

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Date: February 24, 2021 3:00 p.m.

Zoom: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/95163004199?pwd=dDBiYWl6dkdYZ2lCbnovcC82RXpkUT09>

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Vice President Quock called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Approval of the Agenda

Vice President Quock recommended a motion to approve the agenda

M) Controller Sario S) Director Gomez to approve the agenda.

Vote: 10-0-0

Motion Carried

V. Approval of the Minutes

Vice President Quock recommended a motion to approve the minutes

M) Director Gomez S) Director Walker to approve the minutes.

Vote: 10-0-0

Motion Carried

Vice President Quock recognized Director Chuang at 3:08 p.m.

Vice President Quock read the land acknowledgement statement.

He asked that anyone interested in speaking during Public Forum to state so in the chat box. He announced that he would have to cut-off all Public Forum comments in six minutes since there is a Time Certain item.

VI. Public Forum

Kira Nguyen, a Master's Program student, said she is working on a project that involves having students talk about their college experience. The project is to show how SJSU can move from a Diversity-Oriented campus to an Equity-Oriented campus using Critical Race Theory. She would love to have students, staff or faculty contact her if they are interested in telling their story.

Aja Adams is present to talk about anti-blackness. She graduated from SJSU in 2020. She enjoyed her time at SJSU, she but knows that Blacks can have a hard time here. She wants to see more Black staff and ways to bring the Black community come together.

Lou Dimes said he was here for similar reasons and thinks the Board should do something to shut Sigma Chi Fraternity down for their involvement with the death of Gregory Johnson. It has been 12 years since his death and feels the University President should step-up and acknowledge what happened.

Vice President Quock noted the time at 3:15 p.m. and was going to move into the first Discussion Item under New Business, but President Papazian wasn't present at the meeting. Vice President Quock continued with the list of speakers for Public Forum until she arrives.

Beija Gonzalez, a member of the community, said she appreciated the resolution being considered today, but wants the A.S. Board to take action against Sigma Chi.

Vice President Quock called on Paige, who wasn't planning on speaking so he called on Pamela Emanuel. Ms. Emanuel asked to yield time to Denise Johnson, Gregory Johnson's mother, so she had a chance to speak, but Vice President Quock said she was already on the speaker's list. Ms. Emanuel was standing in solidarity with Gregory Johnson. She graduated from SJSU and said she heard about multiple hate crimes. She's an advocate trying to find justice for the family. She thinks students should write letters to the Department of Justice in support of removing Sigma Chi. Vice President Quock asked Ms. Johnson if she would like to speak.

Denise Johnson tried to speak, but her sound was inaudible so Vice President Quock called on the next speaker.

Lana Gomez attended on behalf of Students for Gregory Johnson and said she would like to see the UPD defunded. She's like to see the money used to help Black students on campus to prevent lives from being lost. She named several students who have experienced systems racism. She'd also like to see other Greek organizations suspended that believe in white supremacy.

Symone Jackson joined from the community and the Justice for Gregory Johnson on behalf those who have been impacted by the injustices that have occurred on campus. She also supports the resolution for Gregory Johnson and defunding UPD. It has an impact on the community so it's a public safety issue. She added that the daughter of Antonio Guzman Lopez has been accepted to the nursing program on this campus, but doesn't feel safe here because the police that killed her father still work here.

Brian Parkman, an alum of SJSU, was attending in support of Gregory Johnson and a restorative justice process. SJSU needs to acknowledge the harm they have caused the Johnson family as well as others who have experienced hate crimes.

Jason King simply said that he was in support of defunding the police and dismantling Sigma Chi.

Vice President Quock checked with Ms. Johnson if she was able to speak and she was so she said it took seven hours for her local police to notify her of Gregory's death, but never heard from the school. The Chief of Police, Andre Barnes, told her two days later that the investigation concluded it was a suicide and that the case was closed. She still heard nothing from the school. There were discrepancies in the evidence. She said the Grand Master from Sigma Chi and other officials met to decide how they were going to lie about the case. It took her 10 days to get Gregory's body. After 12 years, she has still not heard from the school or Sigma Chi's national organization. She said the coroner offered to cremate her son because she feels they are covering up for the murder since there was a six-inch crack in his head. There are White Supremacists who continue to kill. She will never forget that she sent her child here for an education and they sent him back in a body bag.

