



Associated Students of Santa Monica College

A.S. Board of Directors Regular Meeting

April 27, 2020, 3:00 p.m., Zoom/Telephone

Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA, 90405

Associated Students Office Phone Number: (310) 434-4250

MINUTES

I. Call to Order – 3pm

II. Roll Call

P	President , Daniel Cha	P	Director Student Assistance , Safa Saleem
P	Vice President , Yongha Hwang	P	Director Instructional Support , Alexis Gosselin
P	Director Budget Management , Skander Zmerli	P	Director Publicity , Sabina Lee
P	Secretary , Nathan Silberberg	P	Director Sustainability , Adriel Ghadoushi
P	Director Activities , Carla Claire	P	ICC Chair , Natalie Lim
P	Director Outreach , Tafari Alan	P	ICC Vice Chair , Gabriella Montgomery
L	Director Community Relations , Ching Yi Yu	P	ICC Communications Officer , Girard Dela Roca
P	Director Student Advocacy , Summer Le	P	Student Trustee , Brooke Harrington

P	Associate Dean : Dr. Isaac Rodriguez Lupercio	P	Counselor/Advisor : Benny Blaydes
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III. Public Comments (2 Minutes Per Speaker)

- **Lizzy Moore**: happy to see all the students
- **Reema Alshamari**: in opposition with the resolutions wording of the correlation between anti-Zionism to anti-Semitism
- **Divina Davidds**: in opposition the linking of anti-Zionism to anti-Semitism in this resolution; agrees with the sentiments of Reema
- **Mohammed Batata**: here to request the exclusion of the IHRA definition in the resolution of anti-Semitism due to its correlation to anti-Zionism to anti-Semitism
- **Motion for 1 more minute for Mohammed**: ICC Chair, 2nd by Dir. Of Budget Management
- **Natalie Lim**: Denice Abrami an SJP member at another college: linking anti-Zionism to anti-Semitism is incorrect and immoral; Zionism equates religion and is not correct; hate speech has no place on campus and anti-Semitism should have no place on campus
- **Motion for 1 more minute for Natalie**: Dir. of Budget Management, 2nd by Dir. of Activities
- **Carla Claire**: the resolution should include other marginalized groups to feel safe and opposes the resolution if not more inclusive
- **Summer Le**: remind everyone that a town hall will be this week and highly recommends everyone to attend that as well for further conversation
- **Chern Xun Gan**: went over particular parts about the Brown Act’s laws about public comments
- **Chloe Levian**: a Persian Jewish student that supports Israel’s existence in the Middle East; here in support of the resolution
- **Anna**: a Jewish student at another college and opposes the resolution due to its correlation between anti-Zionism to anti-Semitism
- **Raphael Eissa**: member of National SJP: spoke of Canary Mission issues and blacklisting; Zionism is a political project and closes discussion; urges AS to vote against this resolution
- **Safa Saleem**: urges all AS Directors to pay attention, not to be on their phones, and be respectful to the public
- **Gabriella Montgomery**: agrees with the previous sentiments of Safa; everyone should be patient with the President; responds to Trump being called anti-Semitic by a member of the public: he moved the embassy to Jerusalem, his grandkids are Jewish as well as his own daughter and he is very pro-Jewish and pro-Israel

* The Board reserves the right to modify the order of the business at any time during the meeting.

Contact: Associate Dean of Student Life, Dr. Isaac Rodriguez Lupercio, rodriguez_isaac@smc.edu; 310-434-4554;

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IV. Approval of Minutes — April 20, 2020

- **Motion to approve:** Secretary, 2nd by Dir. Of Student Assistance

V. Student Trustee Report — Brooke Harrington (5 minutes)

- Wanted to point out that this resolution is not being voted today; thanks to everyone voicing their opinions;
- Trustee meeting from April 7th: Covid-19 updates: some funding is being given from state level government to specific programs on campus; talk of extending Spring semester until June 30th but is unlikely; Pass/NoPass deadline has been relaxed; all nursing classes have been cancelled

VI. Discussion Items

6.1 Guest Speaker- Lizzy Moore, Dean, Institutional Advancement

- Working in tandem with people from her dept. to give out laptops for students in need; gave a full explanation behind all the technical and logistical operations of the food systems SMC provides; the centralized food pantry will be called the Bodega on main campus; has been handing out hundreds of bags of food and other necessities to students in need right now due to Covid-19.

