

#### **Executive Committee**

April 5th, 2023 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm T-152

Zoom Call:hhttps://sfsu.zoom.us/j/91666786157?pwd=YIFGZHYzbGoySThwT25aU3dVay9VQT09 Meeting ID: 916 6678 6157

Passcode: Exec

#### Minute

I Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 2:04 pm.

II. Roll Call

Karina Zamora, President (Chair) – Present
Iese Esera, Chief of Staff – Present
Mea Montanez, VP of Finance – Present
Arojit Das, VP of Social Justice & Equity – Present
Ersa Rao, VP of Facilities & Operations – Present
Priyam Mavani, Chief Justice – Excused
Tonee Sherill, Executive Director – Present

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda for April 5th, 2023. Moved by Iese Esera, Chief of Staff. Seconded by Ersa Rao, VP of Facilities & Operations.

Motion to amend the agenda to move discussion item b. to a., discussion item c. to b., and discussion item a. to c..

Moved by Iese Esera, Chief of Staff.

Seconded by Arojit Das, VP of Social Justice & Equity.

Yes: 4 No: None Abstain: None

Motion is Approved.

Motion to approve the amended agenda. Yes: 4 No: None Abstain: None Motion is Approved.

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IV. Approval of Minutes (02/22/23)

Motion to approve the minutes for 02/22/23. Moved by Iese Esera, Chief of Staff. Seconded by Ersa Rao, VP of Facilities & Operations. Yes: 4 No: None Abstain: None Motion is Approved.

V. Open Forum

None.

VI. Discussion Item

### a. Discussion on PIVOT (Karina Zamora - President)

The Committee will hear from Jeff Jackanicz who will be continuing a discussion on the alternative revenue source he discussed at the 03.29.23 BOD meeting's open forum.

Jeff Jackanicz, from the Office of Advancement discussed a potential partnership with a company named Pivot. Pivot specializes in working with colleges and universities to secure corporate naming sponsorships for certain spaces within their facilities, and as a way of bringing additional revenue to the institution. The primary focus of the partnership would be athletics spaces, he stated. The Office of Advancement has already spoken with the athletics director and the cabinet, who are supportive of the partnership, he added. However, feedback from key constituencies such as the Associated Students, Academic Senate, and Staff Council is still pending, he clarified. He mentioned that two representatives from Pivot have expressed their interest in working with San Francisco State. They have done their research and understand the university well. They believe that there is an opportunity to source potential corporate partners that are consistent with the university's values, such as regional or local credit unions, health care providers, or other private sector entities that are community-focused. He stated that the proposed partnership would be a two-phase scope of work, with the first phase being a comprehensive assessment of the university as a whole, with a primary focus on athletics spaces and facilities. The assessment would be followed by a presentation of what Pivot believes would be the most productive to focus on and some ballpark figures on what they imagine could be the kinds of revenue that they could seek to secure with potential partners, he added. The second phase, if opted for, would be a three-month period during which Pivot would actively prospect and try to secure relationships, with funds from the San Francisco State University Foundation. He encouraged the Exec Committee to provide feedback and reflections on the proposed partnership, as the university aims to ensure that any potential partners and spaces are consistent with San Francisco State's values.



