

Senate Meeting 04 Agenda

Date: Sep 12, 2022

Location: WPC, Room 229

Invited Members:

- **Guiying (Angel) Zhong**; ASuop President
- **Jesse Magana**; ASuop Advisor
- **Dr. Maria Blandizzi**; VP for the Division of Student Life
- The Center for Identity and Inclusion Staff

- **Reese Romero**; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
- **Ainsley Berryhill**; Associate Justice of the Supreme Court
- **Namorrah Ward**; Associate Justice of the Supreme Court
- **Alice Zhang**; Director of Finance
- **Shea Bishop**; Deputy Director of Finance

I. Preliminaries (5:30-5:35)

- a. Call to Order

The Monday, August 29th, Senate Meeting was called to order at 5:34pm.

Senator Spaccarelli motioned to approve. Senator Martinez seconded the motion.

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- b. Roll Call (*highlighted in yellow if not present*):

- i. Presiding Officer: Vice President Brooke Tran

1. Senator Chan
2. Senator Daher
3. Senator Gandolfo-Gillaspy
4. Senator Hussein
5. **Senator Madill**
6. Senator Manning
7. Senator Martinez

8. Senator Muthana
9. Senator Padilla
10. Senator Pearson
11. Senator Spaccarelli
12. Senator Tahir
13. Senator Torres

c. Agenda Changes (*if applicable*)

Senator Manning called for an amendment to move a) Committee Updates second and b) her presentation second to last. Senator Daher seconded. VP Tran called for a vote.

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d. Approval of Agenda

VP Tran entertained a motion to approve the agenda as corrected. Senator Spaccarelli motioned to approve the agenda. Senator Gandolfo-Gillaspy seconded the motion.

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II. Discussion Items (5:35-6:20)

a. The Center for Identity and Inclusion: Introduction and Overview

Staff from The Center for Identity and Inclusion gave a presentation on their services. They are located in the McCaffrey Center (first and second floors, east side, 8:30am - 5:00pm)

Contacts: Maisha (LGBTQ representative), Cathy English (Programmer, Black, and Native student resources), Jasmine Patel (Asian, Pacific Islander, and Desi Student Services) came.

They put on different experiences and services that fall under the populations that they serve. The focus is on coalition building, identity development, and communication between the groups on campus as well as building a community and having a place where people feel included. They will have speakers once a month, and they'll be putting on other events throughout the semester.

Senator Pearson asked if they would be the best point of contact. It was mentioned that they will be giving out their contact information.

Senator Manning asked if they have any expectations from the Senators to help them.

They have a lot of planning that has gotten into the semester, but it only helps when people are going to show up. We can help share information and create communication between the two organizations to give feedback.

Senator Martinez asked if there was communication about the move to centralize all resources. They were informed that they would be moving. They were told that there would be more engagement with the center which has been true so far.

b. Committee Updates (*if any*)

i. Finance Committee

There was a meeting on Thursday and they went through documents and other resources that they needed in order to be successful. Mostly informational.

ii. Rules Committee

1. [SB 22-23:01 Graduate and Career Testing Fund Act](#)

This is meant for the reallocation of funds for the graduate and career testing fund and support the sustainability of funds to be set aside. There were no questions from the floor. There will be 2 readings before voting; this served as the 1st reading.

iii. Senate Selection Committee

They're still trying to find a time to create meetings and finalize dates. There was an idea to email each dean of each school and ask for a list of graduate students to send out information about positions in ASuop.

iv. Ethics Committee

v. Sustainability Committee

Seeking more members in the committee because of tabling. The meeting time will be once a week for one hour.

vi. Stockton Outreach Committee

They were searching for members that are part of the committee. They will be sending out availability forms and creating a Slack channel. They have proposed projects.

vii. Commuter Committee

Senator Daher will be reaching out to create slack and give out updates.

c. Retreat User Manual Activity Reflection & [Refresher of Job Description](#)

Everyone shared how they prefer to receive feedback and how they felt about the activity during retreat.

i. Constituent Outreach and [Verification](#) Process

The following was reviewed: All senators must visit at least 2 RSOs a month (this month will only be one). There will be a digital form for the verification process. A list of RSOs can be found on Tigerlink with locations and times.

ii. Office Hours

There hasn't been a set schedule for office hours but they will be posted as soon as the schedules are finalized.

Senator Padilla spent time in the education building, answering questions, and listening to concerns, and met with Lisa to talk about events (safe trick or treat, teacher appreciation → Oct 5) and wants to boost engagement during Senator's office hours.

Office hours are great for working on committees or other projects. You have to seek people out since they don't come to you and it can be used for brainstorming time. You can also use that time to send emails to reach out to different groups.

We're working on getting a list of office hours for senators.

VP Tran mentioned that Senator Torres attends dean seminars and other senators should try to reach out to particular majors in their colleges.

Senator Manning suggested that office hours and locations be posted with the senator's spotlight.

Donte Miller employed senators to be innovative and wants the DUC to be the center of campus life and can help make spaces for senators as well.

Contact Information: dmill4@pacific.edu

iii. [Monthly 1:1's](#)

VP Tran mentioned that 1:1's are required every month and to schedule before the end of the month.

d. *Monthly theme: Food, Dining, and Meal Plan*

- i. [University Meal Plan FAQs](#)
- ii. Senator Manning's [Presentation](#)

Senator Manning read the statement that is linked above.

