

**Minutes for the meeting of the Student Government Senate
California State University Channel Islands**

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. at California State University Channel Islands Student
Union Conference Room, One University Drive, Camarillo, CA 93012

1) Call to Order at 7:34 P.M.

2) Attendance:

- a. Executive and Judiciary members present: President Jonathan Neira, Vice President Elizabeth Bingham, Alisha Tumin, Robert Tabor, Spencer Keaster, Adrienne Cleverly
- b. Senate members present: Rebecca Cano, Whitney Gradillas, Katrina Newcomb, Mason Randall, Juan Carlos Villanueva, Ben Wilson
- c. Advisor present: Christine Thompson

3) Approval of the Agenda:

- a. Motion to approve by Ms. Cano. Second by Ms. Gradillas.
- b. Agenda approved by unanimous consent.

4) Approval of the Minutes:

- a. Motion to approve by Ms. Gradillas. Second by Mr. Randall.
- b. Minutes approved by unanimous consent.

5) Public Forum:

- a. Amanda Carpenter: I am the coordinator for the Career Development Center. Next week is Career Week and it is our biggest event of the semester. I will pass around some flyers about the events going on.

6) Special Presentations:

- a. No special presentations were made to the Senate at this time.

7) Action Items:

- a. No items were acted upon by the Senate at this time.

8) Discussion Items:

- a. Commencement Subcommittee:
 - i. Mr. Wilson: We are in the process of coming up with ideas and have been emailing back and forth. One idea is to see if it's possible to divide commencement between a morning and afternoon session.
 - ii. Ms. Gradillas: My only problem is that our school is so small. Commencement is supposed to be a time to unite the students, but instead, it would divide them. We're there to celebrate ourselves and others.
 - iii. President Neira: Has anyone from the Commencement Committee contacted you? They have moved forward with some different things and you should know about it.
 - iv. Ms. Thompson: This was brought from the Executive Team of Student Affairs and what they want Student Government to do is take a stance on students leaving. If you write a resolution, how do you get it out that it is impolite to leave before commencement is over? How would you promote it?
 - v. Ms. Newcomb: Is this for this year's commencement?
 - vi. Ms. Thompson: Yes, this is immediate.

- vii. Mr. Wilson: So they're not looking for any change to the process?
- viii. Ms. Thompson: I'm sure they'd be open to hearing ideas. Eventually, we'll have to go to the route of two different commencements, but not yet, so they're trying to think of new ways to keep students there.
- ix. Ms. Bingham: If you do want to write a resolution, you'll need to get it on the agenda for next week, because we only have two more Student Government meetings after tonight.

9) Reports:

- a. Advisor, Christine Thompson:
 - i. Did anyone get a chance to read the message from President Rush last Friday? Ms. Tumin will send it out. There are two cuts coming for the same amount of \$500 million. There are 23 CSUs, so we have a cut of \$3.8 million. This campus is answering to that in some unfortunate ways. They let go of three officials. The other ways we're going to meet that cut includes department budgets, having a complete hiring freeze, and tap into our reserves on campus. We have been approved by 1,000 additional full-time students. There will be a 10% fee increase. I attend the meetings and will keep you updated.
 - ii. Mr. Tabor: How much do we have in our reserves?
 - iii. Ms. Thompson: I do not know.
 - iv. Mr. Randall: Have they talked about cutting classes?
 - v. Ms. Thompson: No, this is it, so far. I'm not sure how the departments are making their cuts, but that's not in the details.
 - vi. Ms. Newcomb: How do they make the decisions on who will be cut?
 - vii. Ms. Thompson: The three individuals who were cut serve at-will to the President. It is considered at-will employment.
- b. President Jonathan Neira:
 - i. See attached report.
- c. Vice President Elizabeth Bingham:
 - i. See attached report.
- d. Director of Operations, Alisha Tumin:
 - i. See attached report.
- e. Senator Rebecca Cano:
 - i. It's Student Research Week from April 11-15th in the Broome Library.
- f. Senator Whitney Gradillas:
 - i. Today was the Brown Bag Lunch and we had a great turnout this year.
 - ii. Thank you to Ms. Thompson for helping with the pens for Maximus. I got so many compliments on them.
 - iii. Tomorrow is "How to Prepare for the Career Fair."
- g. Senator Katrina Newcomb:
 - i. See attached report.
- h. Senator Mason Randall:
 - i. Pizza with the President is on April 19th from 11:30 – 1:00 P.M. We've sent around a sign-up sheet, so it would be great if you could help.
- i. Senator Juan Carlos Villanueva:
 - i. I met with Cindy Derrico today.

