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Meeting Minutes for March 30, 2020

- I. Meeting is called to order at: 5:33 pm**
- II. Moment of Silence/Inspirational quote**
 - A. INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE**

Read By: Sen. Garrison
- III. Mission Statement**
 - A.** The ASWC Senate, as the governing body of the Associated Students of Whittier College, is dedicated to the betterment of the college as an institution and as a member of the broader community. The Senate shall assist on-campus clubs and organizations in creating, promoting and implementing dynamic programs and events that involve students and add value to their educational experience. This body will act as an open forum for students to voice their opinions and desires, always keeping the best interests of the ASWC in mind. In all its actions, the Senate will serve the students first with integrity, dedication, responsibility and humility.

Read By: Sen. Garrison
- IV. Roll Call – Secretary Brost**
 - A. Present:** Sen. Casserly-Simmons, Sen. Minami, Sen. Iseri, Sen. Hagan-Martin, Sen. Ross, Sen. Mendoza, Sen. Torres, Sen. Malone, Sen. Modesti, Tres. Estrada, VP Joachim, Pres. Moya, Dir. Tejada, Sec. Brost, Dir. Gil, Sen. Royster, Sen. Gracia, Sen. Segura, Sen. Garrison, Sen. Eccles, Sen. Angileri, Sen. Hidalgo, Sen. Alvarez
 - B. Absent excused:**
 - C. Unexcused:** Sen. Green
- V. Minutes Amendment/Approval**
 - A. Approved by:** Sen. Royster
 - B. Seconded by:** Sen. Mendoza
- VI. Public Voice**
 - A.** Bruce: I know that we are going through these hard times and it's something that we all are not used to. Pres. Moya asked me to be here to answer any questions.

Sen. Mendoza: What is happening with the registration status?

Bruce: I am not too sure, but they should get in contact with their advisor.

Sec. Brost: I emailed the registration office and they said that they are still working on registration.

Sen. Eccles: I know that checks are being sent out to student's permanent addresses but for people who are living on campus, they need their checks at the

dorm.

Bruce: I thought that in one of the emails we asked them to update their address. So what needs to be done is a new update in the student poets email.

Sen. Garcia: Can students access the food pantry?

Bruce: It is not open right now because no one is on campus to run it.

Sen Hidalgo: Are there any plans of commencement?

Bruce: Spring commencement is canceled but what that means is that it will not happen on that date. We will have something in May and something later in the year.

Sen. Minami: People can still sign up for cultural grads. Sashes will be bought from the OEI.

Sen. Modesti: Do you know exactly when the credit is going to be put into the student's accounts?

Bruce: I have no idea.

Sen. Ross: Are summer classes still happening? They are not on the schedule of classes.

Bruce: That is new to me. As far as I know, summer is still happening.

Dir. Gil: Do you have a specific date for the senior survey that will be sent out?

Bruce: The next poet update.

Pres. Moya: I didn't know that cultural grads will be online, let alone that the deadline was today. Also, do students have to attend the online meeting to get the sash or can they still get the sash.

Sen. Minami: The OEI did send out an email so that email has all the information and more you asked.

VII. President's Message - *President Moya*

A. Hello everyone, This past week I met with both Bruce Smith and President Oubre and I will be sharing the information I received in those meetings:

B. *Commencement:*

C. The commencement committee is committed to celebrating graduating seniors and currently has the goal of this being in the form of a ceremony. When a decision is made, the committee will work with the bookstore and vendors to address deadlines for ordering academic regalia. Diplomas should still be distributed in May as they regularly would be. The survey regarding commencement will be going within the next week or so will include hypothetical dates and times of year.

Sen. Hidalgo: Are we still doing senior keys? I think the senate should give stoles to those who get keys.

Christine: OSE are the ones who award senior keys. We have less details on this

category than others.

Dir. Gil: Do you happen to know that in the survey they will be asking for a potential new commencement date?

Pres. Moya: Yes, and students will be able to pick from multiple dates.