**Iese Esera, Chief of Staff** thanked for his contribution and someone asked if there was any information available on the revenue generated by other institutions through the partnership. He suggested that Pivot may provide some answers after the three-month assessment, but he was interested in a ballpark estimate for what Associated Students could expect after a few years of the partnership. Specifically, he wanted to know what benefits other institutions had seen from similar partnerships. Jeff responded to his question about potential revenue sources for the university's athletics program. He mentioned that specific figures related to other universities with bigger athletics programs were not useful. However, he suggested that a 10-year sponsorship agreement with a credit union could potentially bring in \$1 million, or \$100,000 annually, for naming rights to the gymnasium or athletics fields. He emphasized that any revenue generated from this should go towards scholarships for student athletes, as this is something that the athletics program consistently needs funding for. He mentioned that while they were not sure if the \$1 million estimate was reasonable, they believed that additional scholarship support would help the athletics program recruit and support student athletes better. Finally, he noted that while they had not considered the Student Union as a potential recipient of these funds, they would welcome the idea if others were interested. However, they also acknowledged that the university had no jurisdiction over the Student Union. Iese expressed appreciation for the partnership with student athletes on campus, noting that as an RA, they oversee the athletic floor and see the value of this partnership. However, he also mentioned being a student in the arts for the past four years and how their program has suffered from severe underfunding, with almost 40% of vocal literature and campus classes being cut. He wanted to bring this issue to the record, acknowledging that while the partnership with athletics is valuable, there is an overemphasis on promoting athletics on campus while not doing enough to support creatives. He suggested finding a way to make this partnership work for all students on campus, either with the current partner or a different one. He emphasized the need to invest in all students, not just athletes, and hoped the board would agree. Jeff expressed his agreement with the need for more support for the arts on campus. He mentioned that they have a fundraiser solely focused on raising support for creative and visual arts programs, but only one half of a fundraiser for athletics. However, he acknowledged the importance of other spaces on campus and the potential history behind them, such as the naming of the McKenna auditorium. He suggested that any funds should support the activities or academic areas that would use the named space. He also proposed funding phase one work and bringing the assessment back to the academic senate and staff council for feedback on whether to move forward and in what way. Lastly, he thanked the Committee for their time and cooperation.

## b. Statement regarding issues with the ROMC (Karina Zamora - President)

The Committee in collaboration with our AED of Marketing, will discuss formulating a statement to be shared on social media, to acknowledge and address recent issues with the ROMC mural celebrations.

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The committee discussed plans related to ongoing issues with and changes to the ROMC. Representatives from MELA de San Pancho expressed wanting to hear input from others before making any decisions. She discussed the importance of historical context in mural celebrations, and partnering with historical student organizations to ensure the celebration serves the community. Iese Esera, Chief of Staff shared his intention, which was to brainstorm and discuss how to highlight and acknowledge what happened between student organizations and a student staff member Associated Students. He discussed taking notes and hearing thoughts on how to move forward as an organization and recognizing the situation. The goal was to have a solid plan to announce in the board meeting next Wednesday and possibly pass a resolution structure in the meeting next Monday, he clarified. Steven Lee (Dir. Government & Community Relations) and the Social Justice & Equity Committee were mentioned as being instrumental in getting statements out quickly, and the marketing team would also be involved. He was open to any conversation and wanted to hear thoughts on what a resolution could look like, but did not want anyone to force their ideas. He acknowledged that if they decide to send a statement on Monday, they would need to store whatever they brainstormed during the meeting. Finally, anyone with additional thoughts was encouraged by him to add them into the statement and to reach out to as many people as possible to get their input. Christine Amador, Leadership Development Coordinator, discussed that there are steps that need to be taken collaboratively to move forward with the revitalization of the ROMC. One of the steps is to put mural celebrations in the hands of a full-time staff member to ensure cultural sensitivity and necessary support. Another step is to create written memorandums of understanding between Associated Students and collaborators to have a clear understanding of everyone's contribution to the celebrations. The final aspect discussed was the implementation of a Personnel Committee that would include student voices in the hiring process, particularly for sensitive positions like the ROMC Director, to ensure that the community is being served justly in celebratory spaces. Tonee Sherill, Executive Director noted that in the past, ROMC was not a student-directed program. However, due to multiple transitions and vacancies, the students had to take on a responsibility larger than their 20-hour a week position. He proposed to put a full-time staff member in place whose sole purpose would be to serve in that capacity just like Project Connect. Intention behind this is to avoid the burden being put upon the students, which can be unfair to them and not beneficial to the community, he stated. The aim is to get back to the way it was when there was a professional staff member, so any student that will work will only be supporting the work of the director, not necessarily leading the work of celebrations. The hiring process was also discussed by him, and he mentioned that there is only so much that can be asked of a candidate in their interview process without infringing on legal issues. Background checks are done, but if something is not on the record or is an open case that hasn't had an outcome, then it cannot be taken into consideration, he clarified.



