



**LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES – STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
Educational Services Center  
Board Room – First Floor  
770 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90017**

**Friday, August, 5 2016  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Committee: Alexa Victoriano, Chair; Bobbi Kimble, ESC; Sonia Lopez, ELAC; Mandie Dixon, LACC; Aurora Paredes, ELAC; Andres Aquino, LAHC; Melissa Ramirez, LAMC; Barbara Lombrano, LAPC; Craig Mitchell, LASC; John Eleby, LATTC; Beatriz Medina, LAVC; and Chris Mata, WLAC.

Student Trustee Victoriano called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

The following colleges were present: LACC, ELAC, LAHC, LAMC, LAPC, LASC, LATTC, LAVC, and WLAC.

A quorum was present.

**PUBLIC SPEAKERS**

Ms. Phyllis Eckler, LACC, Associate Professor, Member of the League of Women Voters, gave information about the purpose of the League of Women Voters to provide non-partisan, balanced information. She raised awareness of the importance of young voter participation in the upcoming Presidential election, due to seventeen ballot propositions that could potentially impact college students. She gave the top three results of a poll that the League of Women Voters organization gave to LACCD students to determine which ballot issues are the most important to them. Ms. Eckler gave the results of the poll in order of popularity: tax extensions to fund education and health care, potential changes in gun control laws, and the repeal of the death penalty. She also told the ASG/ASO/ASU Presidents that the League of Women Voters are open to visiting LACCD colleges to give students more information.

Ms. Lorena Aguilar, Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), Region VII Representative, shared some of the goals for the SSCCC- including increasing the participation of students in shared governance and providing more advocacy for students.

Mr. John Eleby, LATTC, Student, ASO Senator for Advocacy, Member of Umoja, distributed an informational handout about the LATTC Umoja Program to the Student Affairs Committee.

The following public speakers addressed their concerns with the LATTC Umoja program to the committee:

- Mr. Micheal Harper, LATTC Student, Member of Umoja
- Mr. Nehasi Lee, Santa Monica College Student
- Mr. Robert Pico, LATTC Operating Staff Member of Umoja
- Mr. Garvin King, LATTC Student, Member of Umoja
- Mr. Marvin McGraw, LATTC Student, Member of Umoja
- Ms. Tarita Whitley, LATTC Student, Executive Board Member of the Inter Club Council, Co-Chair of the Black Student Union, Member of Umoja

The issues that were brought forth were concerns with the recent change in Umoja's leadership and the lack of a meeting space. These changes coincided with the allocation of funds for the program from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO). The history of the Umoja's financial sitsince its inception was described as one of uncertainty and instability, with funding issues existing over the past six to seven years. Efforts were made to try to obtain public funding, rather than having to rely on the private funds of a few individuals. The goal of its members was to increase the program's ability to provide services and opportunities to students. There was a widespread concern that after Umoja did receive public funding however, that the allocation of those funds were not being made transparent by LATTC administration.

The specific funding changes with Umoja coincided with the change in the organization's leadership from Dean Dorothy Smith, whom they felt had been unrightfully unseated, to Vice President Kaneesha Tarrant. Members of Umoja contended that the change in leadership, after years of the program being privately funded by the collective efforts of individuals including Dean Smith, is due to the fact that Umoja now has public student equity funding. A shared concern among members was that the LATTC administration's newfound interest in the program is largely an economic one that is devoid of any emotional investment in its participants.

The importance of a permanent space for the group was also addressed. It was stated that the lack of a space is also a hindrance to the organization's ability to provide services that benefit students. It was noted how the organization has been an important presence at LATTC over the years, having worked with other programs such as RISE (Respect Students Immigrant Education).

Mr. Eleby proposed a motion to include an action item of addressing the leadership issues of Umoja.

Ms. Kimble advised that he reintroduce his motion for a vote during agenda Item VIII, Discussion Item A, Umoja Program at LATTC, and indicated that his initial request would still be noted.

### ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

The following individuals reported on issues, activities, and events at their respective colleges:

Mr. Andres Aquino, LAHC; Ms. Beatriz Medina, LAVC, Ms. Jennifer Edwards, WLAC; Mr. John Eleby, LATTC; Ms. Mandie Dixon, LACC; Ms. Aurora Perez, ELAC; Ms. Melissa Ramirez, LAMC; Ms. Barbara Lombrano, LAPC; Ms. Jackeline Manjarrez, LASC

### STUDENT TRUSTEE MONTHLY REPORT

Student Trustee Victoriano thanked the public speakers for bringing forth the issues regarding the LATTC Umoja program to the attention of the Student Affairs Committee. She ensured that she will do her very best to help with the students concerns.

Student Trustee Victoriano introduced 'campaignmonitor.com' as a way to expedite communications among Student Affairs Committee members when proposing agenda items, and announced that she will also introduce the use of an interactive 'email blast' method of communication for the Student Affairs Committee to use at their colleges.

Student Trustee Victoriano announced that she had also created a public Facebook page to post information about the Student Affairs Committee, Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), college events, etc., and stated that the Facebook page would also be used to provide information for the SSCCC with the goal of being able to share the activities that each ASG/ASO/ASU President is involved with at their respective college.

### LIAISON REPORTS

#### Educational Services Center Report – Bobbi Kimble, Liaison

Ms. Kimble gave a tutorial of the Los Angeles Community College District's homepage, with a step by step demonstration of how to find the Student Equity Plans. She cited the January 13, 2016 Board agenda as a reference to when the current Student Equity Plans were approved by the Board. She advised the Student Affairs Committee that it is the right of a student to request to see their college's Student Equity Plan, as this information is open to the public. She then referred to the Board Agendas section of the LACCD website, and cited the December 3, 2014 Board agenda as last date that Student Equity Plans were approved prior to January 13, 2016.

Ms. Kimble advised the committee that the role of the Board of Trustees is to improve upon the overall Student Equity Plan, but that each college should be aware of the specific line items contained within their individual plan. She also advised the committee to find out the names of the college representatives that signed off the Student Equity Plans of 2014-2015. She then inquired of the Student Affairs Committee if they were aware of who oversees the Student Equity Plan at their college, as this awareness an important component to understanding the allocation of funds. She reported that the state of California is currently reconfiguring how they will use funds for Equity Student Success and Support (Equity SSSP) and Basic Skills.

Ms. Kimble stated that there will be upcoming meetings for ASO advisors. She then announced the date of the Leadership Institute, October 14, 2016, adding that she would ask for volunteers at the next ASO Advisor's Meeting to assist.

#### ASO/ASU/ASG Advisors' Report – Sonia Lopez, Liaison

Ms. Lopez communicated her goal to reach out to the Student Trustee in order to ensure that the Leadership Institute is what students want it to be, and to make sure that the Student Affairs Committee members are aware of shared governance meetings that take place so that they can participate at their respective colleges as well.

Ms. Lopez announced the upcoming events of the LACCD Leadership Institute, including the annual parliamentary training for student leadership, as well as the retreat taking place on August 13-14, 2016 being led by ELAC student leadership.

Ms. Lopez noted that new ASO advisors may be coming to various colleges in the District.

#### Chief Student Service Officers' (CSSO) Report – Kalynda Webber McLean, Liaison

No report. (Absent)

#### College Presidents' Report – Laurence B. Frank, Liaison

No report. (Absent)

#### MATTERS FOR/OFF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

None.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### Umoja Program at LATTC

Mr. John Eleby stated that he had been informed that Vice President Kaneesha Tarrant was not currently looking for a space for Umoja, and expressed concern

that Umoja may never have a permanent space at LATTC. He stated that the organization had been displaced during the renovation period at LATTC, which would include a conversion of the space that had been provided for Umoja, to that of a game room.

Mr. Eleby invited members of Umoja to use the remainder of his discussion time to address the Student Affairs Committee with their concerns regarding Umoja's displacement.

Ms. Tarita Whitley, LATTC Student, Executive Board Member of the Inter Club Council, Co-Chair of the Black Student Union, Member of Umoja, stated that the LATTC ASO had taken Umoja's space away after they had fought hard to get it, while ASO felt that they were being very accommodating in providing a space at all. She disagreed with the concept of using the space as a game room, and argued that a permanent space for Umoja would be a way to increase student achievement.

