

Senate Meeting Agenda

January 29th, 2024 | 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
DeRosa University Center 211

I. Preliminaries

a. Call to Order

Motion to call to order at 5:39 pm

Motion: Senator Spaccarelli

Second: Senator Beck

Approved 8-0-0

b. Roll Call Attendance

Director Ajifu-Santos is present as Interim Clerk

Senator Rana will arrive at 6 pm

Senator Tahir will arrive at 6:45 pm

c. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the Agenda

Motion: Senator Spaccarelli

Second: Senator Reyes

Approved 8-0-0

Motion to amend the agenda with the following amended items:

a. Table Discussion Item: Senate Meeting Times

Motion: Senator Spaccarelli

Second: Senator Padilla

Approved 7-0-1

d. Approval of Minutes: 1/22/24 Senate Meeting

Motion to approve the meeting minutes for the Senate Meeting dated January 22nd, 2024

Motion: Senator Reyes

Second: Senator Gill

Approved 8-0-0

II. Public Comment

401.4 Public Access to Senate Meetings

All ASuop members shall be guaranteed the right to address the Senate:

1. Any individual recognized by the Chair shall rise and state their name.
2. Any individual may have up to three (3) minutes to speak.

Speakers should sign up to speak by filling out their contact information (name, email) on a speaker [sign - up list](#). The Vice President will receive official responses and communications from ASuop within approximately 5 business days.

No speakers were present for public comment.

III. Business Items

- a. Action Item: *Confirmation of the Director of Finance* (5 mins)
 - Chand Kaur, an Accounting major
 - Hoping to gain experience with a fully-supervised budget
 - Previously worked for an accounting firm doing audits

Senator Spaccarelli: In the role of director of finance, you would be supervising 1-2 deputy directors; have you served in any leadership roles? what would you bring to a leadership role?

- Currently the CEO of the Student Investment Fund through Eberhardt,
 - working in tandem with other business majors
 - Not a perfect leader, but trying their best

Motion to vote on the Confirmation of Chand Kaur as the Director of Finance

Motion: Senator Reyes

Second: Senator Le

Approved 8-0-0

Senator Reyes: It's an unboxing!

VP Manning: The Senate has confirmed you as the Director of Finance; you are not obligated to stay for the remainder of the meeting's duration.

- b. Action Item: *Confirmation of the Interim Elections Coordinator* (5 mins)

Discussion led by Chief Justice Berryhill

- The Election Season begins next week
- Former Elections Coordinator Poeun has resigned
- The Interim Elections Coordinator must fill the position
 - Normally an Elections Committee member, but the committee is not yet formed
 - The Courts are currently looking for an Interim Elections Coordinator
 - One person has agreed if nobody else can
 - We may open the application for the position
 - The Senator chosen will pause their Senator duties and step into the responsibilities of the Interim Elections Coordinator to run the upcoming election

Senator Reyes: What is the time commitment associated with the position?

- More than a Senator's commitment in the way that if a candidate needs something, you should be able to dedicate time to responding to that candidate
- Not 24/7 on call
- Responsibilities include booking rooms and reaching out to colleges/schools for candidates

Senator Spaccarelli: Note – Interim Elections Coordinators cannot run for another Senator term because Elections Coordinators are not permitted to run for any open positions.

- The position is best for graduating seniors or someone sure that they will not run for any open positions again

Vice President Manning: Elections Coordinator outreach work is similar to Senator work. Target prospective students who may want to step into these positions.

- The Interim Elections Coordinator must be a member of the Senate.

Senator Spaccarelli: Willing to serve as the Interim, but would prefer someone else step up. Is a graduating senior, would not be running again, and plans to volunteer for the Elections Committee.

- Would anyone like to sleep on the idea and reach out to Chief Justice Berryhill tomorrow (01/30/2024)?

Vice President Manning will ask Senator Rana if she wishes to fill the position at a later time.

- The person must be approved by the Senate. Choosing that person during this meeting would be in everyone's best interest.

Vice President Manning: No availability to meet for the rest of the week. President Pro Tempore Padilla has limited availability as well.

No Senators were interested in taking on the position and its responsibilities.

Motion to approve the Confirmation of Lorenzo Spaccarelli as the Interim Elections Coordinator

Motion: Senator Reyes

Second: Senator Monarrez

Approved 7-0-1

Senator Spaccarelli: Point of Order – serving as a Senator for the duration of this meeting.

Vice President Manning: We must appoint a Rules Committee chair. President Pro Tempore should not serve as chair of a committee in which she is the only acting member.

Senator Spaccarelli: There is nothing in the bylaws that states that President Pro Tempore cannot also hold the position of Committee Chair. Perhaps she could serve as the Interim Chair?

- c. **Informative Item: OER Committee & Task — Director of Academic Affairs** (10 mins)

Discussion led by Director Xu

Vice President Manning: Are there any individuals who want to join the OER Committee?

