ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.

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Agenda Elections Commission

Friday, April 15, 2022 10:00 AM Zoom Meeting

*This meeting is being facilitated through an online zoom format, consistent with the Governor’s Executive Order N25-20, suspending certain open meeting law restrictions.*

1. Called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Sophia Arlantico, Chairperson
2. Roll Call

**Voting Members Present:** Cindy Romero, Jonathan Molina-Mancio, Alex Alvarado

**Voting Members Absent:**

Advisors Present: Adam Kasarda, Raven Emmert

Advisors Absent:

Visitors: Natalia Garcia

1. Approval of Agenda – Action Item

\*M/Romero, S/Molina-Mancio to approve the agenda as submitted.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

1. Approval of Minutes (March 18, 2022) – Action Item

\*M/Romero, S/Alvarado to approve the tabling of the minutes from March 18, 2022.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

1. Report

**Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator**- Emmert received the question from The Office of Student Affairs, the questions they’ll be putting on their ballot for the Recreation Center. They have requested that Big Pulse is their voting platform; on behalf of them Emmert will configure their ballot. It will be a single question ballot which she will start working on.

**College of Health and Human Services Representative**- Arlantico reported that voting has been concluded and she had the opportunity to read the results at the BOD Commission. The elections were successful, and the results were accepted as well. She feels very satisfied with the results and the work this commission has done.

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business
   1. Elections 2022 Assessment – Discussion Item

The Commission will revisit Elections 2022 practices and reassess best practices for next year.

Emmert shared a document with the Commission notes she’s taken over the last few months in regard to the elections process. Her first goal would be to streamline the application submission process. Emmert feels that some applicants did not understand that it was a multi-step process and that the inquiry was the application. She’d like to refine this next year by creating a tutorial, phone call script, or introduction video of some kind in response to the application inquiries. Emmert also suggests having assigned commission members to follow up with applicants which would help streamline the process as well. Arlantico added there was confusion in regard to the application process and that having a flow chart may help this. Other than this, she felt they all made great connections and were able to build rapport with the candidates. Emmert emphasized that unfortunately they missed an opportunity to meet with students and build this connection since the application deadline passed just a week before in person classes resumed. Emmert’s second goal is to further connection with entities on campus to encourage applicants from those groups. She would like to tap into other prominent groups on campus who also encourage student leadership. To do this, she believes utilizing the various college events in order to reach ASI’s target audience would be effective. A second notation Emmert made was to begin the Big Pulse configuration process a lot earlier. There were some last-minute changes to the survey which Big Pulse was able to do well in handling, however, Emmert would like to avoid the confusion in terms of next year. In regard to the ballot, Emmert received several statements from students saying they did not receive the email to vote. To resolve these issues, she had to manually expedite the surveys to student emails. The last notation she had is in regard to voting. She would like to make more tutorials for how to vote and what the process looks like for students. This coming year Emmert would like to do a bigger broadcast for voting. Emmert conclude by highlighting the big successes ASI had this semester in regard to Election events including the mixer and forums. Kasarda added that more communication is needed as well as getting what ASI does out there for students to learn. Molina-Mancio suggested to utilize classroom presentations as a way for BOD members to give peers information on ASI. Emmert mentioned that she could help prepare a presentation for BOD members to use when making classroom presentations so that they are supported.

* 1. Elections Code Review – Discussion Item

The Commission will review the Elections Code and discuss possible changes to the Code for revision.

Arlantico expressed a candidate had trouble regarding the qualifications for media which she had some trouble articulating an answer utilizing the language included in the Elections Code. She was curious if they could revise this section. Another concern brought up at the candidate orientation was regarding ticket voting, if two candidates are to run together and support each other. In regard to graphic design, it is to Emmert’s understanding that ASI and candidate campaigns must be kept separate. She agreed this is a grey area on the Elections

code which may cause confusion and expressed a desire to include something along these lines. Candidates have the ability to endorse each other verbally, however, on the ballot they must appear separate. For those who already are an ASI member, they are not permitted to wear ASI materials when promoting a campaign due to conflict of interest. If in the situation someone is representing ASI and is approached regarding their concurrent candidacy, Emmert would like to address what language to use in this situation. Kasarda noted that students may not actually read the Elections Code but there is still a need to communicate this information for their benefit. Emmert explained that in the new candidate orientation, they provide a brief overview of each section highlighting its main points. The Elections code is also supplied to candidates when they submit their application. Unfortunately, Emmert added there is no method to ensure a candidate has read the code expect acquire their signature that they have read and understood the aforementioned information. She feels the best thing ASI can do moving forward is to have answers to student inquiries which will minimize the grey area during the Elections process, whether through the ability to verbalize it or through written words.

1. Open Forum

Time for members of the audience to address the Commission.

1. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

“ASI REPRESENTS THE STUDENTS”