Moving back to the model that once was hoped to remedy some of the issues being faced with student employees having lives outside of the organization and how that can impact their work, he added. Personal things have impacted work in the past, and he apologized for not knowing about it earlier. The hope is that the pathway forward will lead to a better solution for the campus, he emphasized. Representatives from MELA de San Pancho made a clarifying statement, expressing her concern that the board may not fully understand the situation being discussed. She mentioned that language is important and powerful, especially considering the individuals in the board hold positions of power. She highlighted that during a previous planning meeting, only one student organization showed up, which was their own. She emphasized the importance of being mindful of the language used and how it can affect the community. She mentioned that recent articles have misrepresented the number of Latino organizations, which highlights the need for clarity and accuracy. She then asked for the purpose of the statement, indicating that they had follow-up questions. Karina Zamora, President, discussed that the purpose of the statement is to demonstrate to AS constituents and organizations that the board is aware of the situation and acknowledges it. She mentioned that there has been some radio silence on social media, which has led to speculation that the board are not aware or do not care about the issue. Therefore, she agreed that the board will acknowledge the situation on AS social media platforms to let everyone know that the board members are aware of what's going on. Additionally, she noted that she will issue a plan outlining the next steps to ensure that incidents like this do not occur again, not only for AS organizations but also for other similar organizations. The Representative expressed frustration about the lack of communication regarding an apology for a previous incident. She felt angry that the board had not reached out personally to them to apologize. She also mentioned feeling frustrated that the board was discussing the incident privately while it was a public matter. She questioned why the board was only now discussing a public acknowledgement without first informing those affected. She also raised concerns about the vagueness of the apology, requesting that it be addressed directly to those impacted. Tonee, on behalf of Associated Students and their professional staff, apologized to the members of MELA de San Pancho in the meeting for the negative experience they had during the planning meeting. He acknowledges that part of the challenge is not being present in the meeting and receiving secondhand information about what happened. He tries to piece together all the feedback and reports they received to fully understand the situation and provide a genuine apology. He expresses their sincere apology for the negative experience and wants to ensure that they fully comprehend the situation before giving a better apology. **Iese** mentioned that the board was not aware of the situation until the middle of spring break, and any meetings that they had about it were just to get the board members up to speed. He apologized for not mentioning the organization by name and acknowledged that SF Hillel was also present during the incident.



He clarified that there have not been any secret meetings regarding the situation, and that even the board members were not fully informed because they were not present during the meeting. He acknowledged that there was a sense of unknowingness among the students and that the majority of the board members were not aware of the situation. He expressed frustration with their internal issues in getting board members to attend meetings and just wanted to make it clear that the board was not hiding anything regarding the incident. The Representatives from MELA de San Pancho expressed her frustration with the need to explain everything to the board. She felt that the important people in the room knew the full length of the situation and had read their statement. She believed that their demands had been met by the actions taken and did not see the need for a statement. She expressed their concern that a statement would be empty-handed and that the board should focus on taking real action instead. She also shared their personal belief that the history of the last year with ROMC should have never happened and that changes need to be made. She wants to see a real celebration and for the Richard Oakes Multicultural Center to be a program for students. She expressed anger about how they have been victimized and targeted since the meeting and how their safety has been compromised. She stated their frustration with being used as a diversity trophy and how they were called anti-Semitic by Dr. Jamillah Moore without being reached out to. Karina shared that President Mahoney and VP Moore had met with the board earlier that day and discussed the email that had caused damage to students and to MELA. The email was targeted at someone in particular and had labeled them as anti-Semitic, she said. Iese mentioned that he told President Mahoney and VP **Moore** that the email was not acceptable and that the organization's backlash was a result of it. The students wanted to emphasize that the majority of students had been working on this issue and that the email was historically damaging, he added. He also mentioned that they found it troubling that the email was sent as if the sender was present at the meeting. The board had also privately spoken to **Dr. Moore** about who was present in these meetings and felt that it was important to highlight that someone from the university was present at the meeting, he added. The Representative expressed her disappointment at not being included in discussions about an issue affecting students. She questioned why the President, who was present at the meeting, didn't reach out to them or other affected students. She highlighted their accessibility by pointing out that their office space was down the hall and that they spend a lot of time in the building. She also emphasized the importance of communication and understanding the impact of the issue on the affected students. She suggested that checking in with the students would be beneficial and appreciated, especially on a professional level. Iese mentioned that he and Karina had a casual discussion with the administration regarding their frustration with an email and its impact. He asked for clarification on whether the organization or ROMC would reach out to them, as they had privately reached out to other student organizers. He acknowledged their responsibility to students but mentioned that they did not feel equipped as a non-elected student leader.



