

**Associated Students of Santa Monica College**  
**A.S. Board of Directors Regular Meeting**  
**September 23, 2013 3:00 PM**  
**Cayton Center, Room #202**  
**MINUTES**  
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**I. Call to Order 3:02 PM**

**II. Roll Call**

AS President: Ty Moura P	Director of Student Advocacy: Okky Jaya P
AS Vice President: Alex Vandertol P	Director of Publicity: Michael Greenberg P
AS Secretary: Diana Echeverria	Director of Student Outreach: VACANT
Director of Student Services: VACANT	ICC Chair: Jasmine Jafari P
Director of Sustainability: Halie Wilis P LA 5:00	ICC Vice Chair: Maya Kaitel L 3:39
Director of AcSupp/S.G.: Maryam Allameh P LA 5:22	ICC Communications Officer: Sarah Yoseph P
Director of Activities: Matthew Nicholson P	Student Trustee: Jesse Ramirez P
Director of Inst. & Tech. Support: Cyrus Hosseini P	Dean of Student Life: Deyna Hearn P
Director of Budget Management: VACANT	Counselor/Student Advisor: Benny Blaydes P

**III. Approval of Agenda  
motion to approve by Michael, second**

**IV. Approval of Minutes for September 16, 2013  
motion to approve by Michael, second**

**V. Public Comments (2 minutes per person)**

**John Kent Ethridge III:** I publically endorse Cassey and Inayat. Inayat and I met at Santa Monica high school. I have seen him truly care about this organization. He always looked out and looked if expenditures were in the right place. I got to see how much Casey cared about students especially those in low income communities.

**VI. Presentations**

6.1 Rebranding A.S. (Michael Greenberg, Publicity).

**Michael:** Before you tell people how great it is to join AS, they have to know what AS is. Something has to come to mind when you say AS. Nobody is going to remember anything is there is too much information being flown to them. Everybody on this campus should know the AS logo. Before we get people involved in AS, we have to have them know what AS is. We need to give AS a brand. Then we can start expanding.

**Okky:** The reason why students are involved in AS IS THAT THEY DON'T WANT TO be involved in their community college. People are involved in honor society because they get benefits; it helps them get into college.

**Ty:** We do have the resources available they just aren't presented in the best manner they can be presented.

**Michael:** If you have to gain trust. You have to believe in the organization before putting your trust in it.

**Jasmine:** We can have the AS logo on the AS sticker and in the Cayton computer lab.

**Ty:** We should have an AS logo everyplace that AS touches.

**Michael:** Once people start talking about it, they want to know more and more.

**Ty:** What about social media presence?

**Michael:** We need to use social media. That is branding power.

6.2 Presentation on A.S. Clothing (Michael Greenberg, Office Supplies and Fashion Committee)

**Michael:** These are the ideas for clothing. Are options are t-shirts, sweaters, button up shirts and polos.

**Ty:** We can sell some in the bookstore.

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**VII. Consent Action Items (Less than \$1,000)**

**7.1** Approval of funding for **Associated Students Board of Directors** to take the students from Student Government 81 class and A.S. Board of Directors to the Holocaust Museum. This includes a donation to the Holocaust Museum. (Maryam, Special Projects: \$300.00).

*Consent action items approved unanimously*

**VII.Action Items**

**8.1.** Approval of filling vacancies for the **Associated Students Board of Directors** for the following positions

**Michael:** The board received many applications and a committee is formed to screen them. Today, we have 7 nominations for the 3 positions.

**Ty:** If you do not approve of the committee's nominations, you don't have to vote for anybody.

**Michael:** according to our constitution, if none of these people receives 50% + 1 of the board's approval, we will reopen the application process for 2 weeks

**-Director of Budget Management**

**Inayat:** I can contribute my passion for finance and managing a budget and my passion for joining student government. If elected, I promise to uphold the SMC values. I want to be in a position to help students at SMC be future leaders.

**Michael:** How long have you been involved with AS?

**Inayat:** Last year I was Cecile's commissioner. I have been involved for about a year now.

**Lei Ji:** My major is applied mathematics. Last year I was commissioner for last year's student affairs. I have thought of ways to improve. I was told I was not like a commissioner; I was like the director of budget management. The experience of working with working with AS, and mathematics, will help me be director of budget management.

