

**UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OCTOBER 22, 2018
GRAND SALON
MINUTES**

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the USU Board of Directors was called to order at 12:32 p.m. by Chair Bhernard Tila.

II. Roll Call

Present	Absent	Staff	Guests
Frank Benkovic	Shelley Ruelas-Bischoff	Jimmy Francis	Kelly DeLeon
Raquel Cetz Tamayo (<i>left at 2:00 p.m.</i>)		Agustin Garibay	Fernando Lopez Gonzalez
Arrah Ebot Enaw		Joe Illuminate	Ruben Ramos
Sharon Eichten		Raymond Juarez	
Maria Elizondo		Jennifer Kim	
Stephanie Flores Temix		Sharon Kinard	
Marquita Gammage (<i>left at 1:45 p.m.</i>)		Jonathan Navarro	
Debra Hammond (<i>left at 1:45 p.m.</i>)		Kristen Pichler	
Jazmin Hernandez		Tim Rasmussen	
Beverly Ntagu (<i>left at 1:45 p.m.</i>)		David Ross	
Michael Odinlo		Freddie Sanchez	
Michelle Olmedo Torres			
Amber Perkins (<i>arrived at 12:37 p.m.</i>)			
Tonee Sherrill			
Jesus Suarez			
Bhernard Tila			

III. Approval of Agenda

M/S/P (M. Odinlo/J. Hernandez) Motion to approve the agenda for October 22, 2018.

Chair Tila noted that there is a time certain item at 1:15 p.m. for a student presentation about Discussion Item B – Executive Order 1100R (EO1100R).

Motion passed 13-0-0.

IV. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

M/S/P (F. Benkovic/M. Olmedo Torres) Motion to approve the minutes for the September 24, 2018 meeting.

Motion passed 11-0-2.

V. Open Forum

No report.

Director Perkins arrived at 12:37 p.m.

VI. Chair Report

Chair Tila thanked the chair and co-chairs of the committees for completing their member selections. He said that he, Freddie Sanchez, Associate Director, Marketing & Programs; Jasmine Medina, BOD Project Assistant; and Vice Chair Flores Temix were developing a check-in report/process for the committee chairs and co-chairs to assist them with updates, progress reports, and help requests. He stated that the board’s staff meet-and-greet event earlier today went well. He thanked Freddie Sanchez and his team for making the event a success. He said that the next BOD training would focus on the use of parliamentary procedure and encouraged inviting the committee members to participate as well. Chair Tila discussed the schedule for the USU renovation and expansion project focus groups

and asked everyone interested in participating to RSVP to Jeremy Hamlett, Manager, Operations & Facilities Planning. He concluded his report with the announcement of the Associated Students (AS)-USU meet-and-greet event that would take place on November 26.

VII. Vice Chair Report

Vice Chair Flores Temix thanked the participants of the day's BOD meet-and-greet event. She said the purpose of the event was to get to know the people who are essential to the mission of the USU. Without people, the USU would be just buildings. Being on the Board that oversees the organization is of vital importance and that the relationships with people impact the work of the USU. She reminded the Board that the work they do is bigger than them. She also mentioned that Carol Nardini, staff assistant, retired last Friday, October 19. She stated that Carol had been at the USU since 2004 and that she will be missed. She said that until Carol's replacement is found, Jennifer Kim, Executive Administrative Analyst, who has filled in for Carol in the past, will be assisting the Board. Vice Chair Flores Temix thanked the committee chairs and co-chairs for their work in selecting committee members and referenced the handout of committee meeting dates for the fall semester. She also said that she attended the CSUN Grand Reunion and the USU Reunion on Saturday, October 13 and encouraged others to attend these types of events because they are inspiring and empowering. There, she said she met student assistants from the 1990s, former Board directors, chairs and vice chairs. She was able to gain a broader understanding of the significance of her position as vice chair and recognized that it is often difficult to see the significance of the work that is being done. She thanked the USU events team for organizing the event and expressed her appreciation for the vegan options that were available. Vice Chair Flores Temix stated that there would be updates on the USU renovation and expansion project as a discussion item. She encouraged the Board to participate in the focus groups and Renovation and Expansion Committee meetings. She concluded her report by encouraging the board to understand the significance of the renovation and expansion project as well as the significance of EO1100R on future generations and to make informed decisions about the issues.

