

SENATE MINUTES (FINAL)
Meeting #18
January 20, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Sumaiyah Hossain called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Voting Members Present

Andrea Felix-Cervantes, ASI College of the Arts
Billy Rubi, ASI College of the Arts (Arrived 3:32 p.m.)
Daniel Espinoza, ASI College of Business
Shelbi Felter, ASI College of Education (elected today)
Manolo Cruz, ASI College of Engineering
Salvador Marrero, ASI College of Health and Human Services
Salvador Peregrina, ASI College of Liberal Arts
Millaray Ramirez, ASI College of Liberal Arts
Jubilee Muñozvilla, ASI College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Shivam Srivastava, ASI College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (Arrive 3:38 p.m.)
Isabel Cameron, ASI At-Large
Alyssa Castrillon, ASI At-Large
Sierra Darwin, ASI At-Large
Jesus Gonzalez, ASI At-Large
Sumaiyah Hossain, ASI At-Large
Richie Kennedy, ASI At-Large
Jeff Jarvis, CSULB Faculty Representative
Dr. Piya Bose, CSULB President's Designee

Voting Members Absent

Maythe Alderete Gonzalez ASI Vice President
VACANT, College of Business
VACANT, ASI College of Education
VACANT, ASI College of Engineering
VACANT, ASI College of Health and Human Services

Staff Present

Lindsay San Miguel, Assistant Director Government Affairs and Initiatives
Dr. Miles Nevin, ASI Executive Director

3. INVOCATION: Anna Nazarian, Student Life and Development Advisor

Nazarian began with a land acknowledgement that CSULB is located on part of the traditional homelands occupied by the Gabrielino, Tongva, Ahachamen, Wabeno, and many other southern California Indian people. We actively maintain and protect the remaining undeveloped land base, known as Puvugna/Gathering Place, and recognize it as an active ceremonial site, a sacred space, a reburial site, the birthplace of a spiritual philosophy, and the place of emergence in their origin narratives.

Nazarian shared a couple of inspirational quotes from former American Indian faculty Carl "Little Crow" Bryant and Martin Luther King, Jr., which showed the interconnectedness between what we do today and its impact and effect on the future.

Sample of quotes:

Little Crow: "We are many, many people and yet we are One. What we do today with our thinking, what we do tomorrow with our thoughts, what we do with our actions and interactions with people determines the course of the universe itself. You are not powerless. You are not without power."

King: "The ultimate measure of a man is now where they stand in moments of comfort and convenience but where they stand in times of challenge and controversy. The time is always right to do what is right."

Nazarian reminded the board that even during this time of remote instruction that what their efforts and actions continue to impact and serve students and that students continue to look to leaders for guidance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gonzalez (MOVED) Darwin (SECOND) to approve Senate Agenda, Meeting #18, January 20, 2021

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 15-1-0

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- Today is an important day of victory for our country and that deserves to be celebrated; encouraged board to continue to discuss and pursue change
- Spread word regarding Senate vacancies: COB, CEDU, CENG, CHHS
- Instagram Live: Wednesdays, Feb 3rd-March 3, 2:30 p.m.
- College reports begin next week

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Action Item: Senate Minutes, Meeting #17, December 9, 2020

Srivastava (MOVED) Rubi (SECOND) to approve Senate Minutes, Meeting #17, December 9, 2020

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 16-0-0

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

8. CONSENT CALENDAR/REPORTS

A. Approval of Minutes from Subsidiary Boards

1) Action Item: Board of Control Minutes, Meeting #18, December 1, 2020

Gonzalez (MOVED) Peregrina (SECOND) to approve Board of Control Minutes, Meeting #18, December 1, 2020

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 16-0-0

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

2) Action Item: Lobby Corps Minutes, Meeting #14, December 3, 2020

Peregrina (MOVED) Darwin (SECOND) to approve Lobby Corps Minutes, Meeting #14, December 3, 2020

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 16-0-0

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

B. Acceptance of Minutes from Subsidiary Boards

1) Action Item: Cabinet Minutes, Cabinet Minutes, Meeting #14, November 30, 2020

Cruz (MOVED) Espinoza (SECOND) to accept Cabinet Minutes, Meeting #14, November 30, 2020

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 16-0-0

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

- 2) Action Item: University Student Union Board of Trustees (USUBOT) Minutes, Meeting #6, December 4, 2020

Peregrina (MOVED) Rubi (SECOND) to accept University Student Union Board of Trustees (USUBOT) Minutes, Meeting #6, December 4, 2020

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 15-0-0

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Executive Business

- 1) Action Item: PA #2021-17 Confirmation of (1) USUBOT Trustee At-Large – Mitali Jain Time Certain 4:05 p.m.

USUBOT Chair Xan Balayan presented Jain’s statement on their behalf.

Cruz (MOVED) Gonzalez (SECOND) to confirm (1) USUBOT Trustee At-Large – Mitali Jain

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 16-0-1

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

B. Non-Legislative Business

- 1) Action Item: BOD #2021-27 Election of (1) College of Education (CEDU) Senator – Shelbi Felter Time Certain 3:50 p.m.

