

Monday, February 12th, 2024; 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Meeting Minutes
Hinderaker 0154 | Meeting Minutes Approved on February 21st, 2024

Name	Association	Voting Privilege ¹	Attendance ²
Jose Alvarez	Graduate, Chair	X	P
Chukwufunaya Ikechukwu	Undergraduate, Vice Chair	X	P/LE
Ruhi Barman	Undergraduate, ASUCR VP of Internal Affairs	X	P
Phoebe Lee	Undergraduate	X	P
Grace Su	Undergraduate	X	P
Andrew Wong	Undergraduate		P
Cameron Springer	Undergraduate		P
David Nikom	Graduate	X	P
Payton DePalma	Graduate		P
Rong Hai	Faculty	X	A
Scott Currie	Faculty	X	P
Sally Tavizon	Staff	X	P
	Staff	X	
Ankita Ahluwalia	Ex-Officio, ASUCR President		A
Ivett Gabriella	Ex-Officio, GSA President		A
Luisa Levario	Ex-Officio, VCSA		A
Luis Alvarez	Sta Staff Support, VCSA		A
Sarai Sierra	Staff Support, VCSA		P
Alice Chavez	Staff Support, VCSA		A
Angela Chien	Student Secretary, VCSA		P/LE

¹ “X” indicates voting privilege

² P: Present | A: Absent | AL: Arrived Late | LE: Left Early

Call to Order: 1:34 PM

1. Approve the Agenda
 - *Motion to Approve the Agenda Funanya Ikechukwu, Seconded by Sally Tavizon.*
 - ***Agenda Approved Without Objections***
2. Approve Meeting Minutes – February 5th, 2024
 - *Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of February 5th, 2024, by Funanya Ikechukwu, Seconded by Cameron Springer.*
 - ***Meeting Minutes of February 5th, 2024, 2024 Approved Without Objections***
3. AVC Dean of Students – Subcommittee C
 - Dean of Students *Dr. Christine Mata* and Financial Administration Manager *John Valdez* provided an overview of AVC DOS's mission, current visions and strategies, challenges, and unmet needs request.
 - *Cameron Springer* inquired if redefining administrative progress is part of the unmet need. *John Valdez* denied and stated that is just a strategic vision. *Dr. Mata* noted that redefining processes and administration is tied to leveraging partnerships and resources to make the processes more efficient in delivering quality services. *Cameron Springer* asked if there were no request for salary for the Associate Dean, and if that would fall under the SSFAC funding. *John Valdez* stated that it is not the case at the moment. However, once the position of the Associate Dean is filled, AVC DOS will be able to better serve the students.
 - *Payton DePalma* questioned which identity centers are involved in the Building Common Ground workshop and who is hired as facilitators. *John Valdez* responded that there are 8 Ethnic & Gender centers, to which the facilitators are associated with, including interested students. The call for application goes out to all students, and students are paid for training and facilitating aspects of the workshop. Coupled with the skills they've earned by facilitating BCG, students leave with skills that elevate them in future employment environments.
 - *Payton DePalma* asked for statistics for BCG. *Dr. Mata* and *John Valdez* stated that it will be sent to the Committee at a later time.
 - *Sally Tavizon* asked if AVC DOS have considered a hybrid-type option to make it more accessible? *Dr. Mata* stated that for conversations on social justice and diversity, it is recommended to do host the event in person. Some students exhibit cues and body language that, in a hybrid setting, may not be addressable. It was tried during the pandemic, but it could send a signal that it is not a prioritized program.
4. Student Conduct – Subcommittee C

- Director *Tasha Yules* spoke about the importance of Student Conduct as a mandated office, and explained the responsibilities and roles, as well as the staff and to what capacity they serve. Student Conduct supports students, staff, and faculty.
- *Cameron Springer* inquired about the breakdown of funded travel for mandated training. *Tasha Yules* noted that certain types of training that meet specified requirements are eligible for funding. The focus is on supporting travel for professional staff attending critical training, including sessions like Title IX. Efforts are made to send as many relevant staff members as possible.
- *Alice Chavez* sought clarification on whether the funding is exclusively for professional staff or extends to students as well. *Tasha Yules* stated while there is an emphasis on annual training for staff, Student Conduct committee members also receive training.