Chair Tila added that if the committee chairs would like to gift food, study kits, or other items to the committee members, please check in with him for funding as there are funds set aside for those purposes in their budget.

IX. Executive Director Report

Director Hammond said that at a later point there would be a full report about how the Board-approved \$50,000 donation to the CSUN MataCare Emergency Fund to subsidize the renewal of DACA application fees was distributed. She stated that \$25,000 had been transferred to the fund, an additional \$10,000 was transferred in September 2018, and that the remaining balance to be transferred is \$15,000. Director Hammond said the USU collaborated with multiple departments to host the USU reunion at CSUN's 60th Anniversary Grand Reunion. The USU hosted a carnival, tabling reception at the Grand Reunion picnic, a USU facilities tour, and its own reunion, so there were lots of activities, giveaways, and materials distributed. She said the USU's area in the Kids Zone was very popular. She was glad to see so many people come back to the campus. She said a donor of the USU, past board members, and a building manager from 1978 were among the guests. She thanked Audrey Martinez, Manager, USU Events, her team, and the marketing team for making the event happen. The USU marketing team also expanded the USU Facilities Branding Campaign with the addition of two new large format banners. It removed the old, fading banner from the Northridge Center (NRC) with a giant wall banner on the south front wall of the NRC and a large framed banner, featuring a menu of USU services and centers adjacent to the NRC main entrance and AS ticket office. The Branding Campaign began in efforts to increase awareness of the USU and its components. Many students did not realize that the Pride Center, Veterans Resource Center (VRC), Student Recreation Center (SRC), and Games Room are all part of the USU and that the student union fees contribute to all of these parts. Director Hammond stated that she and Beverly Ntagu, President, Associated Students are on the search committee for CSUN's Associate Vice President, Student Success and needed to leave at 1:45 p.m. Director Suarez questioned if the MataCare Emergency Fund donation report would include the reasons why some applicants were denied funds. Director Hammond said that it may be part of the initial report as they are trying to find out as much information as possible.

X. A.S. Report

President Ntagu asked the board to provide any feedback on Big Show so that AS could improve the event for next year. She noted that the AS strategic priorities is a discussion item and that there are 7-8 parts which could include the USU. President Ntagu attended the Graduation Initiative 2025 Symposium in San Diego from October 17-18 and said she would distribute her notes and the event brochure to the board. President Ntagu announced that AS is asking students who they would like to see at Big Lecture. She said last year they had LaVerne Cox speak at Big Lecture and received good feedback. She asked the board to send her requests for lecturers by Friday, October 26. AS is mid-way through its Hundred Days initiative, which brings information about AS and how to get involved on campus to the classrooms in the form of a 15-minute presentation. Advocates have visited 35 classrooms so far and would like suggestions about other classes to visit. She also discussed the Red Couch tour, which provides an opportunity and space for students to talk about what improvements they would like to see on campus. She

encouraged the board to register to vote and to encourage others to register to vote as it is the last day to register for the midterm elections on November 6. She announced that on November 5 there will be a resisting violence discussion and memorial event for Quinten Thomas, a student who passed away while detained at the Twin Towers Correctional Facility. She said the initiative to create a GE task force in response to EO1100 and EO1100R was discussed with Dr. William Watkins, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students and Director Ruelas-Bischoff. It was advised that decisions to move forward should be determined after the Faculty Senate meeting on October 25. It was asked if the GE Task Force would include faculty as well as students. President Ntagu answered that the task force would be comprised of a majority of students, but also a few members of faculty and staff.

XI. Committee Reports

Chair Tila asked the committee chairs to share their reports.

