

California State University, Dominguez Hills
Donald P. and Katherine B. Loker University Student Union, Inc. (LSU)
Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes ♦ Thursday, March 23, 2023

1) Call to Order and Attendance

Vice Chairperson Emilyn Rangel called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. The meeting was held via video conferencing and in person due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Present

Emilyn Rangel
Gustavo Cardenas
Edgar Mejia
Ezinne Nwadiogu
Obioha Ogbonna
Erick Garcia
Dr. John Menary
David Gamboa
Tony Jake
Nathaniel Dotti
Cecilia Ortiz
Matthew Smith

Absent

Alex Lan-Powell
Miguel Juarez
Mayra Soriano
Tamala Lewis

Staff

Damesha McKnight
Jaime Leal
Amy Torres
John Stigar
Melissa Bancroft
Victor Gonzalez
Andrea Frausto
Khoi Pham
Natalie Tapia

Guests

Laura Kane
Michael Shrock
Alejandro Herrera

2) Land Acknowledgement

3) Approval of Agenda

ASI Representative, Edgar Mejia-Alezano moved to approve the agenda for the March 23, 2023 meeting. ASI President, Obioha Ogbonna seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

Motion passed. 7-0-0

4) Public Comment- Agenda Items

There was no public comment.

5) Old Business

a. LSU NXT30 Update

Brailsford & Dunlavey (B&D) partners Laura Kane and Michael Shrock shared an update on the NXT30 project. Laura Kane shared a summary of the LSU priorities such as greater variety & quality of services, comfortable spaces to relax, more visible marketing of programs & activities, outdoors & restorative spaces, and cultural/identity spaces central to LSU mission. Project considerations include the evolving needs of students, transparency with campus community, debt service ratio, and external factors. Previous concepts have been reviewed and there have been edits to them. Concept 1A. includes an expanded lower level and rooftop option. Concept 1B. only includes an expanded lower level with no rooftop option. Concept 2 includes a tower in a corner of the building with a rooftop. This concept has new construction with the tower in a corner of the building which includes an exterior entrance to the bookstore. Laura reminded the Board that the concepts are like Lego pieces that could be moved around based on the feedback that is received. The rooftop on the tower would be a smaller rooftop from concept 1A. The next steps for the project include the final Project Team meeting on March 28th and final recommendations regarding the campaign.

Alumni Representative, Erick Garcia asked if the option of expanding out instead of expanding up has been explored. Erick shared an interest in blurring the walls of the outdoors and indoors to have them merge. B&D partners shared that the LSU would have to work closely with the University to explore the option of expanding out due to new projects/buildings the University is in the process of.

Student-at-Large, Gustavo Cardenas asked about the culture and identity centers in concept 1 where they are placed where the bookstore currently is. Gustavo expressed concern if that would be enough space to accommodate all culture and identity centers.

Nate Dotti shared that other campuses are in the process of similar projects therefore the LSU should build now to keep up with the other campuses, but build to meet our students needs.

ASI President, Obioha Obgonna shared that although the time to do something is now, he is torn due to the number of projects that will be occurring at the same time.

AVP Matthew Smith shared that it may be beneficial to get data on what influences students to make decisions around enrollment. The data would show if the deciding factor for students may be the cost, the facilities, or other factors.

ASI Representative, Ezinne Nwadiogu left at 4pm.

b. Cost of Living Adjustment

Human Resources Generalist & Executive Assistant, Natalie Tapia presented on the cost of living adjustment. The Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) is an increase in pay or benefits to keep up with the rising costs of goods and services due to inflation. The overall cost of living in Los Angeles is 54% above the national average. The staff members eligible for the COLA must have been employed for 12 months from July 1, 2021. The proposed COLA for eligible staff is a 3% increase.

Erick Garcia motioned to approve the 3% increase cost of living adjustment for eligible LSU staff members employed from July 1, 2021, effective July 1, 2022. Academic Senate Representative, John Menary seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

Motion passed. 5-1-0

6) Adjournment

Vice Chairperson, Emilyn Rangel adjourned the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

Approval of minutes: _____ Or _____
Secretary Chairperson, Alex Lan-Powell

Date of approval _____