

ASSC Minutes
December 15, 2015

- I. The meeting was called to order at 12:34 pm.
- II. Official roll call: All Senators were present except Governing Board Senator Lanea Azevedo, Diversity Affairs Senator Faraj Al-Badani, Business Services Senator Krysta Daily, Vice President Elisha Blue, and Social & Behavior Science Vacant.
8 Senators Present Quorum Achieved.
- III. Agenda of Agenda: Business Senator Kevin Butt moves to add (emergency) discussion and action item in regards to out sourcing debt on today's agenda for December 15, 2015
Fine and Applied Arts Senator Dayanna Reyes seconds approval of agenda at 12:37 pm.
8 Senators approve, 0 No's, 0 abstentions. Agenda approved.
- IV. Approval of minutes: Curriculum (Vocational) Senator Gabriel Castro moves to approve the minutes with all corrections for 12/8/2015 Business Senator Kevin Butt seconds this motion.
5 approve, 0 No's, 3 abstention. Motion passes.
- V. Public Forum: No discussion
- VI. Advisors Report: Dr. Rischa Slade mentions she has heard very good things about us [ASSC] all this semester and is very proud of [ASSC]. Asks that when we [ASSC] start in January that we focus and concentrate on the commitments we made and work on things over the holidays. Also encourages that we learn how to talk [communicate] with each other [better] and miscommunications among ASSC members fixed. Encourages individual strengths be brought to the table [utilized in ASSC] and try to be inclusive and to cut through personalities and egos and get down to business.
- VII. Informational/Action Items: Public Relations Chair Stephanie Gittens comments on survey distribution. This includes contacting the [SCC] administration or the Deans of each section [department] to see if s Professors will allow [surveys administered] during a few minutes in class and pick up at the end of class. The survey for safety will have other questions added on with education/academics/tutoring.
Dr. Rischa Slade addresses the chair and states she contacted Academic Senate [via e-mail] and Vice President of Academic Affairs and asked them [questions] and [Vice President of Academic Affairs] is willing to encourage the instructors to do this [allow survey distribution during class]. Also, there are charges filed for previous survey sent to students because they were not consulted before the survey was sent out. Dr. Slade sent an e-mail to the President of the Academic Senate asking to include on the agenda to allow Dr. Slade to go forward and asks for their permission to do these things. Dr. Slade would like to present this during the January meeting. Dr. Slade requests a letter stating what [ASSC survey committee] would like to do and what we [ASSC] are asking from the instructors signed by [President] Megan and chair of survey committee. Public Relations Chair Stephanie Gittens agrees to get this typed up at 12:44pm.
Business Senator Kevin Butt states teachers from the Academic Senate called the [ASSC] workroom he just happened to be in there before his astronomy lab. The teachers explained concerns about student awareness [of debt collection outsourcing] and wanted to know our [ASSC] stance on it and if we [ASSC] cans send representatives to voice concerns. When talking to Professor Whitesell Senator Butt explained he would bring the information to the ASSC and obtain a general consensus and that anything discussed with her was not as a representation of ASSC because Senator Butt wants to present it and get feedback first.

Senator Butt states that this is an opportunity for [ASSC] to discuss something and show that we [ASSC] are not all about partying/just fun events and that we are serious about business and students concerns. This [outsourcing] will ultimately affect the students of Solano and what we represent. Dr. Rischa Slade addresses the chair and states this item [outsourcing] was discussed in shared governance. And if that's true the governance rep should have information. President Megan White confirms she is the shared governance representative and has been unable to receive a response from Michael Wylly via e-mail.