- "Yes" is the only correct answer

Senator Padilla: what times do OER comm meet?

- Whenever necessary
- Meeting times are chosen from Director Xu's blocks of free time and voted on in the OER Committee Slack
- Evaluate faculty submissions of OER materials for quality and impact
- The OER Committee has previously received many outstanding resources
- Target faculty that are creating/have created OER materials
 - Have them submit a form regarding the impact of their OER materials in areas of efficacy (how many students stay in the class w/OER, how many grades, etc), quality, etc.
 - The meetings serve as a space to discuss what Director Xu has already done and how the OER Committee will proceed.
 - If Senators have constituents who are interested in OER materials, have them reach out to Director Xu or to their respective Senators.

Senator Monarrez: Are the meetings weekly, biweekly, or monthly?

- The meetings are closer to a biweekly/monthly schedule.

Senator Gill: What day does the OER Committee typically meet?

- Currently, before 2 pm on Tuesdays

Vice President Manning: Are any Senators interested? Which faculty members are involved with the OER process/Committee?

- It would be a conflict of interest to disclose which faculty members are involved with any of the OER work in the way that Senators might choose to be a part of the committee solely because someone they favor is doing the work.

d. Discussion Item:  SB:06 Annually Funded Organizations Act (15 mins)

First Read

Sen Spaccarelli, as Rules Chair: This Bill strikes all clauses that reference any annually funded entities except for ASUOP. Large sections have been removed for lacking relevance. Changes go through internal budget reallocations. The Director of Finance can approve changes to line items less than or equal to \$250. Prohibited items: money towards fundraising.

Vice President Manning: This discussion began before the statement of a few Senators. We formerly had non-RSO external groups receiving annual funding, which tanked funding in an inequitable way. These non-RSO groups will instead receive semi-annual funding.

Senator Spaccarelli: This change will be made at the end of the next Fiscal Year because there are annually funded groups currently accounted for in the ASUOP budget.

Senator Padilla: For example: The Conservatory Student Senate was formerly annually funded, and has since become an RSO. RSOs are beginning to reflect the coming changes. We have had

many conversations with these non-RSO groups to help them find other sources of funding. ASUOP has given as much support as possible.

Senator Spaccarelli: Point of Order – this is not to be voted on today.

e. Discussion Item: Returnable Graduation Gowns — Senator Beck (15 mins)

Senator Beck: Rentable graduation gowns are more sustainable and cost-effective for some. This option will not be available for the Spring 2024 Commencement. We are trying to feel for what students want.

Senator Rana arrives at 6 pm, and Senator Tahir arrives around 6:15 pm.

Senator Spaccarelli: This is a fantastic idea; students can reduce waste and save money when graduating. If this option is not inherently cheaper than a permanent gown purchase, there may be something weird in the process that should be examined.

Advisor Magaña: Interjection – does anybody have any suggestions about ways to make graduation/commencement more lively and fun? Contact him.

Director Xu: Are rentals consistent in cost if this is implemented? Would this be executed through a third party?

Senator Beck: Options have not yet been discussed at length.

Vice President Manning: The price of graduation gowns purchased through the university is roughly \$70. Could we put Senator Programming Funds toward financial assistance with cap and gown purchases? Which is more impactful: a paint and sip, or a cap and gown purchase?

Senator Spaccarelli: This is fantastic from a cost perspective, but is equally as amazing from a sustainability perspective.

Vice President Manning: We could also utilize Senator Programming Funds to pay for rentals.

Point of Personal Order – Senator Gill

Vice President Manning: Who should we speak to about this idea?

Advisor Magaña: Perhaps Vice President Blandizzi, or President Callahan.

President Gomez: Would this rental system also be accessible to Masters students?

Vice President Manning: If they pay the Student Fee, then yes. Eco-friendly stoles might be an interesting thing to pursue next.

Senator Beck: This is a good idea sustainability-wise; graduation gowns end up sitting in closets, storage, or trash. Returning, donating, or renting them would be amazing.

Advisor Magaña: The way that it works is that students receive the gown about a day before graduation and return it on the day of graduation in a collection bin, or ask for an extension with a fee attached. The former President and Vice President wanted to pay for the entire graduating class during their term, which is not realistic.

f. Action Item:  CA 23-24:01 Justice Appointment Amendment (15 mins)

sen Spacarelli: Amendment to the constitution, which influences ASUOP bylaws. comparable to the relationship between the US Constitution and laws adding a clause for the constitutional basis for courts having a judicial apprentice. Adding clause re: members of the court being instated – judicial hiring committee including two senators in the hiring process so that senators and president are all involved in court hirings. president nominates anyone under ASUOP (student body) and the senate votes on it.

