

Elections Committee Meeting Minutes of April 25th, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER at **11:05 AM**

II. [ROLL CALL](#)

Present: Rajat Bakshi, Raghav Gupta, Meghavarshini Karuppusamy, Siddhartha Vaddempudi, James Carroll, Ashley Depappa, Heather Gardley

Absent: Bhavana Mysore Bhasavaraju, Krystal Tonga

III. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to amend the agenda Action Item IV - Approval of the Minutes of April 14, 2023, to Approval of the Minutes of April 14, 2024, by **S. Vaddempudi** and seconded by **R. Gupta**, motion **CARRIED**.

Motion to approve the agenda of April 25th, 2024, by **S. Vaddempudi** and seconded by **R. Gupta**, motion **CARRIED**.

IV. ACTION ITEM - **Approval of the Minutes of April 14, 2024**

Motion to approve the minutes of April 14th, 2024, by **M. Karuppusamy** and seconded by **S. Vaddempudi**, motion **CARRIED**.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – **Public Comment is intended as a time for any member of the public to address the committee on any issues affecting ASI and/or the California State University, East Bay.**

No public comment.

8:35

VI. UNFINISHED ITEMS:

A. DISCUSSION ITEM - **Grievances**

The Elections Committee will discuss any filed grievances.

J. Carroll confirms that no grievances have been filed as of the present time. He states that the deadline for filing grievances is April 25th, 2024, at 11:59 PM. **J. Carroll** reiterates that as of now, there have been no grievances filed, but individuals still have until the end of the day to submit any grievances.

9:17



B. DISCUSSION ITEM - Candidate Forum Recap

The Elections Committee will discuss the candidate forum held on Thursday, April 18th, 2024, at 12:15pm.

A. Deppapa comments on the turnout of candidates at the event, expressing overall satisfaction and competition from events in the union. She suggests acquiring a portable microphone system for future events. She notes positive engagement from students both at the event tabling and during the live session, concluding that considering the resources available and the location, the event went well.

12:05

C. DISCUSSION ITEM - Polling Stations Recap

The Elections Committee will discuss the polling stations hosted on Monday, April 22nd, 2024 - Wednesday, April 24th, 2024.

R. Gupta observes that many people at the polling stations lacked awareness about the elections and became informed through them. Efforts were made to encourage them to check their emails and participate in the voting process. He expresses concern regarding the lack of awareness about the elections among individuals, prompting consideration for sending a reminder email to increase voter turnout. He notes that the initial email, dated April 22nd, 2024, may have been overlooked, leaving recipients unaware of the ongoing elections. Sending a reminder email was proposed as a potential solution to address this issue. **J. Carroll** provides clarification on the email reminder system for voting. He explains that students received a daily reminder email if they had not voted, starting from the day voting opened at 8:00 AM. Additionally, reminder emails were sent on Tuesday and Wednesday of the election week. A fourth reminder was dispatched on the evening before the voting closed. He emphasized that students should have received four email reminders if they had not voted. Once a student voted, they were not supposed to receive further reminders. **J. Carroll** expresses willingness to follow up with the company if any students reported not receiving reminders despite not voting. **R. Gupta** confirms that everything would be fine if the reminders had already been synchronized. **J. Carroll** highlights the positive aspect of securing volunteers to assist. He emphasizes the importance of increasing student involvement and suggests exploring avenues for enhanced marketing efforts leading up to future elections. **J. Carroll** proposes strategies such as leveraging social media for reminder dissemination and creating engaging content like quick videos to boost interest and participation. He recommends expanding marketing initiatives to encompass the days leading up to the election and the polling days themselves.

17:20



VII. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. INFORMATION ITEM - **Voting update**

J. Carroll provides an update on the election process, mentioning the involvement of Big Pulse, the company managing the elections. He and **A. Depappa** reviewed the system, finalizing the tentative results just before the meeting. These results will be verbally announced during the meeting and later emailed to all candidates. **J. Carroll** highlights key winners, including Nolan Calara as President and CEO/Chair of the Board and Erick Macias as Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff, who ran unopposed. Notable winners of contested positions included Deepthi Bhimanapati for Vice President of Internal Affairs and Charan Reddy Doolam for Vice President of Finance and CFO. There was another candidate running for that position who was Vamshi Krishna Sai Myneni. However, Charan got the minimum votes required. The Director of Wellness and Recreation, Germione Yllyandra Faith Villegas was running unopposed, Director of Sustainability Jana Sophia Arella Ramos. There was another candidate for this position, Sowmya Vaddempudi, did not receive the minimum number of votes. Director of Communities Kartik Tripathi was running unopposed, so he will be the Director of Communities. Senator for College of Business and Economics will be Nidhi Sharma. There were two other candidates, Anahi Rodriguez and Sanskruti Desai who did not receive the minimum number, Nidhi got the minimum. Senator for the College of Arts and Letters and Social Sciences Joe Trujillo was running unopposed. Senator of Concord Campus, Hamad Mahmoud was running unopposed so he will be the Senator of Concord Campus. The Senator of Science, we had four people running and none of the candidates received the minimum required or 50% of the votes plus one. So, we will be doing a runoff election specifically for the Senator of College of Science and how that works is out of the four candidates the top two candidates that got the greatest number of votes will run in the runoff. So, the top two candidates with the greatest number of votes were Sai Lokesh Reddy Gayam and Sanya Kaur Chandan, those two received the top highest number of votes of the four. Jacob Choates and Piusha Pandey will be removed from the ballot as they received the lowest number of votes. There will be a runoff election on May 1st and 2nd into next week. The Senators at Large, we had five people running and so the four Senators at Large because candidates could choose up to four and the four that received the highest number of votes are Venkata Naga Anirudh Chaganti, Sofia Dela Cruz, Yashika Avhad, Matt Magaling will be moving forward and the 5th person that received the lowest number of votes, Mohammed Husain, will be not moving forward for this Senator at Large positions **J. Carroll** concludes by mentioning the application process for the Senator of the College of Education and Allied Studies. The detailed results will be shared with the committee and candidates via email, and a



runoff election for the Senator of the College of Science is scheduled. He invites questions from the attendees.

23:21

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS:

No special reports.

23:28

IX. ROUND TABLE REMARKS

J. Carroll expresses gratitude towards those who have actively contributed and assisted in the election process. He acknowledges the learning curve associated with new procedures and commended everyone's willingness to adapt and participate. **J. Carroll** specifically thanked individuals for their efforts in recruiting volunteers and for their presence at the tabling events throughout the duration of the elections. He emphasizes the collective effort in advancing the elections and expressed sincere appreciation for everyone's support and dedication.

24:06

X. ADJOURNMENT at **11:29 AM**

Minutes reviewed by:

Committee Chair

Rajat Bakshi

Rajat

Rajat (May 6, 2024 15:28 PDT)

Minutes approved on:

05/03/2024

Date:

