

Tuesday, November 6, 2018; 2:10 PM to 4:00 PM

HUB Room 269

Approved Meeting Minutes | Approved on Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Name	Association	Voting Privilege¹	Attendance²
Johnathan Li	Undergraduate, Chair	X	P
Rachel Victoria Arroyos	Undergraduate	X	A
Lennin Kuri	Undergraduate	X	P
Gabriel Guzman	Undergraduate	X	P
Karina Masatani	Undergraduate	X	A
Jose Cortez-Hernandez	Undergraduate, ASUCR VP of Internal Affairs	X	A
Derreck Carter-House	GSA	X	AL
Judit Palencia Gutierrez	GSA	X	P
Stephanie King	GSA	X	P
Chia-en Chang	Faculty	X	P
Richard Rodriguez	Faculty	X	P
Sally Tavizon	Staff	X	P
Vacant	Staff	X	-
Gustavo Tinajero	ASUCR Alternate		A
Tony Xu	ASUCR Alternate		A
Jemuel Garcia	GSA Alternate		P
Semi Cole	Ex-Officio, ASUCR President		A
Shawn Ragan	Ex-Officio, GSA President		A
Cathy Eckman	Ex-Officio, VCSA		P
Militza Seehaver	Staff Support, VCSA		P
Brandon Lieu	Student Secretary, VCSA		P

¹ “X” indicates voting privilege

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

1. Call to Order: **2:11 PM**
2. Approve the Agenda
 - *Motion to Approve the Agenda by Stephanie King, Seconded by Richard Rodriguez.*
 - ***Agenda Approved without Objections***
3. Approve Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2018
 - *Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2018 by Judit Palencia Gutierrez, Seconded by Chia-en Chang.*
 - ***Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2018 approved without Objections***
4. Approve Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2018
 - *Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2018 by Stephanie King, Seconded by Judit Palencia Gutierrez.*
 - ***Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2018 approved without Objections***
5. Narrative & Call Letter Review and Discussion
 - *Chair Johnathan Li* questions the Committee if there are any changes they would like to incorporate to the Narrative. *Stephanie King* comments that the Narrative can be expanded by adding a question regarding other funding sources besides the Committee and questions related to specific graduate programs that are offered to only Graduate Students.
 - *Chair Johnathan Li* questions the Committee if there are any changes they would like to incorporate to the Call Letter. *Derreck Carter-House* questions if there is an update on the SSFAC budget. *Cathy Eckman* clarifies that the Committee is in its third year for the plan that was presented back in 2016. The Committee will have \$250,000 to spend on Budget Items for the departments that request funding. *Chair Johnathan Li* questions the amount that was rescinded from the Graduate Student Association due to the passing of the Travel Grant Referendum. *Cathy Eckman* states that the Committee will have the \$250,000 plus the amount that was rescinded from the Graduate Student Association (\$20,000) for a total of \$270,000.¹
 - *Chair Johnathan Li* questions if the Committee would still like to fund student positions. *Derreck Carter-House* and *Cathy Eckman* both agree that student positions are vital for the campus and it benefits the students by allowing the students to gain professional work experience on-campus. *Judit Palencia Gutierrez* questions where the departments would acquire funds if SSFAC does not fund these student positions. *Chair Johnathan Li* clarifies that the ethnic and gender departments have HESSR funds that are used for some funding requests. *Cathy Eckman* clarifies that HESSR funds are currently in their last year of approved funding and the referendum will need to go back to the ballot as there is a requirement for a minimum number of voters plus majority support of the measure. *Cathy Eckman* further clarifies that the Chancellor also made a commitment to give \$250,000 to the Ethnic and Gender Programs for three (3) years for a total of \$750,000. However, departments like the Dean of Students and CARE are not a part of the Ethnic and Gender Programs umbrella and are not included in this commitment. We have been informed by the Budget Office that there are no general funds available this year for augmentation.
 - *Chair Johnathan Li* questions if the Committee should fund items that are more than \$10,000. *Derreck Carter-House* comments that the Committee should take every funding request

¹ Refer to May 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes for clarification regarding the Committee's decision to rescind the allocation of \$20,000 in temporary funding from the Graduate Student Association for the line item regarding "Travel Grants."

through a case by case basis. Some departments may require more than \$10,000 in funding to operate; an example would be the R’Pantry.