**Michael:** How long have you been at SMC?

**Lei:** About a year

**Okky:** what's your previous experience with budget?

**Lei:** I worked at H&M and I learned the how the budget worked.

**Jasmine:** Have you ever been in a finance meeting?

**Lei:** No

**Noah:** I have always had an interest in business since I was in high school. I have taken all the business classes I need to transfer. I was also the president of the financial investment club. I have worked at a hospital doing accounting recording. My goal as a budget manager is to maximize the revenues. I plan to do this by working with donations and fundraising. A lot of companies like to give to associations for tax write offs. I think this position of AS budget manager is good for a lot of reasons. It gives me an opportunity to change the school for the better and work with my passions of budget. Some of the best experiences are through meeting people and I think this would be a great opportunity to expand on that. I have been a part of AS.

**Jasmine:** In the future we have to emphasize that they have to say in their speech their experiences for the position

**Michael:** Inayat has a lot of experience in the AS office.

**Ty:** He is doing our budget right now. He seems to be taking care of it well. Lei Ji has worked for a company in Hong Kong as an intern. Noah has incredible experience in his application.

**Okky:** I would like to know their motive for joining AS.

**Jasmine:** You can look at their essays. Inayat mentioned his passion but no experience, Noah spoke about his experience but no passion. Lei doesn't know about the fiscal policy. Don't

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punish people for working hard. We need to let people grow.

*Votes: 8 for Inayat Issa, 0 for Lei Ji, 0 for Noah Yoseloff*  
***Inayat Issa appointed as the new Director of Budget Management***

-Director of Student Affairs

**Yseniya:** I feel like I am really passionate because I was also president of club grow and am currently president of eco action. I have been involved in a lot of clubs on campus. I want to make our food healthier without changing it too much. I am a foreign student and there is a big issue that we have a big problem with housing. My main goal would be to work on the cost of textbooks and improving the cafeteria.

**Okky:** Why do you fit into the position?

**Kseniya:** I am really passionate about improving the cafeteria. I want to improve and listen to students. Students and vendors have different ideas. I would like to be a liaison between students and vendors.

**Abrasham:** I knew since the summer that I applied to SMC that I wanted to be part of the Associated Students. I wasn't to make this school prosper more than it does. I genuinely knew how great this school was and the opportunities it gives us. I strongly believe in the idea of students experiencing the same experiences they have in a four year university. I want them to have a great time in college. I strongly believe in finishing something you start. I always put dedication and priority in finishing what I started. I know that every student here deserves the chance to be successful.

**Jasmine:** What would you change at smc?

**Abrasham:** I know that this is a non smoking school, but students still smoke. I really want to improve that. I have seen trash cans overflowed and not taken care of. The bathrooms can definitely use some improvement. I think it is important for a student to feel comfortable at their school.

**Michael:** I feel that this position is heavily dependent on connecting all the sides of the campus together. I feel like Abrasham has a lot of good ideas but doesn't have the experience as the other candidate. This is her first year.

**Jasmine:** Although Kseniya has been involved in AS, but she doesn't know much about her student affairs. As far as the specifics to the position, Kseniya didn't put any effort into knowing what the position requires in both the interview and the speech. Abrasham seemed to be more specific to the position.

**Michael:** The duties of this position are vague.

**Ty:** I feel that ever since we changed the name, it made it confusing.

*Votes: 7 for Kseniya Lyalina, 3 for Abrasham*  
***Kseniya Lyalina appointed as the new Director of Student Affairs***

-Director of Student Outreach

Cassandra Ramirez: I am an environmental studies major. Outreach to me means pushing out of our comfort zone and come out to students. As director of outreach, I would like to closely work with publicity. I am invested in helping you complete your goals with you. We are students helping students. I have chosen to participate in AS as a commissioner, DPAC, grade appeals, and the leadership retreat. Without much knowledge of AS, I learned all I could and shared it with students.

**Okky:** Why do you think you fit in this position? What have you done in the past that relates to

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the position? What are your goals to make students involved?

**Cassandra:** I just started being part of AS in the spring. I have volunteered to be part of VIP welcome day and talk to students and inviting people to be part of committees and commissioners. I would work closely with publicity. I want to rebrand AS, I want it to be a campus-hold name. I want them to know we represent them.

**Alex Abramoff:** I have realized that this is a special group. I have been working with every part of this campus to build a better campus community. I have been working with the alumni association, the clubs, AS and spreading positivity and pride of being part of SMC. Our society has issues; to ignore those issues is a failure. I am passionate about working with people. I do my best to reach out to people.

**Okky:** How do you make all students involves? What method would you use?

**Alex:** Visiting campus organizations, clubs. I have been going to the board of trustees meeting, board meeting. Associated Students work with these people. We should know what's going on.

**Alex V.:** We spoke about what you were planning on doing, how being a director of outreach would change what you already are planning on doing in student involvement?