vp Manning: constitutional amendments must be voted on by the student body. this amendment ensures that all branches are involved in hiring the last branch (Judicial)

sen Spacarelli: The candidate must be decided on unanimously by the committee. senators cannot move forward with one person without presidential agreement.

vp Manning: ensures unbiased hiring of courts. questions from sen le and monarrez

sen le: how do we read the amendments

vp Manning: red + strikethru = removing from constitution. any green text is added to the constitution.

advisor Magana: appears as the most finalized version on the ballot

VP Manning: this is what bills and constitutional amendments look like on the Senate floor

sen Spacarelli: amending the constitution is rare. only able to vote on this once or twice a year.

bylaws/bills are easier and change more frequently because only the Senate votes on it

sen Spacarelli: $\frac{2}{3}$ majority to pass an amendment to put on the ballot

Motion to vote on Amendment

Motion: sen Spacarelli

Second: sen Tahir

personal: Senator beck + Lopez

sen padilla: judicial apprentice is a new and necessary position

vp manning: adding certain language to the constitution allows the judicial branch to create necessary positions

CJ Berryhill: judicial apprentice is a non-voting member of Supreme Court unless called upon

vp Manning: The rules committee needs more members in light of sen spac's departure as chair.

meeting times can vary depending on y'all

sen Spacarelli: Senate Bill 7 provides more context on this constitutional amendment

sen le: on two committees, would love to sit on rules – any violations?

Vp Manning: no maximum commitment, just a minimum of one

approved 9-0-0, will be passed to interim EC to write for students

g. Action Item:  CA 23-24:02 Executive Restructuring Amendment (15 mins)

Sen Spacarelli: simplest constitutional amendment. candidate for president and vp are two separate tickets. anyone can run for either position, and they do not need a running mate.

vp mann: constitutional amendments are NOT common. bills = easier because it's just senate voting. constitution = harder, because students vote

sen spacarelli: typo: propose a grammatical change to the amendment

motion: sen spac

approved 9-0-0

advisor Magana: prevent people from running in tickets if they want to?

sen beck: motion to approve the amendment

approved 9-0-0

motion to vote on amendment

motion: beck

second: Tahir

carried 9-0-0, to be passed to interim EC to write for students

h. Discussion Item: Meeting Times

vp mann: there are time conflicts; please remove your preferences, and think of constituents. we must move the date or change time to ensure a quorum

sen padilla: crushing to come back to something that has already started and is in motion. we should have all voices in room

sen Spacarelli: no need for bylaws

vp mann: if we have two hours during the day, we should shoot for that. attendance is typically better and campus partners would prefer.

le: Wednesday after 2

beck: wed before 1, after 3

gill: wed after 3:30, all mornings

padilla: all day wed

tahir: wed morning times only

rana: wed available

lopez: wed after 5

monarrez: wed after 3:30, monday friday mornings

reyes: wed after 4:45

spacarelli: does not need to be 2hrs. in ideal setting, yes 2hrs; if limited business needs to happen

advisor magana: go into calendar and update

vp mann: if you can't make this time, we should have a conversation

spacarelli: those who are in schools that do not have active senator position: is it possible to switch over to a school-specific senator

Advisor Magana: let's wait until the application closes and bend bylaws temporarily to "meet" the quorum

vp mann: changing language re: quorum (seated v unseated)?

jesse: if you can make meetings w/o academic conflict, be here. if not, reconsider

Spacarelli : consider switching

vp mann: there are many solutions and many issues.

sen beck: let's wait to change time until we hopefully get new additions. esb/soecs positions up?

vp manning: how comfortable are we holding meetings w/o quorum for the time being?

spacarelli: please try to follow the bylaws; i encourage us to follow bylaws. we can get sen-a-ls

vp manning: the solution is a good idea, but is ultimately flawed on the basis that the person filling the seat may not be able to attend.

IV. Announcements

a. Vice President

Attend 1:1s and Office Hours. Mandatory 4 Office Hours a month and 2 RSO outreach

b. President

Attend the Club Fair tomorrow (01/30/2024), from 5pm to 7pm.

c. Advisor

Timesheets have time stamps. Please submit them on time, and if you submit them late, it's three strikes and you're done. Many senators turned in timesheets late today, which counts as a second strike. One more and you're done. Some of you are here for a resume boost and it is not fair nor is it equitable to people who want to be here to do good work, so think about that as the next election approaches. Will be out late Thursday afternoon - next week Wednesday.

d. Officers

Senator Spaccarelli: Please find a permanent Elections Coordinator.

Senator Padilla: Excited for upcoming Senator Events! Collaborate, because we are a small team.

Please keep Director Bright and Director Fontes/Strategic Marketing in mind when you plan things; plan ahead of the game.

V. Adjournment 7:30

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:57pm

Motion: Senator Beck

Second: Senator Padilla

Approved 9-0-0