- **Motion for 3 more minutes:** Secretary, 2nd by Dir. Of Outreach

6.2 Expressing Solidarity for Jewish Students at Santa Monica College Resolution- Nathan Silberberg

- Secretary: the resolution aims to protect Jewish students on campus from discrimination; this resolution is a first step in the no-hate campaign for SMC
- ICC Chair: has concerns with linking anti-Zionism to anti-Semitism; AS should not make any political stance in regard to this resolution
- Dir. of Student Advocacy: the parts about Israel should be removed from the definitions in the resolution
- ICC Vice Chair: in regard to the claim that AS should not take a political decision, in 2018 the AS board showed support for political votes on state legislature so AS has and can take political sides
- Dir. of Sustainability: has fear to speak about his support for Zionism on and off campus; finds it hypocritical of AS to not support Jewish students here through this resolution if AS stands for being inclusive and supportive of all students at SMC; disgusted with this AS board for not listening to the threats being brought forward by Jewish SMC students
 - **Motion for 10 more minutes:** Secretary, 2nd by Dir. Of Outreach
- Dir. Of Activities: no one should be afraid to speak up about themselves; one group shouldn't be of focused and protected; anti-Zionism is not linked to anti-Semitism;
- Dir. Of Instructional Support: in support of passing this resolution and AS but it needs amending; we should condemn anti-Semitism wherever and whenever it occurs; Radical Alert should be condemned
- Dir. of Budget Management: understands the fear of being religious or political; does not believe that AS should protect only 1 specific group and not include others
- Dir. of Student Outreach: AS has taken political stances that have to do with student government; to single out and protect 1 specific group is not productive; this should have gone to the AS Constitution committee; not sure if this resolution should be put into the AS constitution as then it will be a lengthy process to remove it in the future
 - **Motion for 10 more minutes:** Dir. Of Outreach, 2nd by Student Trustee
- ICC Vice Chair: some of marginalized communities that are being targeted are being protected, however, the Jewish students are not protected enough and are currently receiving hate and discrimination continuously with no assistance or clear guidance from the SMC administration; is ashamed to be on this AS board; protecting Jewish students is a human rights issue
- Student Trustee: would appreciate if the rest of discussion that singling out did not happen; appreciates that this resolution brings to light the issues facing the Jewish community; believes that anti-Zionism is not linked to anti-Semitism; AS should not take a political stance on this topic
 - **Motion for another 10 minutes:** Student Trustee, 2nd by Secretary

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- Dir. Of Activities: we should not single out a certain group; mirrors what Student Trustee said above; we should condemn online websites that target students
- Dir of Advocacy: anti-Zionism can and does lead to anti-Semitism; we should protect all students not just one specific group; this is a first step to protecting students on or off campus and not just Jewish students
- Dir. Of Sustainability: will and has the right to call out people who are anti-Semitic
- Secretary: disturbed to be on this AS board; has condemned online blacklisting websites last year on last year’s AS Board and continues to condemn these hateful groups; has faced anti-Semitism in person as well as online on social media; would like to affirm that this is a draft and will amend the resolution; protecting Jewish students now sets a precedent that Jewish students are cared for and have a voice on campus now and hopefully in the future; throughout history, Jews have repeatedly been pressured to abandon their sense of Jewish peoplehood and the ethnic component of their Jewish identity; Jews are a people and deserve to be protected like a people, just as any other group would be.
- Dir. of Activities: Nathan said he would amend the document; we should not protect just 1 group but protect all;
 - **Motion for 10 minutes:** Secretary, 2nd by Dir. Of Outreach
- Dir. of Instructional Support: supports the idea of protecting Jewish students; we are all allowed to speak up against hate speech but can’t completely restrict it; appreciates resolution’s origins
- Dir. of Outreach: would like to reiterate that this should be sent to the AS Constitutional committee
- ICC Vice Chair: the reason behind calling out directors is to hold directors accountable; there is no specific protection of Jewish students and that’s what this resolution is speaking on
- Dir. of Budget Management: thinks that Palestinian side of the conflict should have more time to speak today
 - **Motion to allow a member of the public: Hesham Jarmakani: speak for 3 minutes:** Dir. of Budget Management, 2nd by ICC Chair