Sen. Hidalgo: Going off the portentional dates, I know a lot of seniors are coming from out of the state or out of the country. Is the college talking about using the emergency funds to help students come back for commencement?

Pres. Moya: Students and family members will know in a timely manner. But the Senate and faculty are here for students who do need help.

D. *Registration/Tuition Balances:*

E. Currently in order to register for classes students must have a balance less than \$1100 before having a hold placed on their account and thus being unable to register for classes. Tuition balances need to be paid between the second and third week of April. Under the current circumstances I asked President Oubre should students find themselves in a position where they can no longer afford to pay that balance in time, what support will be available to them. She advised that students should go directly to the business office and discuss their situation and circumstance. I mentioned that in the past, students have expressed that the Business Office was not empathetic of their situation and had negative experiences. President Oubré advised that Business Office personnel are prepared for these conversations and in an all staff meeting she advised everyone to maintain a “customer service” oriented attitude. Should students still encounter problems with the office they may contact President Oubre directly or Sal Johnston.

Sen. Garrison: For registration, we have to have the whole amount paid off?

Pres. Moya: Your balance cannot exceed \$11,000.

Sen. Garrison: Rising juniors and seniors can pre register for the rest of the year, is this new and a reoccurring thing?

Pres. Moya: I am not sure.

Sen. Mendoza: If the business office gives us a hard time, go to the president?
Everyone nods.

Sen. Modesti: What is the difference between priority registration and regular registration?

Pres. Moya: Some people can register before others.

Sen. Hidalgo: What do hold on an account mean for seniors who are graduating?

Pres. Moya: Usually, if a senior doesn't pay off their balance they can't go to commencement. I talked about how seniors may not want to pay off their tuition

if they aren't walking. So I will communicate this to the business office and Linda as well.

F. *Tuition Reimbursements:*

G. Bruce assures the students that the institution is committed to maintaining the same Ethos and learning environment that WC is known for. Faculty and curriculum remains the same as well as the small class sizes. President Oubre elaborated on the logistics associated with tuition reimbursements. Student's tuition pays for on campus services, faculty and professional staff salaries in addition to curriculum. Services are still being provided and faculty and professional staff are currently still working. Additionally, the cost of transitioning to remote and online learning has incurred the institution costs, such as the purchasing of zoom licensing, and expansion of the institution's technological capabilities. Specifically the college has had to purchase licensing and subscription services from zoom in order to accommodate the college's large scale meetings and operations. She will be providing me with more details regarding the Libraries updates. Currently there is not one student on campus that pays full tuition. All students receive some form of financial aid, the average cost that a student pays is \$24,000. Because of this a tuition reimbursement would have to take into account financial aid packages, thus not allowing for a clean cut reimbursement. Additionally, the ticket price for the period of online/remote instruction is about \$4000 (value of standard in classroom experience). The value of the online instruction is subjective, it is clearly not valued at \$0 as this would be value if all instruction ended and no one continued classes, but the value of it is subjective depending on the individual person.

Sen. Hidalgo: So I know that we cannot refund full tuition, I was wondering for certain classes, like mine I paid \$300 to Sacramento and I'm not going, are they being reimbursed? Like lab fees? I feel like: why pay for that if we are not doing that?

Pres. Moya: That is a really good question and I will ask it.

Sen. Ross: I feel like the president should send out an email regarding why tuition can't be reimbursed. I think transparency about this would be good.

Pres. Moya: I will ask the president as the Senate if we could explain why tuition could not be reimbursed.

H. *Misc. Financial Info:*

Because it is likely that many students and student's families financial situations have changed as a result of COVID-19. Should this be the case, students are encouraged to reach out to the financial aid office to see if this something that can be adjusted in their FAFSA application. The College has currently put a freeze on

the College's staff structure, meaning that all currently filled positions will remain filled, however vacant positions will remain vacant until further notice.

I. Grading:

In the last Poet Update, it was communicated that applications to receive a Credit/No Credit Grade have been reopened with a new deadline. This was a way to ensure grading is equitable. Faculty members are also deliberating the question "How can we grade statements in a way that shows empathy while also allowing students to demonstrate what they learned?" Should students need more support they are encouraged to work directly with their professors. Professors are prepared for these conversations and have been instructed to be as accommodating as possible.

