## Elections Board Minutes

## ASsquare_logo.tifAssociated Students

2/28/18, 2:00 PM

Nati Conference Room

**CALL TO ORDER**

**A. MEETING BUSINESS**

1. **Roll Call**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Note:** absent (excused/not excused)arrived late (time)departed early (time)proxy (full name) | **Name** | **Note:**absent (excused/not excused)arrived late (time)departed early (time)proxy (full name) |
| Mary Zhu | **Present** | Siddhant Gannu | **Present** |
| John Paul Renteria | **Present** | Stoddy Carey | **Absent**  |
| Davis Quan | **Present** | Kia Sadeghi | **Absent** |
| Andrew Yan | **Present** | Hieu Le | **Absent** |
| Emma Xing | **Present** | Ali Suebert | **Absent** |
| Hattie Grace | **Absent** | Ruth Garcia Guevara | **Present** |
| Jennifer Pantoja | **Present** | Cindy Lopez | **Present** |

**B. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**B.1. Welcome new members**

Ruth: Welcome to Elections Board, I’m the Community Volunteer Coordinator, I’m involved in Elections and have been involved for 10 years. I have institutional knowledge. I’m here to advise y’all and answer any questions y’all have.

Davis: I’m an elections board general member.

Siddhant: Hey, I’m Siddhant. I’m an election board general member and a 1st year Stats major, but I’m thinking of switching to political science.

Cindy: This is my first year in elections, so I’m a little new, but I’ve been a part of AS for 18 years.

Andrew: Hi, my name is Andrew. I’m a 1st year econ accounting major and I did elections in high school.

Emma: Hi, I’m Emma. I’m a 1st year philosophy major, trying to double in history and I did student government in high school.

Mary: I’m a 4th year psych and philosophy double, I’m chair of elections, and I’ve been doing elections since my 2nd year.

JPR: I’m John Paul, and I’m a 3rd year History of Public Policy major and I’m an Elections Board general member.

Ruth: Any initial questions about elections? I’ll go over what we’ve been doing in the past. Right now, we’re doing Declaration of Candidacy. We have a new website for candidates. DOC is our biggest meeting for the winter quarter. An hour and half meeting with candidates and supporters. We’ll have a few speakers, and other folks to talk about what’s going on. It really is a team effort. It’d be great to be there. You can go on the elections website and look at dates so you’ll have them. In this Board, once you’re official, probably next meeting, I’ll have you sign a confidential form. We have had leakers in the past, and the trust of the board was compromised. The other thing, is that you’re not going to participate in anything party related. That means if you’re a supporter or planning to run you can’t be on the board. So, slack is basically group texting, and have everything on there. We will try very hard to have elections code next week. Once the complaints come in, we’re going to have to reference it. The other thing, once you are a part of elections board, you will be a part of the listserv, and receive complaints. During spring, we get a lot of complaints, so we try to group them together. A lot of the job is that, going through a lot of complaints.

[Jennifer walks in]

Jennifer: Hi, I’m Jennifer and I’m a Transfer student from Salinas California, 3rd year English major, I was interested because I wanted to be a part of things.

Ruth: Any questions?

J: How big are elections?

R: It’s pretty big. During the campaigning part, there’s a lot of boards set up, a lot just happens. Making sure everyone is following policy. Sometimes there might not be something in elections code, and we might have to interpret it. We bring in other staff and have their interpretation. I try not to sugar coat it, but it is going to be a lot of work. Spring quarter, we’re going to meet a lot. We just did work on the elections code and it took a while to get done.

Cindy: I have a comment on how big it is. One difference, is that the executive officers get their portion of tuition paid.

Ruth: So, it is a lot of work, but people come back to do it. It is really helpful to have multiple people on the board. I can’t make a decision, we’re just here to advise. I also said my office is right next door. We can meet individually, or you can talk to the Chair if anything comes up.

Jennifer: Do instances like that happen often?

R: It’s rare. It is a special group, so you would have to talk to each other.

**B.2. Fee Initiatives**

Ruth: Part of the ballot, we also have fee initiatives that you all pay for. AS, CLAS, bike committee etc. Departments and AS only are able to put fee initiatives on the ballot. The way that works, is that there is an initial deadline. Our job is to go over language and it follows policy. Read it as a student from a student perspective. That is your job. We have two potential fee initiatives for the ballot. The deadline was last Friday, only one sponsor followed through with the deadline and the other did not. The other requested it to be put it on the ballot. But we need to go over it, and we would have to send it to UCOP. Making sure everything on the fee is crystal clear. The sponsors are asking you to pay for something so that’s why UCOP wants it crystal clear.