Aurion Wiley-Green thanked Ms. Johnson for speaking her peace and let her know that others want justice for her son. Until the university shows they care about students of color, they'll never get the education they deserve. They need tangible steps taken to feel a part of the campus.

Vice President Quock called an end to the Public Forum section of the agenda, but Ms. Emanuel asked that he allow Ms. Johnson speak when President Papazian joins the meeting. Vice President Quock notified her that President Papazian was not going to be attending because she has another meeting at 3:30 p.m. that she has to attend. Mr. Dimes felt she needed to be here since there were 65 people here who want to talk to her. Vice President Quock said they will try to do what they can do, but needed to move ahead with the meeting.

VII. Executive Director’s Informational Report (4 minutes)

ED Dowell reiterated that President Papazian had a 3:30 pm meeting that she had to attend so they will reschedule with her to attend another Board meeting. Her next meeting appearance will be posted on the agenda. An audience member interrupted and said the Board needs to stand behind the resolution. ED Dowell said the Cesar Chavez Community Action Center (CCCAC) held their Spartan Legacy Training Academy last Tuesday and they are working on their K-12 program as well as their other mentoring programs. The Child Development Center continues with their anti-bias curriculum by watching a video “What Am I Learning”. The General Service Center filed the A.S. tax return and the Print and Technology Center has ordered some new laptops to replace old ones.

VIII. University Administration’s Informational Report (3 minutes)

Dr. Daniels also said they would work with the University President to come back to another meeting. She told them they could email her. The University is working on repopulation of our students with 50-60% of classes returning to campus in the fall. The CCCAC guest speaker, Alok Menon, will be appearing tonight at 7:00 p.m. There will be two additional ADAPT Town Halls in March. She encouraged students to download Duo when you get the request.

Vice President Quock acknowledged that someone wrote “Justice 4 GJ” over the agenda then stated that the audience needs to treat this meeting as a professional setting. A couple of the audience members expressed their frustration that President Papazian was not present and one requested that they start talking about the resolution. Vice President Quock said the resolution is on the agenda and they will get to it.

IX. Chief Elections Officer Informational Report (3 minutes)

Vivian Luc said they are working on their marking efforts, which is paying off because students are attending the orientations. Funds are being reallocated for giveaway items and they are talking to some small businesses. She met with Kevin Lowe, the PTC manager, about the voting platform that other campuses are using. She concluded by thanking the Board for completing the Google form she sent them and reminded anyone interested in running for a position to attend one of the last orientations.

Vice President Quock stated that he was going to skip over Old Business in order to address Item 7, the Anti-Blackness resolution.

X. Action Items

- A. Old Business
- B. New Business

Vice President Quock asked Director Jones-Trammell to move forward with the discussion about the resolution. She started by saying she was sorry that things worked out this way today. They are looking at more equity and more inclusivity. Director Kaur agreed that A.S. would hold the University accountable as much as they can. She read a statement: “It’s important for us, as a Board, representative of SJSU students, to not be silent when it