VIII. Treasurer's Report - *Treasurer Estrada*

- A. General Fund Balance:** \$24,444.48
- B. Operational Account Balance:** \$5,230.21
- C. Reserve Account Balance:** \$34,631
- D. Allocated Thus Far:** \$45,560.98
- E. First Readings:** \$0.00
- F. Daily Calendar Considerations:** \$0.00

IX. Constituent Reports

A. Academic Affairs Chair: *Sen. Minami*

- 1. N/A

B. First-Year Class Council: *Sen. Iseri*

- 1. The FCC and I are looking at ways we can support our constituents during this time, and help keep everyone engaged in student life.

C. Commuter Representative: *Sen. Hagan Martin*

- 1. N/A

D. Residential Hall Representative: *Sen. Ross*

- 1. The admissions team is updating the website with all of the requested information regarding the rooms, dorms, and living spaces for next year.

E. Non-Traditional Student Representative: *Sen. Mendoza*

- 1. Have been listening to students' concerns regarding tuition and registration, other than that I have nothing to report.

F. Student Body Representative: *Sen. Torres*

- 1. A couple of individual students approached me with questions about the care packages and how the many offices transitioned online and I redirected them to exactly where to reach out and ask the proper people. Other than that, nothing to report.

G. Student Body Representative: *Sen. Malone*

1. N/A

H. Student Body Representative: *Sen. Modesti*

1. N/A

I. Student Body Representative: *Sen. Green*

1. N/A

J. Inter-Club Council Representative: *Sen. Royster*

1. Last weeks we had our first ICC Meeting via zoom, it went well, we trained our constituents on how to continue the longevity of their clubs via online resources
2. We have about three more meetings to come as well as elections come late April.
3. Looking forward to our clubs succeeding in the future.

K. Diversity Council Representative: *Sen. Garcia*

1. Dc co chairs met w/ advisor & are planning to continue w/ dc thru zoom! We are looking to adapt diverse identities week to a digital version, more details to come after the DC meeting!
2. dc meeting this thursday @ 12:30pm PST, link will be sent out soon!

L. Social Justice Coalition Representative: *Sen. Segura*

- 1.

M. Media Council Representative: *Sen. Garrison*

1. The QC is really just readjusting to an online only platform.
2. KPOET Radio is working to find projects for all their employees to do remotely at home.
3. Poet entertainment is done for the semester since they don't have any events on campus anymore.
4. VPS is basically closed besides our online Spanish Film Fest.
5. WCSN is closed for the rest of the semester since there are no sporting events happening anymore.

N. Poet Student Athlete Leadership Academy Male Representative: *Sen. Eccles*

1. N/A

O. Poet Student Athlete Leadership Academy Female Representative: *Sen. Angileri*

1. I have been working on the Athletic Stoles for Athletics and am in touch with the PSALA faculty.

P. Inter-Society Council Female & Male Representative: *Sen. Hidalgo & Sen. Alvarez*

1. We've created a doodle poll and are scheduling weekly check ups.

X. Committee Reports

A. Administrative –*Vice President Joachim*

1. Administrative Committee is currently in the process of reading through the Constitution and making suggested edits. We will be presenting our drafted amendment to the Petition Article at tonight's meeting.

B. Budget- *Treasurer Estrada*

1. I was able to submit the semesterly Allocations to all clubs.
2. Budget Committee:
3. Budget committee will meet tomorrow at 12:40pm-1:30pm on Zoom. Everyone that is signed up will be reminded through SMS.
4. Check pick up is suspended until further notice and that all checks will be mailed.
5. Also check requests, reimbursements, and all invoices will still be submitted but the only change is that they will be electronically.

C. Campus Relations- *Director Tejada*

1. Hi everyone! I hope you're all staying safe and healthy! Campus relations will not be doing zoom meetings, I will be relying a lot on text with my committee. I have been creating story highlights with federal updates regarding covid-19 as well as WC updates and this includes dept office hours and such. I urge everyone to post as much as you can on your socials to try to reach out to constituents. I will be making a template for each senate position for you all to post on your stories, and with the help of CRC we'll get these out to you asap. If you'd like to make your own please let me know. Also with elections coming really soon I have some flyers posted regarding that information and if you could all repost those that would be great! There is a story highlight for that as well. Thank you.

D. Elections- *Secretary Brost*

1. Elections committee has finished revising the elections code which will be presented tonight!
2. Elections are about to start, yay!
 - a) I have stepped down from the elections committee chair and have had it over to VP Jochim.
3. Important Elections Dates (all of this information was posted in a news article on Engage):
 - a) April 2nd-First Informational Session (4:30 pm PST)
 - b) April 3rd-Second Informational Session (4:30 pm PST)
 - c) April 9th-Candidate and Treasurer Applications Due

- d) April 14th-Debates at 5 pm PST
- e) April 16-17th-Elections will be held online through Engage
- f) April 20th-Winners will be announced

4. Please email VP Jochim if you have any questions!

E. Program Board – *Director Gil*

1. Program Board will continue to meet on Thursdays at 4:30 (PST) via zoom. Students are welcome to join using the zoom link on our Engage meeting time posting.
2. Each week we will be sending out themed care packages to students who RSVP on engage. Boxes will have an array of items such as snacks, DIY crafts, art and craft materials and supplies, self care items, etc.
3. Students can RSVP for a box starting on the Monday of that week via the Engage link posted on the program board instagram @programboard_wc OR by going directly to Engage under events.
4. The box being mailed out this week (3/30-4/3) is a test run with lots of snacks and face masks and therefore is limited at 20 packages.
5. For the week of 4/6 - 4/10 the theme of the box is Spring with an availability of 48. Item details can be found on the Engage event posting upon confirmation of availability of items.
6. Moving forward Program Board will have a series of live streams such as baking tutorials, art and craft tutorials, etc. We hope to provide materials for students to follow along the tutorials, so stay tuned to see how this plays out!
7. We also hope to create Netflix/ Disney plus party forums.
8. We will be having a series of challenges where prizes will be awarded either randomly or by selecting a winner (students will vote on instagram). These challenges will use Instagram or TikTok platforms. Our first one is scheduled for April 15th, more details to come!
9. During this time, for students to take advantage of our programming I highly encourage that they follow us on Instagram and Engage as that will be our main form of communication and programming.
10. We want to do senior boxes. We were wondering if the Senate would collaborate with that. In the box it would be like a poet's gear.
Pres. Moya: Maybe in those boxes, we can include the stoles.

F. Advocacy- *President Moya*

1. Did not meet last week.
2. Will try to meet this upcoming week.

- G. Culinary- *Sen. Malone & Sen. Torres***
 - 1. N/A
- H. Student Feedback Committee- *Sen. Modesti***
 - 1. N/A
- I. Student Finance Committee- *Tres. Estrada***
 - 1. N/A
- J. Environmental- *Sen. Casserly-Simmons***
 - 1. Going to get a visual done for the CI to hang when we go back to school eventually.
 - 2. Action bill is done and drafted just being revised.
- XI. First Readings**
 - A. N/A
- XII. Daily Calendar Considerations**
 - A. N/A
- XIII. Misc. Business**
 - A. *Petition/Initiative Amendment:*
 - 1. VP Jochim reads the amendment to the table.
 - 2. It reads “**ARTICLE XIII: Initiatives**
Any matter over which a governing body or committee of the ASWC has jurisdiction may be brought to a vote of the student body by an initiative containing ten percent (10%) of the student body’s signatures. The Elections Committee will be responsible for holding an election for the purpose of voting on the proposal within two weeks. The decision on the matter will be determined by a majority vote in that election.
Definition of an Initiative:
 - An initiative is a concern that pertains to larger, ongoing matters that affect the entire student body and/or staff on campus as a whole (i.e. sustainability, ADA compliance).
 - An initiative specifically calls for a vote by the student body.
 - An initiative contains a description of the presented concern and a feasible Course-of-action.
 - Administration will work with ASWC Senate to achieve the goals set forth by the Initiative.Initiatives and the Initiative Process:
 - The initiative must contain on each page a heading which includes the

Word “Initiative” and the full text of the proposal.