Mr. Eleby stated that the presence of a space is important for Umoja's student outreach efforts, and that he feels that no priority is being given to this issue. He further added that finding a space for Umoja has been an ongoing conversation between Umoja, LATTC ASO, and administrators since the program's inception.

Ms. Beatriz Medina, LAVC, ASU President, asked if there is anything that the Student Affairs Committee can do to ensure that Umoja continues after years of service.

Ms. Mandie Dixon, LACC, ASG President, asked for clarity in regard to how the Student Equity Plans are being utilized, specifically at LACC, LATTC, and the LACCD colleges in which the majority populations are African American and Latino.

Ms. Kimble responded to the question, advising the Student Affairs Committee that knowing where to find information is the beginning of being able to understand the dynamics of the administration at their individual colleges. She stated that students have the right to view the Student Equity Plan for their college, as they are open to the public. She further advised that the Student Affairs Committee cannot get into great detail about the funding situation of any individual college in the district, due to the fact that it operates at a districtwide level.

Student Trustee Victoriano stated that she had met with members of Umoja and welcomed them to contact her with issues that they wish to bring to the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Bryant Woodert, LACC, DCOC (District Citizen's Oversight Committee), Representative, advised members of Umoja to consider bringing these matters

forth to the Board of Trustees as well, in order to further raise awareness of the issues.

Motion by Mr. Eleby, seconded by Ms. Medina, to enact a resolution to support both the Umoja and PUENTE programs at the next Student Affairs Committee Meeting on September 9, 2016.

*APPROVED: 9 AYES*

#### Discussion item, Umoja Program at LATTC (continued)

Ms. Lorena Aguilar, Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), Region VII Representative, informed the committee that she would be meeting again with Student Trustee Victoriano.

Student Trustee Victoriano expressed the importance of having programs like Umoja and PUENTE in place to help students realize their full academic potential. Mr. Eleby informed the committee of his appointment to speak with LATTC administrators on August 8, 2016 at 2pm.

Student Trustee Victoriano confirmed this statement.

#### PUENTE Program at LATTC

Mr. Eleby stated that he had requested to speak with LATTC Vice President Leticia Barajas about the program but was unable to reach her, and instead spoke with Vice President Kaneesha Tarrant about the PUENTE program's status.

Mr. Eleby stated that Dr. Tarrant had informed him the vacant counseling position in the program will be filled through the proper LACCD hiring processes.

Ms. Kimble noted that the committee needed to conclude with this topic so that the next agenda item could be addressed by Dr. Adriana Barrera, LACCD, Deputy Chancellor.

Motion by Student Trustee Victoriano, seconded by Ms. Medina to move to Discussion Item C on the agenda.

*APPROVED: 9 AYES*

#### Food Services Updates

Dr. Barrera introduced Ms. Leila Menzies, LACCD, Vice President of Administrative Services, informing the Student Affairs Committee of the food services timeline that had been developed by the Business Services Department at the Educational Services Center. She distributed a 'Timeline on Food Services for LACCD' handout, referencing the surveys for food services that were taken in 2006 as the

beginning of the process. She discussed the importance of staying within compliance of the LACCD Board Rules throughout the process, and informed the Student Affairs Committee that the handout that she provided will also be distributed at the August 10, 2016 Board meeting.

Dr. Barrera also informed the Student Affairs Committee that Request for Proposals (RFPs) have gone out to potential vendors. She added that LACCD will need to determine unique food service solutions for each college, in way that best utilizes the facilities that they have in place.

Ms. Menzies further explained that food service for LACCD colleges is a bond eligible expense, and informed the Student Affairs Committee of the progress being made in this regard. She noted that three colleges have a Culinary Arts program that can provide food services-LAHC, LAMC, and LATTC-four colleges have somewhat viable food service facilities-ELAC, LAPC, LAVC, and WLAC-and two colleges don't have any of the necessary facilities to prepare food at their colleges-LACC and LASC. She informed the Student Affairs Committee and that the food service contracts for LAPC, LAVC, and WLAC will be on the Board Agenda for August 10, 2016.

Ms. Mandie Dixon, LACC, ASU President, inquired of Dr. Barrera and Ms. Menzies if there is anything that the ASG at LACC can do to help expedite the process.

Dr. Barrera explained that the proper procedure is being followed, and asked the Student Affairs Committee for their continued patience during the process.

Trustee Nancy Pearlman requested an explanation of the delay in making food service available at all of the colleges in LACCD.

Mr. Bryant Woodert, LACC, Student, District Citizens Oversight Committee (DCOC), stated that during his tenure as the LACC ASG President, he had inquired about funding for food services at a Board meeting and was told that the money intended for implementing food services at the colleges had been removed and then reallocated. He added that he never received a definitive response as to how those funds were allocated. He further explained what he felt was a lack of transparency between the Board and LACCD students was what actually motivated him to join the DCOC.

Dr. Barrera responded that there are many factors that need to be taken into consideration, but that there is still progress being made in this regard.

Ms. Aurora Paredes, ELAC, ASU President, inquired about the status of a food service contract for ELAC.

Ms. Menzies responded that there was no update as of yet for ELAC, but that she can provide the college Presidents with details of the vendor contracts so that they can communicate any progress to the colleges.

Dr. Barrera and Ms. Menzies concluded their presentation.

Discussion item, PUENTE Program at LATTC (continued)

Mr. Jose Contreras, LATTC Student, Member of PUENTE, stated through his participation in PUENTE, he gained exposure to several different universities, which make attending a university seem much more tangible. He further stated that the PUENTE program helps a lot of AB-540 students, but without a counselor for guidance the program cannot continue.

Ms. Arandeli Posadas, LATTC Student, Member of PUENTE, stated that PUENTE provides opportunities to students that they might not have otherwise been made aware of, and that through her participation in PUENTE she is currently working for LACCD in the Central Financial Aid Unit at the Educational Services Center. She added that the PUENTE program has also increased her confidence in being able to successfully transfer from LATTC to a university.

Ms. Christianee Sanchez, LATTC Student, Member of PUENTE, stated that through the PUENTE program, she works as a volunteer with an arts program that teaches arts education to underprivileged students in South Los Angeles schools.

Motion by Student Trustee Alexa Victoriano, seconded by Mr. John Eleby, to extend time for the presentation by five minutes.

*APPROVED: 9 AYES*

Discussion item, PUENTE Program at LATTC (continued)

Trustee Nancy Pearlman asked Ms. Sanchez if other LACCD colleges have the PUENTE program.

Ms. Sanchez responded that they do, but that the PUENTE program at LATTC has been inactive due to no longer having a counselor in place. She stated that she would like to become a certified arts educator, but fears that she might not be able to reach her professional goals without the counseling provided by PUENTE to help support her and other underprivileged students.

Mr. Timoteo Lopez, LATTC Student, Member of PUENTE, stated that the PUENTE program provided him with career guidance in his desired field of electrical engineering by helping him map out an academic plan geared toward his desired field, as well as exposing him to institutions where he can continue his education beyond LATTC.

Ms. Gladys Andres, LATTC Student, Member of PUENTE, stated that the PUENTE program helped her find a new start as a young mother by providing her with the encouragement, support, and resources to continue her education. She added

that if it wasn't for the PUENTE program, she would have stopped pursuing her education.

Ms. Abigail Mendoza, LATTTC, Student, Member of PUENTE, stated that she would have been lost without the program, and that it has been the key to success for a lot of students by creating a network of support and a sense of community.

Mr. Christian Ruiz, LATTTC, Student, Member of PUENTE, stated that he began attending LATTTC in the 2012-2013 school year, and is preparing to transfer to California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo because of the support that he received.

Student Trustee Alexa Victoriano stated how the PUENTE program changed the trajectory of her own academic life, and reiterated her dedication to keeping programs like Umoja and PUENTE running.

#### Get Out the Vote Efforts within the District

Due to lack of time, there was no discussion.

#### ACTION ITEMS

None.

#### CONSULTATION ITEMS

None.

#### RESOURCE TABLE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – August 10, 2016 (ESC)

Ms. Dixon volunteered to serve as the Student Representative at the Resource Table for the Board meeting of August 10, 2016.

#### NEW BUSINESS

None.

#### SUMMARY - NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Student Affairs Committee is scheduled for September 9, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room at the ESC. The deadline for submitting agenda items is August 29, 2016.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.