5. Student Life – Subcommittee C

- Director of Student Life *Carly Garcia* and Coordinator of Leadership and Services Programs *Gerardo Medina* introduced the functional areas of the department, along its recent growth and initiatives. The goal of the Student Life's Leadership and Services program aims to provide student opportunities of growth and development in leadership capacities.
- *Cameron Springer* inquired about logistical considerations during the election season for maintaining program organization. *Gerry Medina* mentioned a successful experience in 2018 when the first polling place on campus at Glen Mor was opened until 2 a.m., showcasing students' enthusiasm for voting. Vote Centers are now available for Riverside County registrants, facilitated through a partnership with Government Community Relations. These centers are open for seven days, including a vote-by-mail collection box, and there will be an increase voting centers in November. *Gerry Medina* highlighted the significance of the 18-29 age group, the largest voting bloc in the country.
- *Cameron Springer* asked about the use of the event pass, specifically whether it is exclusive to large student life events or open to student organizations. *Carly Garcia* clarified that any student organization can utilize it for meetings and attendance tracking. The pass is also available to campus departments who has a profile with Highlander Link.
- *Cameron Springer* inquired about homecoming and its association with sporting events. *Carly Garcia* explained that the plan is to incorporate various events tied to campus and its history, engaging with alumni and beyond.
- Chair *Jose Alvarez* sought clarification on whether everyone will be using the event pass or just Student Life at the moment. *Carly Garcia* responded that initially, Student Life will practice using it with organizations before extending its use to departmental organizations.
- *Sally Tavizon* asked about preliminary discussions about integrating Highlander Link reporting with Carnegie accreditation. *Gerry Medina* shared plans to relaunch the community service portal, aiming to capture community partners, volunteers, and hours. The portal is expected to be a cornerstone of the accreditation process, including the launch of a Community Partner

Program for organizations working with the community, seeking standardization in the process.

6. Veterans Resource Center – Subcommittee C

- Coordinator *Tami Thacker* of Veterans Resource Center (VRC) gave a brief overview of the department's mission, functional areas, and operational and unmet needs. VRC aims to provide students a learning environment for student success and successful transition from military life to student life.
- *Cameron Springer* inquired about on-campus outreach marketing for promoting offered programs. A designated in reach coordinator has been assigned, and efforts are made to include them in the VRC to increase visibility. Resources are brought to the Veterans Resource Centers to encourage student attendance at various events. *Carly Garcia* added that brochures and postcards about VRC are in the works, including personalized notes to guide students seeking specific information.
- *Cameron Springer* asked about collaboration with the Career Center for support. *Tami Thacker* confirmed collaboration with the Career Center.
- *Sally Tavizon* requested more information about the student population that VRC engages with, specifically if it includes a combination of graduate (40 students, 6 from the School of Medicine) and undergraduate students. Suggestions were made to organize socials for graduate students and to engage with other colleges and departments within UCR.
- *David Nikom* inquired about involvement with children and families. *Tami Thacker* mentioned Operation Purple Camp, primarily held through the SRC with VRC support, serving the families of children and staff throughout the day. The Purple Program offers support as a liaison and involves activities such as an obstacle course and raising the flag.
- Chair *Jose Alvarez* asked if children come to the center. *Tami Thacker* affirmed that most visitors are children, emphasizing that VA work-study benefits extend to dependents, not just veterans.

7. Open Comments

- Chair *Jose Alvarez* clarified that BCG is exclusive to UG students, not available for graduate students.
- *Sally Tavizon* expressed concern about the year-over-year funding and suggested making it permanent to align it with the university's values.
- Chair *Jose Alvarez* questioned why orientation costs aren't covered since students already pay for it. *Alice Chavez* explained that Student Life handles orientation costs separately from BCG workshops.
- *Cameron Springer* advocated for Highlander Link Event ticket to aid attendance tracking for student organizations. Previously, student organization would utilize card-swiping, but Highlander Link Event would allow organizations to track attendance.
- *Alice Chavez* suggested the potential for the event ticket to expand to the entire campus in the future.

8. Chair Comments

- Chair *Jose Alvarez* thanked the Committee for the enthusiastic questions and reminded the Committee to maintain the presentation schedule. Chair *Jose Alvarez* reminded the committee that any additional questions should be sent to that respective subcommittee's chair to follow up with additional questions through email at a later date.

9. Adjourn: **3:15 PM**

- *Motion to Adjourn by Payton DePalma, Seconded by Sally Tavizon.*
 - ***Adjournment Approved without Objections.***