- Diversity & Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee: Chair Frank Benkovic said that eight committee members had been selected and the first meeting is today at 4:00 p.m. in the Calabasas Room. He said he met with the co-chair to discuss the BOD goals and committee goals.
- Facilities & Commercial Services: Chair Michelle Olmedo Torres said that their first meeting is today at 3:30 p.m. in the USU Conference Room. She listed the locations for the fall meetings: November 19 in the Executive Board Room and December 3 in the USU Conference Room. She said they will recap the topics from orientation, discuss meeting dates and goals, and have representatives from the student organization food bank at the meeting. She noted that the meeting is open to the public and that everyone is welcome to attend.
- Finance Committee: Chair Ebot Enaw said that their first meeting was held on October 1 in the Calabasas Room. They discussed orientation and expectations of the committee members. They held another training on October 17 to review parliamentary procedure and the mission of the finance committee. Co-Chair Jesus Suárez added that the next meeting will take place on October 24 where they will vote on committee goals and discuss risk management and contracts. He stated that he is working with some of the committee members who expressed interest in professional development and directing them to resources available at the Career Center. He would like to utilize the available resources on campus and fill in the gap as needed by working with professionals campus wide.
- Personnel Committee: Chair Amber Perkins said the meeting dates for the committee have been scheduled and that the first meeting will be on October 25 at 3:30 p.m. in the Moorpark Room. She said she met with Kristen Pichler, Executive Secretary and Michael Odinlo, co-chair, to discuss committee meeting procedure and the meeting agenda.

XII. Action Items

A. BOD Committee Code - Update

M/S/P (A. Perkins/R. Cetz Tamayo) motion to approve the updated BOD committee code revisions for the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Facilities and Commercial Services Committee, Finance Committee, and Personnel Committee.

Chair Tila said that Director Benkovic and the Diversity and Inclusion Committee brought up as a discussion item last month, the maximum number of student voting members allowed to serve on committees. The board expressed support for increasing the number of student voting members to further student-involvement, leadership experience, and learning opportunities within the USU BOD. The revised committee codes will change the current student voting member maximum requirement from six to eight. Director Eichten noted typos in the committee codes that did not reflect the revision of the maximum of 8 student members. She also noted that the Duties and Responsibilities section for the committee chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee showed the duties and responsibilities for the chair of the Finance Committee. Director Hammond said that the corrections will be made to the committee codes and re-sent to the board members. Vice Chair Flores Temix asked if an amendment to the action would be required, but it was concluded that it was not necessary because the mistakes were typos and not substantive changes.

Motion passed 14-0-0.

XIII. Discussion Items

B. EO1100R (Time Certain 1:15 p.m.)

Student organizers Kelly De Leon, Ruben Ramos, and Fernando Lopez Gonzalez presented on EO1100R and discussed its impacts. De Leon stated that there was a demonstration against EO1100R on September 13 at New Student Convocation, a Boycott on September 26, and a walk-out and protest at the Faculty Senate Meeting on September 27. De Leon stated that EO1100R would decrease the number of ethnic studies, gender and women's studies, and queer studies classes and create a rift between students, the campus, and communities. De Leon said that 67% of incoming CSUN freshman belong to historically underserved communities including Chicana/o/Latina/o, African American, and Native American students and that the executive order would deny