He wanted their statement to be on record and would leave it to other members to discuss further. Arojit Das, VP of Social Justice & Equity expressed regret for not reaching out to the group earlier. He acknowledged that they were not fully aware of the situation and were currently trying to understand what had happened. He apologized on behalf of the student body for any harm caused and stated that he had not attended the meeting with Karina and Iese. The email sent out was not intended to target anyone, and he expressed a desire to move forward and make things right with the group. Finally, he expressed sorrow for what had happened and a willingness to work towards a resolution. The Representative discussed that there will be another meeting, which will involve Karina. One of the agenda items for the upcoming meeting is to draft a statement based on their experience and to clarify the timeline, she said. She plans on meeting with **Dr.** Jamillah Moore for full transparency, but it will be an internal thing as individuals part of the organization. The Representative discussed the timeline of events that led to Dr. Moore getting back to them within two hours and an email was sent out within three days. She acknowledged that not everyone in the room had the full story and suggested that they could have contacted them to get the full story. However, she also mentioned how difficult it was to repeatedly retell the story and how taxing the whole experience has been for them. The Representative expressed frustration that no one reached out to them even after they released the statement. She mentioned that they tried hard to create an all-encompassing statement, but it still doesn't cover everything that happened. She also pointed out that when similar incidents happened to other students on campus, they reached out to them to offer support and get the full story. She expressed that they understand some board members may not be fully trained and that they are looking from the outside in. She suggested that board members could seek support and ask questions from other people and staff, and that it would be beneficial to knock on doors to be a part of things that they are curious about. She also expressed their frustration with statements being put out that do not mean anything to them and emphasized the importance of taking action instead of just putting out a statement. She highlighted that people will always critique those in positions of power and that it is a sacrifice that comes with the position. **Iese** expressed confusion regarding the purpose of the statement and thought it should be a resolution passed by the organization to list actions being taken, rather than simply telling the public about changes. He suggested that the Personnel Committee should be brought back for student representation and acknowledged that the organization could have done better in reaching out to students, and recommended that a committee be organized by the board for students to be a part of, to be the liaison between the student organization representative and professional staff positions. He emphasized that the committee should include more than one person from one organization to prevent potential issues. Tonee discussed the issue of disclosure and conflict of interest, which may prevent certain individuals from serving. With over 200 student employee organizations, the process of selecting a replacement could be challenging.



He suggested seeking counsel to ensure the selection process is legally sound and to avoid liability. He acknowledged that this could be a bureaucratic process and may take some time to implement in a way that aligns with the organization's objectives. He indicated they would provide an update after consulting with the council. Jamila, AED HR, mentioned that the committee responsible for hiring management positions is being brought back. She has been chairing the committee as she is from HR and has knowledge of various facets of the University. The committee includes board members, and they give an opportunity for students to participate in the hiring process through an open forum. The students are given a form to provide feedback on the candidate. She explained that the Personnel Committee used to exist, and it was chaired by a member of the board, and they would sit on many cideries within the organization. She added that any board member is welcome to join any hiring committee. The focus is on bringing the public to the forum and allowing them to participate in the hiring process. Tonee discussed that the demand was for a student director position for the ROMC, which is specific to the student body. He acknowledged that not all student positions have a director due to the high number of positions. The Open Forum was mentioned as a way for the demand to be addressed and for feedback to be received. He clarified that the demand includes having representation at the table and being invited to open forums. Karina apologized to the Representatives from MELA de San Pancho for the traumatic experience they went through. She acknowledges that they failed as a board and as students for not reaching out to them and apologized for not doing so. She also apologized for the personal matters that came up during the meeting and how it affected the professional setting. She mentioned that they will no longer release a statement and will instead focus on taking action by setting up a board resolution that includes steps to highlight mural celebrations and implementing a Personnel Committee that includes democratically elected students. She expressed gratitude for the students attending the meeting and their willingness to share their thoughts and impact, as it is necessary for the board to be accountable for their constituency. **Tonee** expressed gratitude for the attendees' presence and the hope that they could take this experience to heart. Representatives from MELA de San Pancho emphasized the need for the administration to do more to reach out and be more involved in the community. They stressed that it would be appreciated if the administration would not wait until an issue arises before contacting them. She advocated for a concrete plan to avoid similar issues happening again, suggesting the end of the semester as a deadline for implementing an MOU. She also proposed creating a scholarship for students involved in historical student organizations. She requested that the scholarship include all relevant organizations, such as Mela, Skins, BSU, LFS, and so on. She highlighted that they work for students for free, and the administration should recognize their efforts and offer support by providing scholarships. She emphasized the importance of honoring their work as they fought for space and recognition within the building.



