricki Burgener, Associate Vice President University Relations Designee  
VACANT, Student At-Large  
VACANT, ASI Senate Representative

Non-voting Members Present

Joe Nino, ASI Assistant Director, Government Affairs and Initiatives (Arrive 2:40 p.m.)

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joshua Biragbara, CSULB student: JOUR 311 student will be sitting in on the meeting; requested interview with 2-3 board members. [joshua.biragbara01@student.csulb.edu](mailto:joshua.biragbara01@student.csulb.edu)

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Julian (MOVE) Cameron (SECOND) to approve Lobby Corps Agenda, Meeting #10, October 28, 2021, as amended**

Darwin: Add #6-F: Information Item: Beach Pride Events Time Certain 2:30 p.m.

**VOTE ON THE MOTION**

**PASSES 5-0-0**  
**Approve-Oppose-Abstain**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Action Item: Lobby Corps Minutes, Meeting #9, October 21, 2021

**Cameron (MOVE) Julian (SECOND) to approve Lobby Corps Minutes, Meeting #9, October 21, 2021**

**VOTE ON THE MOTION**

**PASSES 5-0-0**  
**Approve-Oppose-Abstain**

**6. REPORTS**

A. Information Item: ASI Chief Government Relations Officer

- Planning events
  - Met with Burgener and League of Women Voters to plan joint event for the end of February; panel discussion on the criminal justice system,
  - Working with Cameron to invite elected
  - Working with Justice Morales on the voting rights article for the Know Your Rights Campaign

B. Information Item: ASI Lobby Corps Vice Chair

- Coalition Project: haven't received any response

- Met with Aceves to work on Policy Agenda
- Working on BeachFront article

C. Information Item: ASI Lobby Corps Students At-Large  
Cameron

- Unable to attend this week's city council meeting

D. Information Item: ASI Senate  
Last meeting

- Approved: Consent Calendar; Senate Resolution #2022-02 2021-2022 Senate Policy Agenda (3<sup>rd</sup> Reading)
- Reports: ASI Executive Director; ASI College Senators; CSULB Dean of Students; CSULB Academic Senate Chair; ASI Interim Assistant Director, Government Affairs and Initiatives

E. Information Item: CSULB Associate Vice President University Relations  
There was none.

- F. Information Item: Beach Pride Events Time Certain 2:30 p.m.  
Taylor Buhler-Scott gave a brief introduction and process to BeachFront articles.
- Initial content needs to be submitted 2 weeks before desired publication date

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion Item: Policy Agenda

Mental Health

Needed: Goals and action items we need to take as a team

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is important because it can help you to cope with the stresses of life, be physically healthy, have good relationships, make meaningful contributions to your community, work productively, and realize your full potential. In 2018 more than 50% of students have reported feeling hopeless, overwhelmed, exhausted, very lonely, very sad, and overwhelming anxiety. Also, the reported ratio for counselors to students in 2018 was 1: 2156 across CSU campuses. CSU's have been given 7.1 million from Prop 63 to make progress in increasing awareness of student mental health issues and campus resources, as well as effectively responding to student mental health issues. According to the International Association of Counseling Services, encourages campuses to strive toward a range of 1:1000 to 1:1500. To date, 17200 students, staff, faculty and campus community members have been in a number of mental health workshops.

Goals/Plan of action

- Increase funding for the hiring additional full-time counselors

Educational Equity

According to a report published by the City of Long Beach, the city population of Long Beach has an ethnic composition of 12.6% Latinx. When these statistics are compared to the ethnic demographics of Long Beach State University, it is obvious that equity gaps exist in terms of enrollment of specific minority groups. Information from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System reports that the ethnic composition of Long Beach State students is as follows: 3% African American/Pan-African, 18% White,

18% Asian, .1% Native American, and 43.4% Latinx. This data demonstrates that there is an obvious lack of enrollment for Black/Pan African students as well as Native American students on campus. Along with enrollment, there is a statistically significant gap among graduation rates for students of color on campus. The graduation rate for Black/Pan African students is 73.9% compared to the graduation rates of white, Asian, and Latinx students, which are 83.1%, 88.6% and 89.3% respectively. This data demonstrates that not only is enrollment of Black/Pan African students low, but these students are far less likely to graduate than their peers. The data published by the University also demonstrates that men in general are more likely to drop out of Long Beach State compared to women. It is also important to note that according to the University, 71% of CSULB undergrads receive some form of financial aid. CSULB estimates that over 3000 students on campus are currently enrolled without access to a stable wireless connection and or technological device like a laptop or computer.

#### Goals/Plan of action:

- Support legislation that increases access to financial aid for students
- Support legislation that expands technology access for students
- Support the continuation of the University Technology Loan Program
- Support initiatives that increase retention of students of color
- Support initiatives to increase enrollment of Black Pan African and Native American students
- Educate students on social justice issues and create cultural awareness on campus

#### Basic Needs

Basic needs essentially assists and serves students who have experienced homelessness, food insecurity, or an emergency crisis. It provides services to remove these barriers, which allow students to continue their academic journey without facing these difficulties. It overall offers that extra support that students need. Adding this to our policy agenda will definitely benefit our students because given the current pandemic, a lot of students require these resources. Many college students were faced with financial problems due to job loss, which many relied on for transportation costs, housing, and school fees, as well as food budgets. According to the CSULB website, 71%, so a majority of our students does receive financial aid, but there is still 30% that don't. As of 2019, 12.5% of students at CSULB had reported experiencing homelessness in the last 12 months. Due to financial uncertainty for many during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is likely this statistic would be higher now. Resources like, basic needs, may heavily support them and the rest of the students that still need them. The need for food and housing will continue to increase among students, especially this upcoming semester considering that most classes will be in-person so the demand for these basic needs will also continue to increase as well. It also aligns with most of our goals for this policy agenda.

#### Goals/Action Items

- Advocate for additional CSULB funding
- Expand Beach Pantry hours
- Expand Farmer's Market
- Assist USUBOT in expanding Basic Needs services and programming

#### B. Discussion Item: Local Politics Series

Darwin: met with Cameron to discuss the structure of the spring city council event; event will be an in-person, panel event to discuss student civic engagement.

Aceves: Instagram Live event to discuss redistricting maps and processes; scheduled for November 15; currently waiting on replies.

Articles: Darwin will share article writing tips on Teams that they received from ASI Communication's Alicia Casey.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

There was none.

**9. CLOSING COMMENTS**

Darwin: October's Cabinet Social is tonight!

Joshua Biragbara: thanked board for allowing them to join meeting; requested interview either today, Friday, or Monday.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Without objection**, Chair Sierra Darwin adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.