Mary: Davis just sent it to you.

Jennifer: Do we give them an extension or what?

Ruth: That is up to y’all. Not only are you giving them an extension but they’ll be behind. Once you set a precedent for this elections season, another person might ask for another extension. Just be mindful of the precedent established for the elections season.

Mary: We’re looking at the specific bottom portions. It’s the part that says 150 words, line 70.

Davis: I don’t think we should give it to him.

Jennifer: Yeah, I agree.

Emma: What was the reason?

Mary: That he sent it to the wrong email.

Andrew: Yeah, I agree.

Siddhant: Yeah, I agree as well.

**Motion not to accept Sami’s fee initiative because he did not submit it before the deadline**.

*First/ Second: Quan/Renteria*

*Vote: 6-0-0*

*Motion passes.*

Ruth: The other fee is hieu’s fee. The board met and edited the ‘NewCen’ fee intiative. The fee collects money thru fees to improve the Ucen. According to him, it will have CLAS rooms, an innovation lab etc. That language went to UCOP and they have already responded with a few questions. The questions they asked is that Ucen is already asking for fees, so what is going to happen to those fees. With this particular fee, our job is to help facilitate and help move it along. It’s a back and forth conversation. What hieu is doing is that he is collecting signatures. Two ways for it to be on the ballot. There is a formula for it to be put on the ballot. The formula is the percentage of students who voted for the AS president the previous year. He needs 3116 signatures for it to be on the ballot. What he does is he physically hands it to me so I can check it. Let’s say he’s short on the signatures, we will let him know. The other option is that he could go through Senate. The reason why is he wants to get signatures is because it has a lower pass threshold. If he goes to Senate, its pass threshold 60% +1. Right now, we’re not doing much with that language. If I have anything I’ll let y’all know. What UCOP is looking for is compliance and transparency. For the ballot also, in April there’s a deadline for Pro and Con statement, we don’t edit those and just put it on that website.

Jennifer: Does he have any sponsors?

Ruth: Because this is a capital project, he went to campus planning commission. They deal with numbers and stuff and he got approval from them. As far as sponsors, I don’t think so. I have seen no official sponsorships because of our tricky policies. For the most part, we don’t allow AS resources for campaigning.

Andrew: Is the UCen open during this time?

Ruth: That’s a good question because we don’t know.

Jennifer: Why are the students being charged for this facility? Why can’t the state pay for it?

Ruth: That’s another good question.

**B.3. Board placement/map**

Ruth: In the past, people would be allowed to come onto campus to establish their boards on campus. It happens the Sunday of Week 3 at 8pm. It was bad, someone actually got hurt. So, what the board came up with is a lottery system, we’re going to create a program to where everyone is going to be and allowed to be put their boards. We will be there on that Sunday, and what we do is to make sure everyone is following guidelines. We’re just enforcing all the polices, the University’s policies as well.

Jennifer: What do we do if we see a board out of compliance?

Ruth: We don’t touch it, we send the picture to the party liaison.

Mary: My plan was to use to use interactive maps, but another route I’m taking is getting something big. Right now, we’re not sure where we can get it.

Davis: the concept is kind of like a draft. Each party and independent candidate is giving a rolled number, picking board placements.

Cindy: Do you know what it is going to happen?

Andrew: Why does it have to be a paper copy?

Mary: We can’t finish the interactive map on time.

Ruth: It would be up to them where they could put it.

**B.4. Elections Gear and Misc.**

John Paul: So, I met with Chelsea and told her some of the design plans and colors we were able to use. We’re going to be using orange and white, and we’re going to be having t-shirts, stickers/stickpins, and flyers. The flyers will have three dates on them: Candidate forums, The start of voting, and the end of voting. I should be able to show it to y’all by next week.

Mary: Alright. Moving on, last year when we tabled we didn’t have a table cloth, so I recommend we get one for this year when we table.

Ruth: Also, before we end today’s meetings, we should be able to give y’all copies of the revised elections code by next week.

**Motion to allocate $400 to buy a table cloth for tabling and to print copies of the revised election code.**

*First/Second: Quan/Pantoja*

*Vote: 6-0-0*

*Motion Passes.*

Mary: So, we’ll be meeting this Friday to talk about board placements. And, we’ll meet for the last time next Wednesday and have Declaration of Candidacy next Thursday.

**Meeting Adjourned at 3:11 by Mary Zhu.**