Alejandro Rios, Assistant Executive Director, mentioned that the organization already has some scholarships in place that honor the historical organizations and are named after individuals that served the campus community. One of these scholarships was named after a person whose picture is displayed on the wall, Delmy Rodriguez. Alejandro suggested that the organization could potentially modify the existing scholarships or look into creating additional ones. However, they emphasized that the organization should not disregard the scholarships that are currently in place. **Iese** mentioned that he would like to offer support to those who are meeting with **President Mahoney** and **Dr. Moore**. He offered to assist with organizing the meeting and also offered the use of the state building if needed. Additionally, he extended an invitation to the individual to attend their monthly lunch with the President, and mentioned that they had brought students from MSA to the event last semester. Finally, he offered to set up a separate private meeting with the President and Dr. Moore, without themselves present, if that was preferred. **Karina** discussed that the focus will be on working towards the resolution and it will be on the next board agenda for Wednesday's meeting at Jack Adams Hall at 2 pm. She emphasized that the priority will be on taking action and not on how the board wants to be perceived on social media or appearances. The board will show action towards their commitment, she said.

## c. Prayer Space Discussion - Follow Up (Karina Zamora - President)

The Committee will discuss continuing discussions on the future of the Prayer Space, considering information presented at our Food for Thought meeting with President Mahoney.

Christine Amador, Leadership Development Coordinator, discussed that the University had identified several spaces that could be utilized for the MSA, including one in the library or in the muscle community prayer space. However, the student organization expressed their preference for keeping the space in the Student Center due to its proximity to the foot washing stations. The possibility of a foot washing station in the library was discussed, but it was determined that it was not currently feasible. She mentioned President Mahoney, who asked for input on whether the space in the Student Center could be used temporarily while the University worked on finding a permanent solution, such as a space in the library. Another option presented was to put the allocation of space up for a vote to the broader student community, as other students also have a need for prayer spaces on campus. The question was raised about how long the temporary space in the Student Center could be used, and whether an end date would be given while the University worked on finding a permanent solution. Input and advice were requested on what course of action should be taken. Tonee Sherill, Executive Director, stated that the request for a pair space was made to the administration and they provided temporary space. The administration has done what was requested, and now the ball is in their court. He suggested that it is not a financial concern and that the request for the space will not be fulfilled this semester.