- j. Senator Ben Wilson:
 - i. I've been working on the Commencement Subcommittee. I've got an outline of possible ideas. If anyone wants that, I can forward it to you.
- 10) **Closing Comments:**
 - a. Mr. Tabor: Did the Pizza with the President officially get moved to April 19th?
 - b. President Neira: Yes, it was confirmed.
- 11) **Adjournment:**
 - a. Motion to adjourn by Ms. Cano. Second by Ms. Newcomb.
 - b. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 P.M.

Dear Colleagues:

While our campus has been spared from the huge budget cuts assigned to other, larger CSU campuses, our budget cut of \$3.8 million still requires significant and heartbreaking reductions. A thorough review has resulted in many cuts. However, even after reducing the operating budgets of all divisions through these efforts, \$2.5M remains to be addressed and the prospect of more significant cuts looms. Therefore, I have had to make some difficult decisions that impact people whom I respect, but the times require difficult actions. The people impacted were notified earlier today. All decisions to reduce CI's budget try to minimize the impact to the students and instructional programs. A summary of the actions follows:

Effective April 8, three administrative positions have been eliminated: the Vice President for Advancement; the Athletics Director; and the Faculty Development Director.

Let me first address Athletics. Carl Reed has served us well for these past two years, planning and designing our Intercollegiate Athletics programs, but the growth of Intercollegiate Athletics is dependent upon student Athletic and Recreation fees generated from increases in enrollment. Due to the state budget situation the needed growth in our student body has not occurred. Among other Student Affairs reductions, this latest budget cut requires Student Affairs to eliminate recreation from the general fund and move it to the Recreation and Athletics fund. There is not enough funding from these fees to serve both needs. The recreation program serves many students whereas Intercollegiate Athletics still serves none. Thus, I have come to the difficult conclusion that we can no longer afford to start up Intercollegiate Athletics at this time. We will focus our energies on building club sports so that when the time is right, we can transition into an Intercollegiate Athletics program.

Julia Wilson has been a creative force on campus, bringing us innovative ideas such as those that led to the California Institute for Social Business. In an effort to maintain our academic core I have been forced to look beyond it, for significant reductions. Covering our campus' \$3.8 million cut is not viable without substantial structural changes in the way we operate. Advancement has reported to my office in the past, and I remain involved fully in donor and community relations. Therefore, the Development arm of Advancement will report to me. Michael Berman, in Academic Information & Technology, has a background in Journalism and we note the rising importance of social media. With these considerations Communications & Marketing will report to Michael.

Ed Nuhfer has been a stellar supporter of the faculty and has helped many faculty design and improve their course offerings. Ed has the opportunity to exercise his retreat rights and become a faculty member.

I know we will need these positions again, but it is difficult to say when we will be able to afford them.

After a careful review of programs without state supported summer sessions, we have determined that 12 month appointments are not necessary for most program chairs and laboratory technicians. Of the four 12 month faculty chairs, three reflect our start up days when we were building programs during the summer: Mathematics, English, and Sociology & Anthropology. These will become academic year appointments as of July 1, 2012. Nursing operates programs year round and will still need a 12 month chair. We currently have one laboratory assistant in art, five laboratory support technicians in biology, two in chemistry, and one equipment technician in physics. The 12 month lab tech positions have been eliminated. We anticipate that the positions will be available as 11 mo positions.”

In the University Glen Corporation, a campus auxiliary, we have reorganized and consolidated leasing and sales activities. This has resulted in the layoff of one senior administrator, the decision not to replace a retiring senior employee, and the reassignment of responsibilities among those remaining. While this does not directly impact the campus budget, it is indicative of the strong steps we need to take to be financially viable in everything we do.

The current hiring freeze will remain in place. Despite a number of open positions across campus we will only fill positions deemed critical, to avoid further employee reductions. Unfortunately, this leaves Finance & Administration and Academic Information & Technology with many open positions each. The hiring freeze will not apply to our scheduled faculty hires. To continue to support the academic core of our mission it is my intention to appoint faculty recommended from our recent faculty search process.

None of these decisions has been easy. Future decisions that the Legislature and the people of California may be making about the budget in the months ahead, for example whether or not to extend sales, vehicle and income taxes, could further impact our campus.

I remain grateful for the commitment each of you has to our students and to CI as a whole. Together, our continued efforts will help us push through these dark days and keep CI on its path of excellence.

Sincerely yours,

Richard R. Rush

President

Information as of Monday, April 11, 2011

- \$500 million cut resulted in an \$8 million systemwide but CI was only cut \$3.8 million.
 - This is how CI will answer to our cuts.
 - \$770,000 in employee actions
 - Cuts in department
 - \$400,000 in Academic Affairs
 - \$470,000 in Student Affairs
 - \$250,000 in Advancement
 - \$975,000 in Finance and Administration
 - \$70,000 in IT
 - Hiring Freeze
 - Reserves
 - 1,000 additional FTE
 - 10% fee increase which will provide approximately \$1.3 million
 - etc