

UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JUNE 03, 2021
******SPECIAL MEETING******
ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE
[HTTPS://CSUN.ZOOM.US/MY/SPRING2021BODMEETINGS](https://csun.zoom.us/my/spring2021bodmeetings)
MINUTES

This meeting was facilitated through an online Zoom format, consistent with the Governor’s Executive Order N25-20, suspending certain open meeting law restrictions.

I. Call to Order

The special meeting of the USU Board of Directors was called to order at 11:04 a.m. by Chair Melanie Alvarez.

II. Roll Call

Present	Absent	Staff	Guests
Jacob Akopnik*	Arrah Ebot Enaw	Raquel de Ruiz Molinar*	Bryant Garcia*
Melanie Alvarez*	Jasmine Guerrero	Kyle Hufnagel*	Charlie Rodriguez Salazar*
Dr. Carroll Brown* <i>Arrived at 11:08 a.m.</i>	Yesenia “Rio” Mateo	Ayan Jama	
Ayana Galves*	Rose Merida	Sharon Kinard*	
Debra Hammond*	Gabriella Nguyen	Kaila Lavin*	
Robert Jacome*		Kingson Leung*	
Albert Martinez*		Sarina Loeb*	
Gisselle Olmedo Torres*		Cindy Lucio*	
Dr. Shelley Ruelas- Bischoff*		Joe Illuminate*	
Dr. Edith Winterhalter* <i>Arrived at 11:07 a.m.</i>		Samantha Liu*	
Dr. Tadeh Zirkian*		Kristen Pichler*	
		Jonathan Navarro*	
		Tim Rasmussen*	
		Shelley Sakoda*	
		Dr. Freddie Sanchez*	
		Steven Wein*	

* Zoom video participant

III. Approval of Agenda

M/S/P (J. Akopnik/ A. Galves) Motion to approve the agenda for June 03, 2021.

Director Winterhalter arrived at 11:07 a.m.

Motion passed 9-0-0.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

M/S/P (A. Galves/ J. Akopnik) Motion to approve minutes of the May 03, 2021 meeting.

Director Brown arrived at 11:08 a.m.

Motion passed 10-0-0.

V. Action Items

A. Mission Statement

Motion out of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee to accept the updated Mission Statement as recommended: *“The University Student Union, as the heart of campus, uplifts and empowers students to achieve educational, personal and professional goals by providing leadership development, meaningful employment, and innovative programs, services and facilities. We promote equity, inclusion and well-being, while encouraging social justice advocacy to help Matadors feel heard, respected and connected to CSUN.”*

Director Olmedo Torres explained that the University Student Union’s current mission statement needed to be revised because it was outdated and did not best reflect the USU’s current practices. The proposed mission statement derived from information gathered from professional staff, students, board and committee members. Director Akopnik stated that the proposed mission statement was introduced at a Finance Committee meeting and it received good feedback. Director Hammond stated that diversity and inclusion practices are infused throughout the proposed mission statement, and that she is excited that it is a community cross-collaboration with the USU’s internal Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Work Team. Director Ruelas-Bischoff noted that she was here when the current statement was approved. This new statement is phenomenal and really tells the USU story.

Motion passed 10-0-0.

B. Communications Reimbursement Policy

Motion out of the Personnel Committee to approve the updated Communications Equipment and Related Services Policy.

Director Galves explained that California Labor Code Section 2802 requires employers to reimburse workers for “all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee” in the course of the job, as well as for expenses incurred at the employer's directive. The proposed updated policy addresses this mandate related to telecommunications and internet.

Motion passed 10-0-0.

C. Facility Use Policy

Motion out of the Facilities & Operations Committee to approve the Facility Use Policy.

Director Ebot Enaw stated that the Reservations and Event Services team has been working for quite some time to rework the Facility Use policy and other facility-related policies. Their goal was to consolidate the current Facility Use Policy and additional separate facility-related policies (i.e. Food & Beverage Policy, Amplified Sound Policy, etc.) into one document which can be easily referenced for facility guests including students, staff, faculty, and community members. In addition, this document can be shared with renters of the facility during the reservation process.

Motion passed 10-0-0.

D. Scholarship Endowment Request – USU Surplus Fees

M/S/P (A. Galves / J. Akopnik) motion to approve the use of unallocated reserves of \$50,000 and to reallocate \$12,214 from remaining funds of the care package allocation (Phase I) to endow additional CSUN Social Justice Scholarships.

Director Hammond said this collaborative effort between the USU and AS was one of the Board's goals this year. Both organizations have been working with the CSUN Foundation and Vice President, University Relations & Advancement on these efforts. They worked collaboratively to fund and endow scholarships for students who are engaging in social justice efforts. The scholarships are geared towards students who are of African/Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian and Latinx descent. These scholarships will be titled, "CSUN Social Justice Scholarships" (Justice Scholarships). The USU previously allocated \$40,000 for the Justice Scholarships at the March 22, 2021 board meeting. AS has allocated \$60,000 to this initiative. In order to fully endow this effort, it is recommended that the USU allocate an additional \$62,214. For each \$25,000 allocated, a scholarship of approximately \$1,000 can be given annually. It is anticipated that the first award will be given in Spring 2022.

Motion passed 10-0-0.

E. Staff Representative Appointment – Benjamin Plotkin

M/S/P (J. Akopnik / A. Galves) Motion to approve the appointment of Benjamin Plotkin as the Staff Representative on the USU Board of Directors effective June 07, 2021 through June 2023.

Chair Alvarez said the staff representative position on the USU Board of Directors is a two-year term of service. Recommendations to the board are made by the Chair, Vice Chair, and Executive Director of the USU. They recommend Benjamin Plotkin for this position. Plotkin introduced himself to the board. He is the Technical Project Manager for the Division of Student Affairs. He is thankful for this consideration and is excited to become part of the team.

Motion passed 10-0-0.

F. Student Representative Appointment – Charlie Rodriguez Salazar

M/S/P (A. Galves / J. Akopnik) Motion to approve the appointment of Charlie Rodriguez Salazar as a student representative effective June 07, 2021 until June 2022.

Chair Alvarez said there is a student vacancy on the USU Board of Directors. Recommendations are made by the Chair, Vice Chair, and BOD Administrative Support Coordinator of the USU. They recommend Charlie Rodriguez Salazar for this appointment. Rodriguez Salazar introduced himself to the board. He is a first-generation transfer student who was initially unaware of all the opportunities CSUN has to offer. He aims to create a bridge to solidify the relationship amongst underrepresented communities.

Motion passed 10-0-0.

VI. Announcements

- A.** Director Hammond presented Chair Alvarez with a congratulatory card. The entire board expressed their gratitude for Chair Alvarez's leadership over the past year.
- B.** Chair Alvarez encouraged new and continuing directors to run for the chair or vice chair positions as you never know what might happen!

VII. Adjournment

Chair Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Debra L. Hammond,
Executive Director