The room that the pair space currently occupies is highly utilized, and there are limited small meeting rooms available. The operational need for the organization is to backfill the room that was lost or to find another space that can meet their demands. The issue of whether or not to permit a pair space in the student center is separate from the operational need to backfill the lost room. He emphasized the need to address the remaining student organizations' demand for meeting spaces and suggested finding a permanent space designated for the craniosacral. He concluded that the club has been in this space for years, and the ball is rolling, and something needs to be done to backfill the lost room. Karina Zamora, **President** inquired about the progress of restructuring the available spaces, such as the Mansion Hall and the newly opened library area. She suggested creating a meeting space on the first level that can be taken offline if necessary, to accommodate more people. There was no mention of any specific plans or timelines for implementing this proposal. Tonee discussed that the current meeting space is smaller than what was previously utilized and is an operational issue rather than a player issue. Hall is larger than the room that was regularly utilized during sentencing. They provided two years of an overly utilized space that wasn't being utilized, which resulted in demands from the students when they returned. However, these demands couldn't be met as they were under the impression that their temporary solution would be resolved. He believes that the group needs to focus on meeting the requests and not connect all the pieces, as these issues impact decision-making. **Iese Esera**, Chief of Staff said that there was a discussion about the prayer space in the building. He expressed their opinion that if the board wants to make the prayer space permanent, then they should just say so next week. He doesn't want to inform the praying community members that they can't have a prayer space. He also mentioned that if they have to backfill, it would be a shift in conversation. He believes that it's a no-brainer and there's no need for further discussion unless they find another space to send people to. He emphasized that finding another space is the best solution but if the decision has been made to keep the prayer space, then they should just make it permanent. He added that keeping it temporary is also an option but it's clear that they need a solution. He suggested that they should say it's permanent and figure out the logistics later. Tonee emphasized the importance of making an informed decision regarding a permanent peerspace. He suggested conducting a pro poll and gathering data on the actual schedule, request, and demand on the operation. He mentioned having a conversation about alternative options and considering all angles before agreeing to anything permanent. He also discussed the potential rippling effect and domino effect of a decision. He suggested pulling requests and looking for available spaces for meetings while setting up a meeting with MSA to discuss collaboration on a campus-wide survey. He acknowledged the demands for smaller spaces and emphasized the need to find additional space while not turning anyone away. He promised to go back to the drawing board and talk to us about it, and to come up with recommendations to bring. Alejandro Rios, Assistant Executive Director, addressed the board and raised a few points for their consideration.



He mentioned that the administrative perspective should align with the board's desired direction, and that the organization chart still has vacancies to be filled. However, he also noted that there are limited spaces available in the building, and therefore, a thoughtful decision should be made regarding filling those vacancies. He emphasized the importance of not rushing into a decision and expressed hope that the board would take everything into account before making any permanent decisions. He also suggested that no one should be forced out of their current space until the end of the semester, and that the university may find alternative options that the prayer community is comfortable with. He concluded by urging the board not to rush into a decision by next Wednesday, as there are many factors to consider. Iese acknowledged the unique nature of their program, particularly regarding survivor support, and suggested that the board prioritize it over other concerns. He pointed out that while other student organizations can meet anywhere on campus, their program requires a dedicated space, and they would prefer to focus their energy on finding a suitable location for the program. He also mentioned that the Legal Resource Center had been offline for an extended period, and only returned because it was a priority for Associated Students (AS). He expressed their belief that the board should prioritize their AS program over the demand for space, which they believe can be managed. He acknowledged that it is ultimately up to the board to decide and expressed their desire to make sure their opinion was heard.

VII. Action Items

None.

#### VIII. Announcements

**Tonee Sherill, Executive Director,** mentioned that during the meeting on April 14th, it was mentioned that Cozen O'Connor would be presenting their report on the expected process for the rollout of their recommendations related to Title IX issues. They are looking for a student to be a part of that presentation. He asked what the commitment would be and it was clarified that it would be on April 18th.

**Mea Montanez, VP of Finance** said that **Veronica** had shared the 23/24 budget reading at the finance meeting. The finance committee is currently working on a presentation for the incoming 2023 Fall student org funding training. They plan to provide a recorded workshop for students to help them navigate funding requests. The goal is to provide an accessible resource to advocate for students.

**Karina Zamora, President,** reminded everyone that the WASC meeting is in 30 minutes, at 4:30 pm. The accreditation group meeting will last for 45 minutes, and it's important that everyone attends if possible.



IX. Adjournment

# Meeting was adjourned at 3:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Pragati Makani	
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	Pragati Makani
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Approved by: Karina Zamora, President	
DocuSigned by:	
	Karina Zamora
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Members shall be teleconferencing in from the following locations: 207 Harvard Ave, N. Claremont, CA 91711; 1600 Holloway Ave., San Francisco, CA 94132