comes to anti-Blackness and systemic racism at SJSU. Many folks may point out that there is work to be done outside, but we, as an organization must actively fight racism on our campus. This resolution is building upon the work that has been done by our community in the Justice for Gregory Johnson movement, the Black Student Demands released this past summer and the Solidarity Network letter to name a few. By bringing this to your attention, we hope to start building safety and strength with our community, and to stand up and speak out. As representatives we must interrogate the conditions and narratives we find ourselves in and remember that white supremacy has no place in higher education. This is an opportunity to reclaim the narrative, right past acts of hatred and intolerance, and denounce systems that are not made to protect our Black community at SJSU to promote collective healing and liberation.” Director Jones-Trammell pointed out that A.S. and the University are separate entities. They are students, too, and it is not in their power to bring Papazian to this meeting. She wanted to concentrate on the resolution. President Delgadillo agreed with Director Jones-Trammell. She added that they have been advocating for the things they want and they will keep the accountability efforts going. Director Walker reminded them that they have to follow the rules of the meeting and are accountable. Director Jones-Trammell summarized the resolution. Mr. Dimes was recognized, but he had left the meeting so Ms. Emanuel asked his questions. How will the University be held accountable if President Papazian is not present. She felt having a scholarship for a student who has passed away is an insult to the family since nothing has been done to resolve the murder. Director Jones-Trammell said she understood, but she felt this is what she could do. Ms. Emanuel asked if they had helped with the investigation or tried to close Sigma Chi. Director Jones-Trammell explained that she wants to do more, but they are restricted with what can be done with the funds. Ms. Johnson was asked to speak and she commented that she understands about the 501 c 3 status. She added that she doesn’t understand how the University can just ignore Gregory’s death. She knows that President Papazian was president at the time, but she doesn’t understand how students can ignore it. She feels Sigma Chi is full of White Supremacists and that no Black child’s life matters here. She hopes no other child has to die here. She saw the crack in her son’s head and the bloody towels from her son’s room. It’s an insult that San Jose State insists her son committed suicide. Director Birrer called a Point of Order so they can get back to the resolution. Director Walker suggested that those who spoke today could reach out to any of the Directors and make amendments to the resolution. He understands their anger because he’s angry, too. It’s hard to see change happen immediately, but he will do his best to make sure the resolution addresses the issue. Agamut, a co-founder from Black Outreach asked what the A.S. Board is going to do now. He has been fighting with activists for months and feels it’s disrespectful to just talk about it. How can they shut down Sigma Chi. He feels A.S. acts like they don’t care. Director Walker said he cares deeply and they can amend the resolution, but they can’t vote Sigma Chi out. They can bring awareness to the issue. Someone asked how A.S. would dismantle Sigma Chi so ED Dowell addressed her by saying it is not in A.S.’s power to do that. They can advocate for it and they will reschedule the meeting with President Papazian. Mr. Dimes spoke out and said ED Dowell was doing a disservice by saying we don’t have power to influence these issues. Just because something is law doesn’t mean it can’t be done. He wanted to talk about what can be done. ED Dowell tried to explain that she didn’t mean students didn’t have power and that A.S. was limited in what they can do, but was cut-off.

**M) Director Kaur S) Director Chuang to table all items on the agenda except the resolution.
Vote: 11-0-0**

Motion Carried

Director Kaur asked how they could make the resolution more actionable and address what's been said today. Director Walker felt that everyone's frustration with President Papazian not being here was warranted and he would like to mandate that she attend two meetings a semester. This would give students a way to address their concerns to her directly. Director Chuang felt the resolution should recognize areas outside of Washington Square. Director Jones-Trammell felt that was a good point and she will clarify that area more. She went on to say she felt that, besides the A.S. Board, only Black students should be speaking to what is being said. Director Walker thought they should send the resolution out to others including the Spartan Daily and Mercury News. Director Kaur feels Greek Life is a big issue regarding racism so she'd like to work with Student Involvement on how they can dismantle fraternities. Director Walker is part of a fraternity and said that a fraternity can lose their charter by appealing to the national organization and feels that is something they can do with Sigma Chi. Director Acosta agreed with Director Walker and encouraged those working on behalf of Gregory Johnson including protests in front of Sigma Chi.

Vice President Quock suspended the Board Reports. Ms. Emanuel asked that the Board write letters to the Department of Justice and start a private fundraiser for the Johnson family.

XI. Executive Officer Reports (4 minutes each) Suspended

- A. President
President Delgadillo
 - 1. Executive Committee
 - 2. Personnel Committee
- B. Vice President
Vice President Quock
 - 1. A.S. 55
- C. Controller
Controller Sario
 - 1. Finance Committee

XII. Directors' Reports (3 minutes each) Suspended

- A. Director of Academic Affairs
 - 1. Academic Affairs Committee
- B. Director of Business Affairs
 - 1. Operations Committee
- C. Director of Co-Curricular Affairs
 - 1. Programming Board
- D. Director of Communications
- E. Director of Intercultural Affairs
- F. Director of Internal Affairs
 - 1. Internal Affairs Committee
- G. Director of Legislative Affairs
 - 1. Lobby Corps
- H. Director of Student Resource Affairs
 - 1. Campus Life Affairs
- I. Director of Student Rights and Responsibilities

J. Director of Sustainability

XIII. Ad Hoc Committees

XIV. Closed Session

XV. Announcements

XVI. Adjournment

Vice President Quock recommended a motion to adjourn the meeting.

M) Director Jones-Trammell S) Director Gomez to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 11-0-0

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Brendan Quock, Chair
A.S. Board of Directors

Date