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B	Vice President, Yongha Hwang	B	Director Instructional Support, Alexis Gosselin
A	Director Budget Management, Skander Zmerli	B	Director Publicity, Sabina Lee
B	Secretary, Nathan Silberberg	N	Director Sustainability, Adriel Ghadoushi
A	Director Activities, Carla Claire	A	ICC Chair, Natalie Lim
A	Director Outreach, Tafari Alan	N	ICC Vice Chair, Gabriella Montgomery
	Director Community Relations, Ching Yi Yu		ICC Communications Officer, Girard Dela Roca
B	Director Student Advocacy, Summer Le		Student Trustee, Brooke Harrington

- With a majority vote, the member of the public: Hesham Jarmakani is allowed to speak for 3 minutes
 - Hesham Jarmakani: Spoke in opposition of the drafted resolution.
- **Motion to allow a member of the public: Justin Feldman: speak for 3 minutes:** Dir. of Sustainability, 2nd by ICC Vice Chair

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A	Vice President, Yongha Hwang	B	Director Instructional Support, Alexis Gosselin
A	Director Budget Management, Skander Zmerli	B	Director Publicity, Sabina Lee

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B	Secretary , Nathan Silberberg	A	Director Sustainability , Adriel Ghadoushi
A	Director Activities , Carla Claire	A	ICC Chair , Natalie Lim
B	Director Outreach , Tafari Alan	A	ICC Vice Chair , Gabriella Montgomery
	Director Community Relations , Ching Yi Yu		ICC Communications Officer , Girard Dela Roca
B	Director Student Advocacy , Summer Le		Student Trustee , Brooke Harrington

- With a majority vote, the member of the public: Justin Feldman is allowed to speak for 3 minutes
 - Justin Feldman: Spoke in favor of the drafted resolution.

VII. Director Reports (2 Minutes Each)

7.1 President — Daniel Cha

- There is a meeting this Wednesday and would like to see directors be there to answer the public

7.2 Vice President — Yongha Hwang

- Think before you speak; this is a critical and difficult conversation that should be continued with professionalism

7.3 Secretary — Nathan Silberberg

- Every AS Director has the right to write a resolution; do research and think before speaking

7.4 Dir. Budget Management — Skander Zmerli

- Anti-Semitism is a sensitive topic and should be addressed; no one should feel ashamed; thanks all for being present and speaking up in today's discussion

7.5 Dir. Publicity — Sabina Lee

- Everyone should participate in the No Hate Campaign video sent out through email

7.6 Dir. Student Outreach — Tafari Alan

- Personal remarks and calling out directors is out of order according to Roberts Rules; does not agree with the limiting of the conversation of the resolution today; there is a Wednesday town hall meeting for the public to speak with the board

7.7 Dir. Student Advocacy — Summer Le

- Loved how involved the meeting was today and hopes to see public join the conversation on Wednesday

7.8 Dir. Student Assistance — Safa Saleem

- Gabriella and no other director should be cut off when speaking; directors are responsible to be at these meetings and be respectful; asks for directors to not speak on topics that they do not know enough on; holding AS Directors accountable is just; is ashamed to be on this AS board

7.9 Dir. Community Relations — Ching Yi Yu

7.10 Dir. Sustainability — Adriel Ghadoushi

- Earth week had over 400 students and had positive feedback about being sustainable at home as well; it was 50th anniversary of earth day; extra credit is still being given for joining in on the event virtually

7.11 Dir. Activities — Carla Claire

- The conversation was long and tedious but necessary for today; cutting off directors is not right; welcomes conversation about anything during the town hall later on this week; happy to soon host open mic night as well AS got talent show

7.12 Dir. Instructional Support — Alexis Gosselin

- Appreciates the concern and conversation for the resolution; has sent out an email out about denim day virtual event

7.13 ICC Chair — Natalie Lim

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- Secretary said he would amend the document as needed; any other director may write a resolution like the Secretary did; would like to see an Asian discrimination resolution

7.14 ICC Vice-Chair – Gabriella Montgomery

- Upset that she was muted and not allowed to speak on her turn

7.15 ICC Communications – Girard Dela Roca

VIII. Advisor Reports

8.1 Benny Blaydes, Counselor/Advisor

- April 30th is last day to apply for AA degrees

8.2 Dr. Isaac Rodriguez Lupercio, Associate Dean/Advisor

- Happy that the public joined and voiced their concerns to the AS Board today

IX. Adjournment - 6:38pm

- **Motion to adjourn:** Dir. of Sustainability, 2nd by Dir. of Budget Management

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