

Monday, March 4th, 2024; 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Hinderaker 0154 | Meeting Minutes Approved on April 10th, 2024

Name	Association	Voting Privilege¹	Attendance²
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	A
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	Staff Support, VCSA		A
Alice Chavez	Staff Support, VCSA		A
Sarai Sierra	Staff Support, VCSA		P
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: **1:35 PM**

1. Approve the Agenda
 - *Motion to Approve the Agenda by Ruhi Barma, Seconded by Grace Su.*
 - ***Agenda Approved Without Objections***
2. Approve Meeting Minutes – February 26th, 2024
 - *Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of February 26th, 2024, by Payton DePalma, Seconded by Grace Su.*
 - ***Meeting Minutes of February 26th, 2024 Approved Without Objections***
3. Approve Meeting Minutes – February 21st 2024
 - *Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of February 21st, 2024, by Payton DePalma, Seconded by Grace Su.*
 - ***Meeting Minutes of February 21st, 2024 Approved Without Objections***
4. Middle Eastern Student Center – Subcommittee A
 - Program Coordinator *Gina Waneis* introduced the Committee to the Middle Eastern Student Center’s goals, annual events, and strategic plans. Through its programs and events, MESC aims to celebrate Southwest Asia and North African cultures and provide students a platform of friendship and identity-building.
 - The Committee asked if the Gala is open to parents and alumnus. *Gina Waneis* stated that the event is limited to students due to rapidly growing student population.
 - The Committee inquired if there are any plans to begin charging registration fees to offset expenses. *Gina Waneis* noted that the registration process mirrors that of an application that is thoroughly reviewed and selected. However, MESC is considering a registration fee between \$10 to \$15.
 - The Committee inquired about the changes and expansion following an increase in budget. *Gina Waneis* stated that an increased budget will allow more attendees at SWANACon and utilize both North and South of HUB 302. It will also allow catering for students as there are no restaurants open on campus during the weekend, when SWANACon is held.
 - The Committee asked about student involvement in the planning and organization process. *Gina Waneis* affirmed that there are undergraduate student interns that aid in the process.
5. Native American Student Programs – Subcommittee A
 - Director *Joshua Gonzales* gave an overview of NASP’s programs and cultural events, which includes but not limited to, American Indian outreach, Native Heritage Month, UCR Pow Wow, speaker series, and internships and scholarships. NASP aims to provide educational, cultural, and social support for American Indian Students.

- The Committee inquired the number of students working at NASP. *Joshua Gonzales* noted that there are currently 5 students workers and NASP is aiming to expand to 6 student workers.
 - The Committee asked if there are other channels of funding for the banquet. *Joshua Gonzales* stated that NASP are in the process of applying for HESSIR funds, and are in the midst of sourcing funding from local organizations, but SSFAC remains as the primary channel for funding. NASP has recently received budget cuts from HESSIR, which is why NASP is asking for more funding.
6. Women's Resource Center – Subcommittee A
- Director of Women's Resource Center *Nina Ruedas* summarized the department's goals, programs, and unmet needs. WRC aims to support and empower the UCR community through advancing student leadership and rights, addressing intersectionality and eliminating barriers, and promoting peer and community-building.
 - One of WRC's objectives is to provide a safe place for students in need, specifically in the regards of various hygiene products. Previously, WRC had asked for funding for pregnancy test kits and sustainable menstrual products.
7. Undocumented Student Programs – Subcommittee A
- *John Valdez*, Financial and Administrative Manager of AVC Dean of Students, presented on behalf of USP and provided an overview of the department's services and programs for undocumented students and immigration-impacted students. Notably, among the UC campuses, UCR has the highest enrollment of undocumented students with the least staffing. USP is currently hiring a permanent director for USP, and is only open to undocumented students.
 - The Committee inquired if there are any resources available to graduate students. *John Valdez* expressed that the bulk of the resources are for undergraduate students, but there are legal and supportive programs for graduate students.
8. Chicano Student Programs – Subcommittee A
- Assistant Director *Dr. Arlene Matute* gave a presentation of the programs and services that CSP provides to students and the Inland Empire community, such as the Pilot Bridge program, Raza Graduation, Semana De La Mujer, and more. CSP seeks to increase the academic success of students, staff, faculty, and community through various educational, social, and cultural programs, events, and initiatives through our three pillars: familia, orgullo y corazón.
 - The Committee asked for clarification on the specifics of graduate students' programming. *Dr. Arlene Matute* stated that the programming will expand on graduate writing series, writing material, and textbooks.
 - The Committee asked about the source of CSP's graduate student involvement. *Dr. Arlene Matute* stated that CSP's resources are open to all graduate students. Regarding the writing program, CSP receives around 25

students a week, while CSP receives 50-60 students for other programs. CSP programs are also partially organized by graduate student assistants.

9. Open Comments

- Sally Tavizon communicated the referenda committee that herself and Chair *Jose Alvarez* are currently a part of, along with other members of the UCR community. Chair *Jose Alvarez* mentioned that other SSFACs are required to oversee aspects of student referenda, which wasn't previously practiced at UCR. *Ruhi Barman* brought up that currently the referenda process at UCR places a lot of stress on ASUCR as it is confusing. Chair *Jose Alvarez* brought up that he will be meeting with the CSF Chair and Vice Chair for advice on how to best represent the SSFAC committee at referenda meetings. Chair *Jose Alvarez* also mentioned that future SSFAC committees at UCR will be involved in some capacity with the referendum process.

10. Chair Comments

- N/A

11. Adjourn: **3:14 PM**

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