- The initiative is to be submitted to the Dean of Students or their designee who will be responsible for verifying that the conditions of part A above are met and for counting the number of full time students who have signed the petition.
- The Dean of Students or their designee will submit to the ASWC President and to the chair of the Elections Committee a notice including a copy of the heading (see paragraph 1 of this section) of the initiative and the number of full time students who have signed the petition with legible signatures. The Dean of Students or their designee maintains full authority to designate whether the presented document is a petition or initiative, and exercises full right to move forward regarding that designation. Under no circumstances will any names of people signing an initiative be made known to any member of the ASWC.

Article XIV: Petitions

Any matter over which a governing body or committee of the ASWC has jurisdiction may be brought by the student body to the Senate by a petition containing ten percent (10%) of the student body’s signatures.

Definition Of A Petition:

- A petition is a representation of student opinions on a particular matter that ASWC Senate holds jurisdiction over.
- Petitions regard specific daily calendar considerations, bills, and/or budget requests brought to the ASWC Senate.

The Petition And Petition Process:

The petition must contain on each page a heading which includes the word “Petition” and a description of the item the petition wishes to address

- If the petition is regarding a bill, the entirety of the bill must be physically attached to the petition.
- If the petition is regarding a budget request, they must request a print-out of the request from the current Treasurer to attach to the petition. The petition is to be submitted to the Dean of Students or their designee who will be responsible for verifying that the conditions of part A and B above are met and for counting the number of full time students who have signed the petition.

The Dean of Students or their designee will submit to the ASWC President and to

the chair of the Elections Committee a notice including a copy of the petition and the number of full time students who have signed the petition with legible signatures.

The Dean of Students or their designee maintains full authority to designate whether the presented document is a petition or initiative, and exercises full right to move forward regarding that designation.

Names of people signing a petition shall be made known to members of the ASWC Senate to allow for Senators to check for representation of their constituency.”

3. Sen. Mendoza: In the beginning of the article, the names have to be legible. Is there any way students can put their ID numbers?

VP Joachim: I like that.

Sen. Hidalgo: When senators run for positions, they should also have to put student id numbers as well.

4. We will be reading it next week.

B. *Elections Code Revisions:*

1. These revisions are being asked to be fast-tracked by the table so that it could apply to the upcoming elections.
2. Sec. Brost shows the table the revisions to the elections code.
3. Sen. Casserly Simmons: Will the Environmental Chair be voted in every spring?
4. Secretary Brost : Yes the position will be voted on every spring semester.
5. Sen Segura : I move to approve the amendments.

Dir. Gil:I second.

For: 13

Against: 2

Abstation: 0

6. This elections code with the revisions does pass.

C. *Senate Awards Nominations:*

1. (Closed Meeting)

XIV. Announcements

- A. Pres Moya: Linda let me know that currently the college is trying to prepare for the next semester, they are currently freezing all positions. What that means is that all positions will stay the same. Everyone still has a job, they just aren't hiring anyone new. No one is being fired.

B. Sen. Garrison: Our radios stations are still running and we are creating a spotify, so please give a listen. The QC is still publishing online. Some students on media council can no longer earn their work study because certain parts of media council have shut down.

Pres. Moya: They can still earn their work study for the regular hours that they worked.

Dir Gil: Does the QC have a social media platform?

Sen. Garrison: They have their own website. But they do have their own Instagram account. I believe that they are also putting stuff up on Engage.

Dir. Tejdia: In regards to the QC website, it has been down. Do you know anything about that?

Sen. Garrison: I accessed it this morning and it worked. But I will touch bases with the QC.

XV. Adjournment

A. Motioned By: Sen. Mendoza

Second By: Dir. Gil

B. Time: 8:27pm

Respectfully Submitted by Amber Brost, Secretary of the ASWC