

**SPECIAL MEETING  
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.  
California State University, San Bernardino**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MINUTES**

**JUNE 4, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Adonis Galarza at 12:03 p.m.

Present: Adonis Galarza, Kristy Robles, Mark Sanchez, Yomara Donis, Jonathan Lowell, Marvin Macharia, Nathaly Ramos, Sharon Tewari, Angelica Agudo, Marilyn Lua, Suany Echevarria, Jesse Felix, Helen Martinez and Dr. Angela Horner.

Absent: Dr. Paz Oliverez.

Guests: Alfredo Barcenas, Graciela Moran, Paola Gavez, Monique Medina, Alexandra Thambi, Yusra Serhan, Kiara Mabien, Jeanette Hazelwood, Victoria Ayala, Fabiola Valadez, Yera Nanan, Vianey Abraham, Julia Ruiz, Shari McMahan, Jared Brito, Sage Keyner and Daniel Jimenez.

(The above listed were present via Zoom)

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

M/S Macharia/Felix: To move BD 83-20 to the top of the agenda. Passed.

The agenda was adopted as amended.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BD 83-20 M/S Felix/Echevarria: Endorsement of letter presented by student athlete.**

Mr. Felix read the following email sent by Dr. Oliverez to the ASI Board of Directors:

My apologies that I will unfortunately be unable to attend today's emergency meeting. President Morales and I were already scheduled to meet with a group of student leaders from The Movement student organizations before the meeting was scheduled and I believe it is important to maintain that commitment. Provost McMahan is planning to attend for a portion of the ASI BOD meeting. However, I want you to know that I fully support your draft solidarity statement. Since I will not be present for the meeting, I also wanted to address the letter regarding the concerns some of our current and former student-athletes have raised about their experiences in the Athletics program. In addition to the meeting that some of you were part of on Monday evening, I have also been in direct contact with three student-athletes this week. As a result, I have had multiple conversations with Shawn Farrell, our Athletics Director, as well as our Co-Diversity Officers, Seval Yildirim (AVP of Faculty Affairs) and Alex Najera (AVP of Human Resources). I believe that most of the items on the requested list of actions are very doable. However, the expectation that a response to all of these items be provided by tomorrow is a bit unrealistic given that folks would only receive the letter this afternoon if it is approved, providing less than 24 hours for a response. I would ask that you extend the timeline a bit, perhaps to at least the end of the spring quarter, which is just a week or two away. This will provide me time to work with Seval, Alex, and Shawn to develop a sound plan of action to address the concerns that students have raised. These issues and the impact they have had on students

warrant thorough consideration of the best path forward to address more than just the items listed in your letter. These items are the symptoms of what the students I have spoken to indicate are larger issues within the culture of the program. These issues require further investigation and will not be resolved overnight. But I assure you that I am committed to taking the steps necessary to ensure that moving forward, all student athletes have a positive experience in our program. To be clear, I do not discourage you from moving forward with your letter. I just ask that you consider providing a bit more time for a response.

Mr. Barcenas clarified that the Board must vote to support the letter.

Mr. Macharia deferred to Ms. Mabien.

Kiara Mabien, student athlete stated that discriminatory actions were made towards herself and other black student athletes during her athletic career. Therefore, she has created a letter with the assistance of other student athletes to take action. The letter stated, "We expect an actionable response to this statement and directly addressing the list of demands no later than June 5, 2020 at noon." She understands that it takes time to formulate actions to address these issues, therefore, the deadline can be extended for a week.

Mr. Macharia deferred to Ms. Serhan.

Ms. Serhan stated that the deadline should not be extended longer than a week.

Mr. Macharia stated that to correct the systematic issues occurring in the Athletics department, the Board should take action.

Ms. Lua suggested that the deadline be extended to resolve these issues. She deferred to Ms. Keyner.

Ms. Keyner stated that a response should be released at the end of Spring Quarter.

Dr. Horner commended Ms. Mabien for taking action. She deferred to Ms. Moran.

Ms. Moran commended Ms. Mabien for telling her story and urged the Board to take action since the issue occurred in March of 2019 yet the department has not responded to the issue.

Mr. Felix deferred to Ms. Mabien.

Ms. Mabien stated that the issue occurred in March 2019 and the department has not made any statements and requested that they respond with a video apology by the end of Spring Quarter.

Mr. Macharia stated that the department should be held accountable for their actions.

Mr. Felix deferred to Ms. McMahan.

Ms. McMahan stated that cultures are under the California Faculty Association, therefore, a formal investigation would be instituted.

Mr. Felix deferred to Ms. Ayala.

Ms. Ayala stated that it is upsetting to see how long it is taking for the department to respond.

Passed.

**BD 82-20 M/S Macharia/Echevarria: Statement acknowledging current social justice crisis and call for a nationwide police reform.**

Mr. Sanchez deferred to Ms. Moran.

Ms. Moran stated that she was given the opportunity to work closely with the Executive Officers on the statement and had recommendations to add. She suggested to include a plan of action to the statement.

Mr. Macharia deferred to Mr. Nanan.

Mr. Nanan explained that the statement and changes recommended by Ms. Moran do not have a plan of action nor does it take a stand with the Black Lives Matters Movement.

Ms. Serhan stated that ASI should take a stance. She recommended that funds be donated to organizations supporting the Movement.

Mr. Sanchez stated that this should be done as soon as possible.

Ms. Lua stated that the statement must be revised.

Mr. Felix deferred to Ms. McMahan and paused the conversation.

Ms. McMahan stated that a request was made to cancel final exams. She explained that administration is not in the position to cancel exams since they practice shared governance as they work with students on student matters. Furthermore, faculty matters are dealt with through faculty and administration cannot mandate faculty to cancel exams. She stated that there was positive feedback sent to her by students regarding the email she sent out regarding the petition.

M/S Donis/Echevarria: To extend the meeting for 30 minutes.

Mr. Felix deferred to Ms. Keyner.

Ms. Keyner recommended that a resolution be created to support the Movement.

Dr. Horner stated that the Board should listen to the suggestions given by the guests.

Ms. Robles suggested that BD 82-20 be tabled.

Ms. Moran briefly reviewed the suggested changes.

M/S Sanchez/Donis: To table BD 82-20 until next week's meeting. Passed.

**BD 84-20 M/S Echevarria/Donis: Discussion on the "Call for Exam Reform for Students" petition.**

Ms. Echevarria explained that the email sent by Ms. McMahan stated that exams will not be cancelled, however, the petition did not call for the cancellation of final exams but the possibility for the faculty to make the final optional.

Dr. Horner encouraged students to take advantage of the credit, no credit option.

Ms. Lua stated that she received student feedback regarding the petition and students hoped that faculty would work with them and understand the struggles they are experiencing.

Mr. Macharia stated that the response did not speak to what the petition stated. He read comments made by students who signed the petition and their reasons for signing it.

Ms. Martinez joined the meeting.

Ms. Martinez recommended that the Board attend the Faculty Senate meeting to voice their concerns.

Dr. Horner recommended that ASI draft an email to all faculty to consider making their finals not a determinant of whether their students will pass the class.


M/S Echevarria/Lua: To extend the meeting for 15 minutes.

Ms. Robles urged the Board to draft an email since finals week is next week.

Discussion closed.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

  
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Helen Martinez  
Executive Vice President