**Alex:** I would be able to visit a lot more arenas. I have expressed what our school deserves to have. One student saying it is a lot less powerful than having the support of the board.

**Michael:** Do you feel that working with administration and with us would create a conflict? Sometimes what we want is completely different from administrators. Would you feel conflicted?

**Alex:** I work with the administration, not for them. I don't fulfill any plan that the administration might be having unless it directly aligns with what is best for students. I think it would be very self-backstabbing if I worked for administration and neglect students' desires.

**Alex V.:** How do you feel about AB955?

**Alex:** I can say that if this board were to vote down AB955, I would be in full support of the board simply because that is what the board decides.

**Michael:** It's difficult to play two roles. I know Alex works with the administration but I feel like it would be a conflict of interest.

**Jasmine:** We are voting on having a board that represents our entire student body.

**Okky:** Having someone who has ties with administrators can influence them

**Jesse:** This is the toughest one. I know that Cassandra and Alex are both involved in our college. Alex is involved with administrators and faculty. Alex is someone you want in outreach. He already has an open door to everyone. Cassandra's heart is in place.

**Alex V.:** I really liked that Cassandra said that she wanted to make AS cool. They are not in general cool. I think she can do that. Something I would like to promote is student activism.

**Michael:** The team mentality is very important. I know that Cassandra is a very strong team member.

**Cyrus:** I believe Alex Abramoff has the ability of being a leader.

*Votes: 5 for Cassandra Ramirez, 4 for Alex Abramoff*

***Cassandra Ramirez appointed as the new Director of Outreach***

*Motion to table the election code to next week, to the September 30<sup>th</sup>, Second*

- 8.2. Approval of adopting an opposing or supporting stance on the California Modernization Economic Developing (CMED) Act by the **Associated Students Board of Directors**. (Ty Moura, AS President).

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- 8.3. Approval of adopting an opposing or supporting stance on the AB955 Bill by **the Associated Students Board of Directors**. (Ty Moura, AS President).

**VIII. Major Action Items (\$1,000 or greater)**

**Motion to approve action items by Jasmine, Second.**

- 9.1. Approval of funding for **Associated Students Board of Directors** for purchasing office supplies. This includes coffee, cliff bars, Halloween candy, sugar and creamer. (Ty, AS President, Office: \$2,000.00)

*Action Item approved unanimously*

- 9.2. Approval of funding for **SMC Public Policy Institute** to fund SMC Annual Public Symposium as a donation. (Richard, Student Success: up to \$10,000.00)  
Tavhildaran: we are the only cc to provide an aa degree in one of five areas. This is our first year on focusing on arts and cultural affairs. We have graduated 46 students with an AA degree in public policy. This is not just to give money this a request for partnership. The early ask is for there to be seed money. In the spring we have our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual spring symposium. We couldn't have done it last year without AS. We serve upwards to 3,000 students and community members. We need to work with tandem with students. All of the money comes in pieces.

**Ty:** I think the students had great input from the symposium.

**Michael:** What are the different organizations that are contributing?

**Tavhildaran:** The actual dollar figure is up in the air. I would like to have AS support in front of the city of Santa Monica. The budget is a draft. That's because we are looking at other people being invited. These are going to cost money. We are going to be in flux a bit.

**Jasmine:** This is strictly donation because there is no budget. I think it would be helpful to have a more finalized budget.

**Tavhildaran:** I think you guys have a requirement to be invoiced. The money is put into the public policy institute at the santa monica foundation. It would not help one component but several components.

**Michael:** I would prefer to see one specific thing to be completely funded by the associated students.

**Ty:** If we could have AS publicity over the week, we would feel more comfortable. I would feel like it would be more of a partnership.

*Action Item approved unanimously*

**IX. Director/Advisor/Committee Reports**

**Jasmine:** the elections committee has been meeting. The reason we tried to approve it early is that it takes me months to make the changes. ICC constitution committee has had 2 meetings. Club awareness day is Thursday.

**Alex:** October 1<sup>st</sup> will be the first open forum.

**Cassandra:** Thank you for electing me

**Michael:** I'll be asking the directors to take pictures of those who are willing to post around school

**Dean Hearn:** If I call your name, take the ferpa assessment: Ty, Alex, Diana, Okky, Maryam, Halie. I need to know those who are attending the CCSAA. If you cancel after you purchase your tickets, you have to pay the money back. The conference starts on Friday but most events happen on Saturday.

Jasmine, Michael, Alex, Diana, Maya and Matt are going.

**X. Adjournment 5:53 PM**

*Motion Jasmine, second*