



**University Student Union  
California State University, Northridge**

**Diversity and Inclusion Committee  
Minutes**

**Monday, April 6th, 2020, 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm**

**Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/618097808>**

*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**

Meeting called to order by Chair Contreras at 12:37pm

**II. Roll Call**

Present	Absent	Staff	Guest(s)
Melanie Álvarez Rojas (Co-Chair)		Freddie Sánchez (Executive Secretary)	Daniela Barcenas
Matthew Contreras (Chair)			Catleya Maralit
Yesenia Mateo			Christopher Ordonez
Alexandra Meza			Shiva Parsa
Denise Nguyen			Ivan Salinas
Albert Martínez			Madison Villanueva
Shaileen Martínez			

**III. Approval of Agenda**

M/S/P (M. Alvarez/A.Martinez) Motion to approve agenda for Monday, April 6, 2020

***Motion Passed 6 -0-0.***

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

M/S/P (D. Nguyen/M.Alvarez) Motion to approve minutes for Monday, March 2, 2020.

***Motion Passed 6-0-0.***

**V. Open Forum**

Christopher Ordoñez (Intern at DREAM Center)– Thankful to hear the DREAM Center is being considered to be added to the USU. The USU will support more undocumented students holistically with all the other resources offered at the USU. Ordoñez is supportive of the idea.

Catleya Maralit (Intern at DREAM Center & BOD Member) – Has worked for the DREAM Center for three years. The USU understands the types of programs and support offered at the DREAM Center. Maralit shared how the DREAM Center supports students to understand identity development and create a sense of belonging on campus. Maralit supports the move to the USU.

## **VI. Chair's Report**

The USU is transitioning services to virtual platforms in response to COVID-19. Visit the USU website for all programs, including the Pride Center programs. The USU will be placing the Renovation and Construction project on hold for a few months until we identify impact of COVID-19. Chair Contreras congratulated Denise for winning her seat as an AS Senator. He also congratulated Albert and Stephanie for winning the elections and returning to the board. He finished by congratulating Ryan Edwards, H.Landeros and Jacob Akopnik who will be joining the BOD next year.

## **VII. Action Items**

### **A. DREAM Center Request**

M/S/P (M.Alvarez/Y.Mateo) The University Student Union will administratively operate the DREAM Center, making the DREAM Center a new department of the University Student Union starting July 1, 2020. It is further understood, that this is a cost neutral proposition for the USU based on continuous financial support from the University via CQF, EOP, the Division of Student Affairs and the Provost Office.

Discussion: Committee reviewed the two-option memo (see attachment). Shiva Parsa, EOP Director stated that EOP is still committed to the DREAM Center but it will not be directly reporting to EOP. EOP will work closely with DREAM Center to ensure EOP students who are undocumented are still getting all the services. EOP is not trying to get rid of the DREAM Center, they are recommending the move to ensure support is provided to the DREAM Center; It's a beneficial move to students, as seen on the two-option memo. EOP continues to be committed to support students.

Committee member Nguyen asked if the move was approved, will EOP logo still be part of the DREAM Center and will it be advertised to EOP Students. Director Parsa shared that although the logo will no longer be part of the DREAM Center, the DREAM Center will still be supported by the EOP with monetary assistance. The services for the DREAM Center will still be advertised to EOP students. EOP currently has satellite services throughout campus and it has worked well. The USU will acknowledge EOP's contribution to the DREAM Center. Committee member Mateo asked if undocumented students will continue to work if the DREAM Center becomes a function of the USU. Executive Secretary Sánchez shared that because the functions would still be similar to CSUN hiring practices, nothing will change which is why there are no benefits or liabilities listed regarding this issue on the memo. Students who are authorized to work will be able to work. The DREAM Center is currently looking at ways to provide other leadership development opportunities that can be facilitated through scholarship/stipend opportunities for students which will transition to the USU.

***Motion Passed 6-0-0.***

## **VIII. Discussion Items**

### **A. Revisit committee goals & expectations**

Chair Contreras stated, committee has met most goals, with the exception of identifying what other organizations, institutions are doing that could benefit the

USU. Those reports are due prior to the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Overall, approving the DREAM Center was months of work and is proud of the work the committee has done.

**B. Committee research updates**

Co-Chair Alvarez asked the committee if they had any questions regarding their report that was due at the next meeting, committee members shared they would be ready to present finding on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Executive Secretary Sánchez asked if the committee felt there was an opportunity to have one additional person review current services for students on and off-campus that would assist during COVID-19. Chair Contreras, Co-Chair Alvarez and Committee Member Nguyen will create a Google doc. where they will share resources. Once compiled, they will share with committee members and USU.

**IX. Announcements**

Chair Contreras reminded committee members if they were available on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> during the USU BOD meeting to please show up so they can see the DREAM Center action item at the meeting.

**X. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:10pm.