Dr. Rischa Slade recommends asking for minutes and states one of the reasons for outsourcing is lack of funding to pay someone here [at SCC] and that they [SCC] do have enough funding to offer an interim admissions person a contract not to exceed \$200,000.00 [part-time consultant]. Senator Butt states everyone should have a copy of the draft from the Academic Senate. Senator Butt states he personally has experienced working at a debt collection company and this company doesn't have a strong reputation online and personally believes that this [outsourcing] will harm us [SCC] as a whole if we go out there using our [SCC] letterhead and put a negative stigma and reputation [on SCC]. Has set up an appointment to speak with marketing personnel [of ConServe] to get more information on their success rate with community colleges or other higher learning institutions and knows the right questions to ask when probing because he used to work in that field. Career Technical Education Senator Matt Hartsock reveals information [such as complaints found online on Better Business Bureau website, legal documentation from the Attorney General of Texas] using projector. [ConServe] has only been accredited for the past year by BBB (Better Business Bureau) and the company has been in business since 1985 and there is no rating available for the business. Career Technical Education Senator Matt Hartsock reads an excerpt from page 4 of 6 of the Attorney General of Texas letter addressed Ms. Carol Longoria dated March 24, 2008 which was found online: "ConServe asserts that a social security number in its proposal is excepted under section 552.147 of the Government Code, which provides that '[t]he social security number of a living person is excepted from' required public disclosure (under the Act. Thus, the university may withhold the social security number in ConServe's proposal under section 552.147)." Career Technical Education Senator Matt Hartsock states the company seems like they were overstepping their boundaries and we have no idea what their contract was like with the University of Texas. Dr. Slade suggests somebody contact the University of Texas to find out what the issue was and what their concerns were. Mr. Butt states he thinks that this is an important issue. Senator Butt suggests Megan, Larry or Stephanie attend the meeting as an ASSC representative and is unable to attend himself due to his accounting finals. Student Trustee Larry Bartlow thinks it is imperative we do our homework first before we step out on perhaps not solid ground and make idiots of ourselves and voice our opinion at the meeting to suggest to the board to hold (the item approving the contract for outsourcing at the Board of Trustees meeting 12/16/2015) and not to attack the board. President Megan White states the total costs of contingent collection fees is estimated at \$27,000.00 for the placement of accounts. Which means that they [will charge us \$27,000.00] to start working with them and they get their profit from the collections. Student Trustee Larry Bartlow is concerned that because this is a private company as students we should know what this private company might invest their monies in, mentions many other companies that invested their money in things such as apartheid. Math and Science Nathan Preszler mentions the significant amount of financial aid fraud [in colleges] and why in some ways we would want a strong company [for collecting debt]. Dr. Rischa Slade mentions the significance of signing contracts which bind you to pay back money and that they [SCC]

needs a company that will understand life situations and work with students and that the [debt collectors] are not just chasing dead beats but people who have problems. President White states she is willing to come and speak on behalf of ASSC at the Board of Trustees meeting on 12/16/15. Student Trustee Larry Bartlow states early arrival is necessary to complete the blue card so we have the opportunity to speak in an earlier fashion and suggests 6:00PM arrival. Business Senator Kevin moves that the ASSC and Health and Kinesiology Senator Richard Rodriguez seconds that we send a representative to the Board of Trustees meeting tomorrow night (12/16/15) to request that they table this item (outsourcing) and present questions. 9 in favor/0 no's/ 0 abstentions. Dr. Rischa Slade suggests [condensing] questions from the most important to the least important and combining questions together and provide them in written form. Treasurer Zuriel Sanders suggests delegating someone to print out information found from online to submit as well. Career Technical Education Senator Matt Hartstock takes responsibility of this task and run off copies. Business Senator Kevin Butt asks would it be appropriate to request proper documentation on the agenda minutes from the Committee to see how/if they even did research. Dr. Slade informs that shared governance would be [whom] allowed this process to move forward in the first place and it is not our area to ask them where they get their information, [our] issue is give us the information. It went through the fiscal group, it went through shared governance now it is being given to the board so it would be up to them to direct those people to supply [us] with the answer. President White asks would it be a shared governance review/ report. Dr. Slade states the first thing they're going to ask you is don't you have a representative in shared governance and encourages [ASSC] not to dig a hole and to ask how they came about finding this company, who recommended the company and has it been vetted by the various committees that are relevant on campus. Dr. Slade states she is sure they [SCC] don't want to do anything that is going to harm students and they don't want to do anything that's wrong. And these questions they may not have been able to ask them themselves. Business Senator Kevin Butt asks about in house [employment for collections]. Dr. Slade advises there is no money. Student Trustee Larry Bartlow suggests during open discussion (at Board of Trustees meeting on 12/16/15) the questions be on a PowerPoint for all to view. Business Senator Kevin Butt moves and Vocational Curriculum Senator seconds to approve questions to be asked tomorrow night with corrections (12/16/2015 at the Board of Trustee meeting) 8 in favor/ 1 no /0 abstentions, motion passes.

Questions:

1. Success rate
2. Complaints filed against them?
3. Harassment suits or complaints?
4. Why are choosing a for profit agency over a non-profit agency?
5. How many debts have actually been resolved?
6. How well are they serving other institutions of higher learning?
7. How did they come to decide to contract with this company?
8. Have they done their research?
9. What did they base their decisions on?
10. Do they have information about the history of the company?
11. Past practices with other Community Colleges?
12. Harassment?
13. Class action suit?
14. What kind of considerations is given to people with problems?

15. Are they a part of the BBB?
 16. Texas Attorney General Complaint?
 17. Are non-profit companies more willing to work with students on understanding real-life student problems?
 18. Can the contract have written items written in?
 19. How did they find them?
 20. Investments of company?
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- VIII. Division reports: Curriculum Vocational Senator Gabriel Castro states Firefighter 101 has teacher concerned about safety.
 - IX. Executive Board Reports: Larry Bartlow encourages attendance [Board of Trustee meeting]
President White: Passes out Christmas gifts and a birthday present for Geena Marie De Los Angeles.
 - X. Announcements and Discussion: No Discussion
 - XI. ADJOURNMENT: Fine and Applied Arts Dayanna Reyes moves and Student Services Geena Marie De Los Angeles seconds to adjourn and all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:29PM.