- Has asked about Halal food and the DUC has said that they don't serve halal unless it is the Mediterranean
- Employees of the BonAppetit are spreading misinformation by telling Muslim and Halal students the statement mentioned above.
- Numbers represent numbers of immigrant students as well as other groups that spend a lot of money to provide
- Students are eating off campus because they are representative and accommodated on campus
- Open to questions and concerns.

iii. What are some potential goals/initiatives?

Senator Tahir suggested talking to the halal market off campus to see if we can ask for substitution and discounts.

Senator Padilla suggested holding a meeting with MSA to get suggestions and feedback.

Senator Manning asked if she could write a resolution.

The resolution would not need to be approved by Sia but it would be presented prior to the meeting.

The resolution can be brought Rules and then it can be added to the agenda.

1. Collect student anecdotes

Leen: Leen, MSA President, thanks Senator Manning for the proposal that was brought forth. She is obligated to tell people that the food is not hand slaughtered. Defeats the purpose of the food for it to be halal. Halal food is an ethical way of food being presented. Halal-eating students are forced to go off campus and avoid eating at the DUC. Mentions that at the last iftar they ran into issues with catering, they were forced to go out and get a halal option. It was hard to get in contact with people, they were told that vegetables could be provided and that seemed demeaning, The issue is that the Mediterranean has nothing to do with halal. The only halal option that could be provided was chicken because it wasn't budget-friendly. Would love to collaborate with ASuop. Appreciates everyone that came out and the senators. Please cc MSA for any resolutions and they will be going forwards with a statement that is going to be made by a scholar that is going to write something on behalf of their community.

Zen: Had no idea that the food in the DUC hasn't been hand-slaughter but it is nauseating to hear that what has been advertised isn't what is provided. It makes her angry. No one has been able to answer any questions and there isn't any information available. It's upsetting that other groups can get the food they want and it's disrespectful that those who are halal aren't getting what they need. If a place is promising to give them the accommodations, then the price shouldn't matter. It's tiring and it's something that they always have to deal with. They don't have another place to go to and they can't always go out and eat the same food over and over again. During labor day, the same food for all 3 days and the halal food sections were closed. The lair has advertised that they don't know what halal is but they heard that they had halal food. The worker had no idea what they were talking about. They all keep saying that if you don't use your halal money, you shouldn't have to stop eating to be able to pay tuition.

Sahila: This has been something that has been talked about over and over but nothing tangible has been done about the issue. Sometimes profit is the only thing that can matter. She asked the senators to bring this up in a more strategic manner. Even with people saying that if they are upset but students who want to live on campus without the meal plan have to jump through hoops just to get an appeal. They don't want to eat the same chicken over and over again. Promote the fact that we should bring strategies up. It's hard to be vulnerable to someone who hasn't done anything about something that has been brought up over and over again. Training on

having more inclusive options for staff. The staff gets angry when asked to wash knives between customers and has been met with anger and they don't want to feel like they're being "a Karen." *students serving students*

Barren: President Callahan has said that they build a community. The issue at hand is food and something that religion requires. A good community is made by having a group of people sharing the same values and things that everyone can relate to. The first time they had heard about halal even though they don't have a preference they fully support the cause.

Gazi: He had no idea that the food wasn't properly halal and it is really upsetting. Something needs to be done and it's false advertising. Getting sick and tired of the same options over and over again.

Salma: Echo on other people's thoughts. There is more to halal than the baseline but it needs to start somewhere and that can happen once it's actually talked about and if someone takes the time to fix it. Shouldn't be discouraged by cleaning the knife because it's pure etiquette. When rude comments are presented for basic needs, it doesn't help especially when these people are giving up a lot. The true information should've been presented beforehand like the fact that halal food is machine-slaughtered instead of what it's actually supposed to be. It's very crucial to be able to represent these people and appreciate Cynia for bringing up the issue. We need to be able to understand each other to appreciate each other. We have to be able to look at equity.

Abdullahi: Most concerns have been talked about. As an athlete, diet is super important and it's hard to pretend to be vegetarian when they're not. Had to go out instead of eating on campus and is sick and tired of eating tuna every day when there could be more options.

e. Monthly Theme Speakers Brainstorm

Senator Spacarelli suggested that we should consider talking to someone higher in rank if the information hasn't been getting across to Sia.

Donte mentioned that there is nobody over Sia but Maria is the next person we should talk to. He can also start these conversations as well.

Senator Padilla suggested that we look into how much money is being spent on certain foods and ask for financial processes.

Senator Manning stated that we're paying for the services rather than the food and if you reach out to the mosque, they most likely ask for money. It was also stated that Dr. Blandizzi be present to talk about these concerns as well as have a representative talk about the appeal for a meal plan.

Senator Martinez suggested having all food halal and being inclusive about everything. Meal plans cost a lot of money and the majority of that is meal plans. Students spending additional money now have extra expenses that they have to worry about.

III. Action Items (6:20)

IV. General Interests (6:20-6:30)

a. Pacific Votes!

Clerk Karina talked about the basics of the campaigns and asked if anyone would be interested in tabling or doing research for Pacific Votes!

Senator Pearson was interested in research. Senator Gandolfo-Gillaspy, Padilla, and Spaccarelli are interested in tabling for the voter registration tabling.

b. Victoria's Reflection Letter

There was a meeting with Provost Pallavicini. The meeting went really well. She asked the faculty to ask one of the students to be a part of the committee.

V. Adjournment

VP Tran called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Senator Padilla motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Manning seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm PDT.

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VI. Next Senate Meeting

a. Sept. 19, 2022; DUC Conference RM 211