



Associated Students of Santa Monica College

A.S. Finance Regular Meeting

Feb. 14, 2024, 11:00 a.m. Cayton Center A.S. Conference Room (2nd Floor)

1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, College 90405

The Public may join via: Zoom/Telephone

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/92686613618>

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

Minutes

I. Call to Order @ 11:11 AM

II. Roll Call

Voting:

Director Budget Management: David Duncan P

President: Cecilia Jeong P

Director of Sustainability: Joseph Sanchez P

ICC Vice Chair: Zach Makari P

Director of Auxiliary: David Dever P

Counselor/Advisor: Benny Blaydes P

Non-voting:

Dean of Education Enterprises: Mitch Heskell P

Associate Dean: Thomas Bui P

III. Public Comment (2 minutes per speaker): none.

IV. Approval of Minutes – 10/25/23, 11/8/23, 11/15/23, 11/22/23, 12/7/23

- Minutes from 10/25/23, 11/8/23, 11/15/23, 11/22/23, and 12/7/23 were approved without objection.

V. Minor Action Items (under \$1000): none.

VI. Major Action Items (equal or over \$1000):

- 6.1** Approval for Sustainability Speakers Open to SMC Students Spring 2024 by the Earth Science Department (Professor Gillian Grebler: Cost \$8,500.00. Requesting \$3,250.00. Sustainability) **Proposal 325**
- Motion to table item 6.1 until the next meeting due to a request that the Earth Science Department take more time to explore alternative funding sources by Counselor/Advisor Benny Blaydes. Seconded. Item was tabled without objection.
- 6.2** Approval for Student Showcase by the Design Technology Department (Department Chair Sheila Cordova: Cost \$5,800.00. Requesting \$5,800.00. Activities) **Proposal 326**
- Motion to table item 6.2 until the end of the meeting due to absence of department representative by Counselor/Advisor Benny Blaydes. Seconded. Item was tabled without objection.
 - Motion to table item 6.2 until the next meeting due to continued absence of department representative by Counselor/Advisor Benny Blaydes. Seconded. Item was tabled without objection.
- 6.3** Approval for State Advocacy - March in March and SSCCC Lobby Day by Associated Students (A.S. Director of Budget Management David Duncan and A.S. Director of External Affairs Esmeralda Hernandez: Cost \$8,000.00. Requesting \$8,000.00. Student Representation Fee) **Proposal 327**
- Motion to strike item 6.3 due to proposal being withdrawn at request of submitter by Counselor/Advisor Benny Blaydes. Seconded. Item was struck without objection.
- 6.4** Approval for Persian New Year by Middle Eastern Club (Club President Niki Aghili: Cost \$11,000.00. Requesting \$1,000.00. ICC Allotment. Requesting \$8,000.00. Activities) **Proposal 328**
- Motion to amend item 6.4 to reduce the amount requested from ICC Allotment to \$600.00 and increase the amount requested from Activities to \$8,400.00 due to technical issues with the Middle Eastern Club's club registration paperwork by A.S. President Cecilia Jeong. Seconded. Item was amended without objection.



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- Motion to amend item 6.4 to reduce the cost to \$9,000.00 and reduce the amount requested from Activities to \$6,400.00 due to request to cut the amount allocated for a Persian ice cream cart from \$2,700.00 to \$700.00 by Counselor/Advisor Benny Blaydes. Seconded. Motion withdrawn by Counselor/Advisor Benny Blaydes before a vote could take place.
- Item 6.4 was approved as amended with a unanimous vote.

VII. Informational Items

7.1 Beginning-of-semester Budget Update

- A.S. Director of Budget Management David Duncan gave a brief overview of the state of the A.S. budget by reviewing the A.S. actuals as of the end of last year. He briefly discussed a few areas of spending that went over budget and suggested measures to reallocate funds to fix the overages.
- Dean of Education Enterprises Mitch Heskell briefly discussed A.S. revenue trends. Changes allowing students to more easily opt-out of paying A.S. fees has created a headwind for revenue generation, although it has not affected revenue as badly as some expected.

VIII. Discussion Items:

8.1 Beginning-of-semester Budget Discussion

- The committee discussed how to fix an error that had resulted in some expenditures being allocated to the wrong line.
- The committee briefly discussed how to best approach restricted lines that are low on funding (Student Success, Basic Needs) and restricted lines that have relatively high amounts of available funding (Cayton Center, Student Representation Fee).

IX. Other Action Item:

9.1 Budget Reforecast

- A.S. Director of Budget Management David Duncan proposed that the committee reforecast the budget to add \$1,000.00 to the Office line and \$1,000.00 to the Publicity line, reducing the Sustainability budget by \$2,000.00 to compensate. Both the Office and Publicity lines were slightly over budget while Sustainability spending was significantly below typical levels at this time in the year.
- Motion to reallocate \$2,000.00 from Sustainability to cover a \$1,000.00 increase in the Office budget and a \$1,000.00 increase in the Publicity budget by Counselor/Advisor Benny Blaydes. Seconded. Reallocation was approved with a unanimous vote.

X. Director and Committee Reports (2 minutes per speaker):

- A.S. Director of Budget Management David Duncan discussed how the committee will approach fiscal policy revisions throughout the upcoming semester. He plans to agendaize "Fiscal Policy Revisions" as a running discussion item starting at the next meeting.
- A.S. President Cecilia Jeong discussed her plans to resurrect the A.S. student journal.
- ICC Vice Chair Zach Makari discussed the ICC's experimental program to give each club a \$35.00 allotment for expenses incurred preparing for last year's club row event. He wants to increase the usage of these allotments, suggesting that the allotment be increased to as much as \$70.00 for the next club row event.

XI. Advisor Reports:

- Counselor/Advisor Benny Blaydes gave an update on the ongoing issues with the FAFSA rollout.

XII. Adjournment @ 12:43 PM

- Motion to adjourn by President Cecilia Jeong. Seconded.