them a well-rounded education and promote a Eurocentric, cookie-cutter education. De Leon discussed the changes that EO1100R would bring to the general education requirements at CSUN and indicated that these changes could lead to an 11-20% decrease in the enrollment of ethnic studies, gender studies, women's studies, and queer studies courses in addition to a loss in course offerings and enrollment in humanities classes. It was also presented that the departments that rely on general education requirements for enrollment would suffer financially and result in the reduction of programs and jobs. Lopez Gonzalez said that many students come from lower income areas that do not have many educational resources. He stated that the developmental courses that he was required to take at CSUN helped him to prepare for his upper division math courses. He said that EO1110 would take away the option to take the developmental course, which he finds necessary to be prepared for more challenging courses. The discussion continued with how EO1100R would threaten CSUN's progress because it ignores the research that diversity/global learning courses and programs are one of the high impact practices that increase student retention and engagement. De Leon said there is a need for diversity education in the current climate and that EO1100R goes against the CSUN mission to prepare students to engage as members of a diverse society, capable of critically addressing issues of gender, race, class, nationality, ethnicity, and sexuality. De Leon discussed the salaries of CSUN's president and interim provost and the cost of an alleged kitchen renovation project at President Harrison's house that could possibly be used for other campus funding priorities. De Leon also discussed the potential loss of faculty of color that would result from EO1100R despite the rising numbers of students of color. De Leon urged the board to attend the meetings and to support the protest of EO1100R held on Tuesdays. The discussion continued with the estimated impact of the proposed general education alignment on upper division course enrollment. De Leon went over the various plans the faculty senate discussed. Plan 0 would be strict compliance and would result in the greatest impact to enrollment in Section F courses. Plan 2 would result in nearly no change in section F enrollment. Plan 3 would result in a sizable decrease in section C and D enrollment and sizable increase in section F enrollment. Plan 4 would result in nearly no change in section C and D enrollment and a small decrease in section F enrollment. Plan 5 would result in a sizable decrease in section C and D enrollment and a sizable increase in section F enrollment. Please reference the *Estimated Impact of Proposed GE Alignment Plans on Upper-Division GE Enrollment* document (page 7) for more details.

Director Suarez thanked the presenters for their time and asked if there was a better way to package the information to be more marketable to students who may not be directly affected by the executive order. De Leon said that there was a video being created to present the information in a more relatable way. Discussion continued with clarification about the curriculum changes that would result from EO1100R and the make-up of the faculty senate. Director Gammage asked which faculty senate plan were the student organizers most likely to support. It was stated that either Plan 3 or Plan 5 would be the better options, but that the ideal solution would be to stop EO1100R. It was discussed that EO1100R resulted from a desire to create uniformity between the 23 CSU campuses, to increase the ability to transfer class units across campuses, and promote Graduation Initiative 2025. Vice Chair Flores Temix added that there is often a one-size-fits-all mentality and that there is a need to challenge that mentality and consider the impacts of EO1100R on diversity and inclusion. Director Cetz Tamayo thanked the student organizers for their time and labor and recognized the emotional investment involved in organizing and protesting these issues. Lopez Gonzalez shared that no cultural classes were offered to him in high school. He learned about cultures from history classes but did not get in depth with his own cultural history until college, where he was able to take Chicano studies courses. He also stated that his high school grade point average was low and that he was afraid he would not be good enough to attend CSUN. It was through the Educational Opportunities Program (EOP) that he was able to realize his potential.

Chair Tila thanked the student organizers for their presentation.

A. AS Strategic Plan 2018-19

President Ntagu stated that she would be sending to the board her notes regarding the areas in which the USU and AS could collaborate on the AS strategic plan.

Vice Chair Flores Temix asked the board to read the 2018-19 AS Strategic Plan in order to better promote collaboration between the USU and AS.

Chair Tila recommended postponing the AS Strategic Plan discussion item to the BOD meeting on November 19.

Director Hammond left at 1:45 p.m.

Director Ntagu left at 1:45 p.m.

Director Gammage left at 1:45 p.m.

C. USU Expansion/Renovation Update

Chair Tila said that the program prioritization, financial model, and new construction and renovation concepts for the project were reviewed in September. He said that the renovation survey that would be distributed to the student body currently was being refined and developed and that focus groups were scheduled for October 22-23. Director Olmedo Torres added that the final survey outline would be presented on October 26 and will launch on November 1. Chair Tila encouraged board members to spread the word about the survey and focus groups to their constituents.

