



**STUDENT UNION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Meeting Minutes for  
May 7, 2021 at 8:30 am**

**This was a telecommute meeting by Zoom Video Conference.**

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

**Voting Members Present:** Nicholas Ayala, Sonja Daniels, Charlie Faas, Cynthia Fernandez-Rios, Ellen Middaugh, Ishan Gupta, Zobeida Delgadillo, Emily Wughalter, Joshua Reyes, Zachary Birrer

**Voting Members Absent:** None

**Non-Voting Member Present:** Tamsen Burke DocuSigned by: Tamsen Burke 6/16/2021

**Guests Present:** Amy Guerra-Smith, David Alves, Ryan Fetzer, Kristine Kirkendall, Kevin Kish, Caryn Collopy, Larry Aldama, Karyn Liensdorf

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios called the May 7, 2021 Student Union, Inc. Board of Directors meeting at 8:35am.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios asked Amy Guerra-Smith to take the role. Amy Guerra-Smith completed a verbal roll call.

**III. APPROVAL OF MAY 7, 2021 AGENDA**

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios asked for any changes needed to the MAY 7, 2021 STUDENT UNION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING AGENDA. Seeing no changes requested, Ms. Fernandez-Rios asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

**Emily Wughalter motioned to approve the agenda as presented; Ishan Gupta seconded the motion.**

**Vote on the Motion: 6-0-0 Motion Passed.**

**IV. OPEN FORUM**

No one was present for the open forum.

**V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Tamsen Burke explained the purpose of the meeting was to present to the Board Members the information that was shared with the Student Union by the Vice President for Student Affairs with regards to the Student Union, Inc. Operating Agreement. Furthermore, to discuss the recommended action steps from the Student Union, Inc. Board of Directors Special Operating Agreement Committee. Tamsen Burke invited the Board Members to share their recent accomplishments. Ishan Gupta shared that he was awarded the Vice President for Student Affairs Leadership and Service award.

Joshua Reyes shared that he was awarded Dean's Scholar.

Ellen Middaugh shared that she was awarded the Early Career Investigator Award which is recognition of the research that she does.

## VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. Student Union, Inc. Operating Agreement

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios explained that Tamsen Burke met with the SUBOD Special Operating Agreement Committee members to present the information that was shared with the Student Union. Ms. Fernandez-Rios opened the meeting for questions and discussions. Ms. Fernandez-Rios reminded the Board members that the Student Union facilities, programs and services are all provided by student fees and it is the Board's fiduciary responsibility that the Student Union is in good standing and acts as the voice for all students and the interests of the Student Union, Inc.

Ms. Burke informed the Board Members that the SUBOD Special Operating Agreement Committee created a shared document which outlines a number of questions to be asked of the VPSA and the university. Ms. Burke went on to outline the four areas which are:

- (1) The Event Center would be centrally managed and not under the Student Union's portfolio,
- (2) All leases would be managed by the University,
- (3) The SU, Inc. reserves would be restricted to a two- to three-month cap in regards to the Student Union,
- (4) An expectation of shared services relating to University efficiencies. Tamsen Burke went on to explain that the purpose of today's meeting is to gather the questions the Board Members have that require answers.

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios informed the Board Members of the various conversations she, Tamsen Burke, and Dr. Sonja Daniels had with the Vice President for Student Affairs and the President's Chief of Staff.

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios noted that the SUBOD Special Operating Agreement Committee will review the list of questions and assist with preparing and prioritizing the questions.

Tamsen Burke explained the SUBOD Special Operating Agreement Committee decided that the priorities, in order of importance, are:

- (1) 1st priority is the Event Center,
- (2) 2nd priority is the Student Union reserves,
- (3) 3rd priority is leases, and
- (4) 4th is shared services.

Ellen Middaugh inquired about having Vice President for Student Affairs, Patrick Day, attend a future meeting to these priorities.

Ishan Gupta inquired if there is a discussion focused on the reduction of student fees.

Emily Wughalter inquired what would be the proposed Event Center concerts, athletics, club sports, intramural sports,

Ellen Middaugh inquired from Charlie Faas who would be prioritizing and deciding on the programming if this change is made and continued to explain that currently the Student Union prioritizes and decides on the programming.

Mr. Faas indicated this is unknown at this time. Dr. Middaugh noted that understanding the university position is important to whether there will be input from the students. In addition, reminded Mr. Faas, the Event Center is a student fee-based facility and students should have shared governance with this facility.

Mr. Faas noted that students will have to have some shared governance as it is a student fee-based facility and the predominant events that take place in the Event Center are student focused events and a student run building. Dr. Middaugh pointed out that the current mechanism for student voice is this Board of Directors so we really need to see specifically, in detail how student voice and shared governance is going to be incorporated if this change moves forward.

Tamsen Burke informed the Board Members that the CSU Auxiliary organizations were created to perform central functions associated with the post secondary educational institution, which under California law are difficult, cumbersome, or legally restrictive for the university and are not supported by state funding. The question that should be asked is if the Student Union is doing the same work and has been successful in doing that work, what is the reason for this shift or this change if the Student Union has fulfilled its role within the operating agreement? And what is no longer difficult, cumbersome or legally restricting the

university from taking this particular asset from the Student Union portfolio?  
Charlie Faas indicated that what caused him to look at the Event Center was the results of the facility utilization report, which is the analysis from independent reviewers that came and reviewed the uses, the management, and the operations of the events.  
Nicholas Ayala requested that the report be sent to all Board members for review.  
Tamsen Burke summarized the Executive Summary of the facility utilization report.  
Ellen Middaugh suggested that the Board agree to review the necessary reports and documents in order to have this conversation and to hear the rationale directly from the Vice President for Student Affairs, Patrick Day.

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios shared that she will be present at the Associated Students Board meeting and requested a discussion about the title for her presentation at the AS Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Faas inquired what we were looking to accomplish by attending the AS Board of Directors Meeting. Ms. Fernandez-Rios noted that since students were not given the opportunity to be a part of the consultation with the university, the AS Board of Directors is another mechanism for student voices and awareness.

## **VII. ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Approve Recommendations from the SUBOD Special Operating Agreement Committee**

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios noted that the SUBOD Special Operating Agreement Committee will finalize and prioritize the list of questions and submit them on behalf of the Board of Directors to Vice President for Student Affairs, Patrick Day.

**Emily Wughalter moved to approve the recommendations from the SUBOD Special Operating Agreement Committee; Ellen Middaugh seconded the motion.**

**Vote on the Motion: 9-0-0 Motion Passed.**

## **VIII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Cynthia Fernandez-Rios asked for a motion to approve adjourning the meeting at 9:35am.

**Emily Wughalter moved to approve to adjourn the meeting; Ishan Gupta seconded the motion.**

**Vote on the Motion: 8-0-0 Motion Passed.**