Felter: introduced self and shared goal of assisting in meeting needs for all students, especially disabled students that may need additional/special accommodations.

Darwin: what goals do you have for CEDU?

Felter: develop and increase proper virtual communication; hold virtual socials; build community.

Gonzalez (MOVED) Srivastava (SECOND) to elect (1) College of Education (CEDU) Senator – Shelbi Felter

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 14-0-2

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

Bose administered the Oath of Office.

Hossain welcomed Felter to the board.

- 2) Action Item: BOD #2021-28 Election of (1) Senate Representative to the Board of Control (BOC) Cruz nominated themselves.

Castrillon (MOVED) Peregrina (SECOND) to elect (1) Senate Representative to the Board of Control (BOC) – Manolo Cruz

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 16-0-1

Approve-Oppose-Abstain

10. REPORTS

- A. Information Item: Omar Prudencio Gonzalez, ASI President Time Certain 3:45 p.m.

There was no report.

- B. Information Item: Dr. Jody Cormack, Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies – Plus/Minus Grading Time Certain 4 p.m.

Speakers: Dr. Jody Cormack and Donna Green

Changes in CSULB Grading Policy

Currently CSULB has a standard grading policy of A-F and is one of two campuses among the CSU with this policy. All other CSUs have incorporated the addition of plus and minus grades. CEPC has opened up the grading policy for review with a recommendation of considering the plus and minus grades. Although this will create a true evaluation of the student's performance, we should consider some of the possible domino effects this change may have on our student population.

Possible Impact of Minus/Plus Grades

- Admission Requirements for Transfer Students (MSDR)
 - Smaller qualified applicant pool since MS DR requires grade of C or better for transfer students
 - C- grade point equivalent is 1.67 all MS DR Suite GPAs minimal of 2.0
 - Disproportionately affect local students as they are admitted based on minimal eligibility. Admissions believes fewer local students would be admitted if we use the +/-
 - Native pre-major students will also have the same issues getting into the intended major
 - Athletic recruitment and mandated certification of gpa
- FA Implications
 - Satisfactory Academic Progress requires minimum 2.0; C- grades will create more students falling into unsatisfactory progress as it brings GPA down
 - Repeats of courses where C is required. C- will increase the number of students who will not be meeting progress towards degree timeline
- Course Progression
 - Course prerequisites have minimum of C to move forward, e.g. engineering, business, etc.
 - Course grades must be C or better to receive credit – accreditation requirement
- Graduation Rates
 - Potentially negatively impact graduation rates due to minimum 2.0 GPA

Cruz: voiced Engineering students concerns and opposition to Plus/Minus grading.

Srivastava: voiced Natural Science and Mathematics' concern that the intent of Plus/Minus grading might not be beneficial as intended; asked if student input and insight on policy had been gathered, such as a survey.

Cormack: surveys are not usually sent out regarding policy issues; ASI can initiate survey; encouraged Senate to forward their feedback to their CEPC senate representative who can bring it to the council.

Darwin: if policy is approved, when would it be implemented?

Green: Fall 2022 would be very optimistic, due to many changes, processes, and communication.

Kennedy: voiced concern that getting, a C- instead of a requisite C would delay the goal of graduating students in a timely manner, will department heads.

Cormack: some departments may choose to change their pre-requisites to a C-, some may need to keep it at a C which may be due to related to accreditation or discipline-specific.

Gonzalez: if implemented in fall 2022, would this impact Credit/No Credit?

Cormack: the grading option of letter grade or credit/no credit would have to be input at the time of course development; currently very few courses have that option, and most are letter grade.

C. Information Item: Dr. Miles Nevin, ASI Executive Director

- Continuing to consult with university and Georgia Police Department regarding Senate Zoom bombing incident
- 2021-22 Budget planning process is beginning; first to BOC and USUBOT for their respective budget review before ASI Consolidated Operating Budget comes to Senate
- No Beach Pantry Pop-Up this Friday due to staffing issues
- Auxiliary Shared Services Project to begin this week, which will identify ways for campus auxiliaries to work more closely together; firm will be interviewing a group of staff and students for feedback

D. Information Item: Dr. Piya Bose, CSULB Dean of Students

- Inauguration conversation: January 21st, 4-6 p.m., hosted by Bose and Camacho
- Cultural Welcomes: February 8th-12th
- Covid safety: case numbers are increasing; strongly encouraged responsible safety measures

11. CLOSING COMMENTS

Srivastava: recommended ASI Senate action on gathering information on Plus/Minus Grading proposal; suggested senator collaboration.

Hossain: suggested Srivastava be senator collaboration's point-person on gathering student feedback data.

San Miguel:

- ASI Elections
 - Applications went live today
 - Student leadership panel tonight, 6-8 p.m.
 - Elections information <https://www.asicsulb.org/elections>

Hossain:

- Be mindful to use inclusive language
- Log onto Zoom at least 5-minutes before meeting begins

12. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Vice Chair Sumaiyah Hossain adjourned the meeting at 4:37 p.m.