Jimmy Francis, Associate Executive Director said he received an update from Brailsford & Dunlavy (B&D) that the focus groups were going well and that they have received some good feedback so far. He also updated the board on the survey approval process, stating that they currently are working on permissions to send the survey to the entire campus. The previous survey that the USU sent to the entire campus had an impressive 19% return rate. Recently they were able to improve the student fee range, driving down the cost for students. Chair Tila added that there once was a consideration to combine the Multipurpose Event Center (MEC) referendum with the USU Expansion and Renovations project referendum, but that it has been decided to keep the referendums separate to remain specific to what the students need from the USU and what the USU needs to do to provide those needs. It was specified that the USU Expansion and Renovation project was not started to respond to Executive Order 1100. The USU project was started more than two years ago, long before EO 1100R. Francis added that while the project could be seen as tokenism and as an opportunity to respond to the current political climate, the primary focus of the project when it was started was diversity and inclusion. He stated that the survey would include the timeline of the project to clearly represent how long the project has been in the works and that it is not a reactionary project in response to the current events. Chair Tila added that it is important to be transparent with the information regarding the referendum, especially in this political climate. He stated that the student fee has been decreased from an increase of \$500 annually (fall and spring semester) to between \$220 and \$250 annually. This increase would bring CSUN from its current position at number 10 on the CSU student union fee list (highest fee at number 1) to number 5 on the list. After the focus groups and the survey, the recommendation for the project would go to the Campus Fee Advisory Committee for approval for a potential spring 2019 referendum. Director Cetz Tamayo questioned if the focus groups would include deaf students and non-able bodied students. Director Olmedo-Tores answered that this question was discussed during the Renovation and Expansion Committee meeting and it was determined that the focus groups would include a diverse population of students, including deaf and non-able-bodied students from various organizations, and these students preferred not to be included as separate groups. Director Odinlo questioned how the student fee decrease was achieved and it was answered that the square footage of the construction project had decreased significantly. The University Corporation (TUC) had proposed a new catering/banquet space for the campus, which eliminated the need for the USU to provide a new ballroom space. He stated that the cost to renovate the Northridge Center was costlier than rebuilding the needed spaces. The planned catering/banquet space would be built in the campus bookstore annex's current location. Jimmy invited the board members to reach out to Chair Tila if they were interested in attending the Renovation and Expansion Committee meetings.

Director Cetz Tamayo left at 2:00 p.m.

XIV. Announcements

- Director Elizondo said that Unified We Serve will have a campus drive for clothing and food for its homeless program. They will be collecting plastic ponchos, new underwear and socks, and gently-used coats. There will be a competition for university clubs and organizations. The club or organization that donates the most will be awarded \$300. Second and third place prizes are \$200 and \$100 respectively. Donations will be taken at Bayramian Hall, Sierra Hall, and at the Matador Involvement Center (MIC) from October 29 – November 16. Donations also will be accepted at the Oviatt Library steps from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on November 7 and November 15. Another event from Unified We Serve will be the Adopt A Family program. Individuals, groups, clubs, or organizations can donate funds to provide a Thanksgiving holiday meal basket to families in need. Baskets cost between \$40 and \$50. The first CSUN Popup Pantry will take place at the Plaza del Sol on November 30. There will be stations with fresh produce and tables for Cal Fresh prescreening registration. The event will provide information about the CSUN Food Pantry and have a food tasting of recipes made with the ingredients available at the Food Pantry. More information about these events will be distributed to the board via email. The USU has adopted several families in the past and plans to do so this year as well.
- Director Suarez stated that the BOD office will be renovated and he solicited feedback and requests for the renovation. He said that comments could be left in the directors' mailboxes for consideration.
- Director Eichten clarified the discussion about EO1100R. She stated that the legislative process for executive orders involves orders that come directly from the office of the Chancellor that gives instructions to the campus. She also clarified the reference to the kitchen renovations at President Harrison's house. Harrison's home is the University

House, which is owned by the University Corporation. Money for that project is separate from campus funds. She emphasized the importance of accurate information being available to students. She said that educating students and other groups about the different fees and funding methods is important.

X. Adjournment

Chair Tila adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Debra L. Hammond,
Executive Director