6. Election of Vice Chair

- *Chair Johnathan Li* quickly goes over the Vice Chair Election process. The two nominees for Vice Chair are Graduate Voting Member *Derreck Carter-House* and Undergraduate Voting Member *Lennin Kuri*. *Chair Johnathan Li* asks the two candidates to quickly step aside as the Committee prepares for the candidate interviews. From general consensus of the Committee, *Chair Johnathan Li* will interview each candidate with the following questions ...
 1. What prior experience do you have to bring to this role?
 2. What improvements would you bring to the Committee?
 3. What are your strategic goals for SSFAC this year?
 4. What are some critical problems you think SSFAC is currently facing? How would you fix those problems?
 5. How would you deal with internal conflicts within the Committee?
 6. What issue do you think most students are currently facing that relate to the Student Services Fee?
- The Committee held a closed discussion about the candidates. After the discussions, the candidates were invited back in for voting. Voting for the Vice Chair was done by secret ballot.
 - **Voting Results**
 - *Lennin Kuri: 6 Votes*
 - *Derreck Carter-House: 2 Votes*
 - *Abstentions: 1 Vote*
 - ***Lennin Kuri* was elected as the Committee’s Vice Chair for the Academic Year of 2018 – 2019 by majority vote.** The votes were validated by *Chair Johnathan Li*, *Student Secretary Brandon Lieu*, and *Staff Support Militza Seehaver*.

7. Bylaw Update

- *Chair Johnathan Li* updated the Committee on the status of the Bylaws and will send out a document regarding the Bylaw Discussions with *Derreck Carter-House* and *Lennin Kuri* by the end of the week for Committee review. In the meantime, the Committee can review the approved and not approved Bylaw Item list included in the agenda packet. *Stephanie King* questions if the Vice Chancellor’s Office for Student Affairs gave a reason for why some bylaw items were not approved. *Cathy Eckman* comments that some Bylaw Items may be problematic in the future or as worded use language that requires further clarification.
 - Ex: Bylaw Item #8 which states that, ‘In the event of a tie, the Chair shall vote again, except in the case that the Chair is running for the position. In this case, three caucuses shall be formed: faculty/staff, undergraduate students, and graduate students. Each caucus shall have one vote only. The majority vote of the caucuses shall select the Chair if this proves is used. In any case, if a tie is not resolved by any other method, the Chair shall be selected by the flip of a coin’.

As emphasized by *Cathy Eckman*, the decision of the Chair should not be based on chance but rather on empirical decision making. If the Committee cannot agree on a certain topic, that topic should be moved up to the next level. In the case of SSFAC, the Committee is the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee and therefore the topic that is up for decision will be evaluated by the Chancellor or the Chancellor’s Designee (The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs).

8. Chair Comments

- *Chair Johnathan Li* congratulates *Lennin Kuri* for being elected Vice Chair and looks forward to working with him. *Chair Johnathan Li* reminds the Committee that *Student Secretary Brandon Lieu* has provided the planning calendar at the end of the digital agenda packet. The planning calendar will provide committee members the dates and times of future meetings.

9. Public Comments

- *Stephanie King* comments that the Graduate Student Association had a meeting where staff members from the Vice Chancellor's Office for Financial Planning and Budgeting presented its new Budget Model. *Stephanie King* has requested that a staff member from Financial Planning and Budgeting present its Budget Model in a future SSFAC Meeting to Committee Members.

10. Adjourn: **2:54 PM**

- *Motion to Adjourn by Stephanie King, Seconded by Derreck Carter-House.*
 - *Adjournment Approved without Objections*