

**Antelope Valley College
Associated Student Organization
Special Executive Council Minutes
3041 West Ave K, Lancaster, CA 93536
ASO Board Room (SSV 184), 1:45pm
March 17, 2009**

The Executive Council of the Antelope Valley College met on March 17, 2009. For more information, please contact Associated Student Organization President John Cabral 722-6300 ext 6160.

I. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

1.1 Call to order: 1:53 pm

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by President John Cabral

1.3 Roll Call:

President – John Cabral - Present

Vice President, Academic Affairs - Shunnon Thomas - Present

Vice President, Student Services – Timne Randolph- Absent

Vice President, Club Affairs – Johnatan Olguin - Present

Vice President, Public Relations – Bennie Hawkins- Absent

Treasurer – Elijah Blanton – Absent

Secretary – Roxanne Schleben – Absent

Senator:

Business, Computer Studies and Economic Development – Jessica Theologidy- Present

Counseling and Matriculation- Jonmmica Walter- Present

Enrollment Services- Shannon Izquierdo- Present

Health Sciences – Andrew Douglas - Present

Instructional Resources – Chris Smith- Present

Language Arts – Sheronda Myers- Present

Mathematics, Science and Engineering – Raquel Meza- Present

Social and Behavioral Sciences – Curtis Smith- Present

Student Development and Services- Sean Izquierdo- Present

Technical Education – Mihaela Blidarescu- Absent

Visual and Performing Arts – Patricia Del Gaudio Becerra- Present

Membership is 18, Quorum is 10, 13 were present, Quorum is established.

Student Trustee – Elizabeth Soos – Present

1.4 Adoption of the Agenda:

Moved to adopt the agenda with the correction that the meeting is held at SSV 183, not the Student Lounge, by Senator Curtis Smith, seconded by Senator Jonmmica Walter. Motion passed 12/0/0.

1.5 Approval of the Minutes- February 27, 2009 and March 13, 2009

Moved to approve the minutes with name spelling corrections by Senator Curtis Smith, seconded by Senator Andrew Douglass. Motion passed 12/0/0.

1.5 Approval of Checks and Receipts.

There was discussion of the mathematical error in the calculation of the budget revenue in the checks and receipts sheet attached to the agenda.

Moved to approve the checks and receipts by Senator Curtis Smith, seconded by Senator Andrew Douglass. Motion passed 12/0/0.

II. PUBLIC FORUM

Senator Curtis Smith- stated that the March on March was great. 5 ASO officers and 21 other AVC students attended. He wishes all ASO officers could have attended. Dr. Zimmerman- stated she was impressed how everyone behaved at March on March.

Senator Sheronda Myers- stated that AVC should consider including a student's extracurricular activities on his/ her transcripts as Santa Barbara City College does.

III. ACTION ITEMS

3.1 ASO Conferences

There was discussion of the schedule of the ASAC conference to be held in Washington D.C. March 20- 23, 2009.

Dr. Zimmerman- Does ASO want to visit its representatives in Washington D.C. or visit them in their local offices? President John Cabral- I would say local offices, but we should put it to a vote.

By a majority vote, ASO decided to visit Californian congress members in their local offices.

There was discussion of whether inactive members of ASO should be allowed to attend the conference.

President John Cabral- This came up because we started reviewing and questioning people's integrity in attending ASO meetings and being an active member of ASO. We are looking at four students, but two- Elijah Blanton and Shunnon Thomas- are not attending the conference. The other two are Sean Izquierdo and Mihaela Blidarescu. Sean has been present at most of the meetings; he was not at the last two meetings because he was out of town. Mihaela has had infrequent attendance throughout the semester. **Senator Shannon Izquierdo-** you have to take into account what she has done outside of the meetings. **Senator Chris Smith-** the constitution does not take into consideration participation in events. **President John Cabral-** the bylaws state that you have to have a proxy if you decide not to attend a meeting.

There was discussion of whether Senator Mihaela Blidarescu should be allowed to attend the ASAC Conference.

There was discussion of accountability of ASO officers related to conference attendance.

Dr. Zimmerman- I do not want to be the advisor with drunken students at the event who has no accountability to this institution or to the event. Accountability comes in many forms it's not just coming to the meetings, it's not just coming to one event, it has many different forms. People can demonstrate respect for the organization, respect for their school, accountability, comes in many different forms. I want to make sure that when we go we are putting AVC's name in the best possible manner and if we cannot do that everyday of the week on campus, should we be doing that in Washington DC? Last time I took students to a conference, I had a student in San Jose who got drunk and trashed a hotel room. I have said many times before, if you cannot handle yourself you cannot go. I do not care if AVC incurs the cost. You will pay it back to the institution. Washington is Friday. This week you better be able to step up to the plate and if you can't step up to the plate in Washington, you are not going to Boston. This is your respect and your respect and accountability to each other. That is why I said how proud I was of you on Monday. You need to be accountable in a greater context, not just attending the meetings or getting a proxy, in the greater context in all things involved in being an ASO officer and what it means to be a leader. Is everyone going to Washington going to step up to the plate, or is this

just a free trip to Washington? If this is just a trip to Washington, do it on your own time when there is no responsibility to a group, which are ASO and AVC.

VPAA Shunnon Thomas- Are we in discussion? Is there something on the table to vote on?

Curtis Smith- Before we can vote, we have to discuss the background information because many people, including yourself, were not here last week. How would you vote if you did not know what we were discussing? Bluntly, we are talking about Mihaela. We should hear what she has to say.

Point of Personal Privilege, Senator Patricia Del Gaudio, 2:26 pm

Senator Mihaela Blidarescu- In my defense, I was very sick last week. I went to the doctor just to get a note. After hearing from people who were at the meeting, I was shocked that my accountability would be in question due to – I understand that these meetings are important in demonstrating participation in ASO, these are the records of participation. I think I have done enough for ASO to show that I am accountable and I am responsible. For my accountability to be put on the chopping block does not make any sense. There are people who have not been a part of this organization for a month. How can we see their accountability? How have they been able to prove it? There are four of those people going on this trip. How can you put my accountability on the chopping block when there are four people going who have not had time to prove their accountability? And who knows how they are going to act? Half the people in this group have seen me on trips with other clubs and seen that I have done just fine. It shocks me that this is even a question and that it came only three days before or even a week before. That's all I have to say.

VPAA Shunnon Thomas- that was my point. Its three days before. President John Cabral- No, we discussed this prior to this. It's been a few meetings and it's been noted in the minutes as stipulations for going to the conferences.

There was discussion of participation in ASO events as demonstrating accountability and responsibility to ASO.

Point of Personal Privilege, Elizabeth Soos, 2:35 pm

President John Cabral- We felt that the conference should be for active members of ASO. The first thing that stands out is attendance at the ASO meetings.

There was discussion of Senator Mihaela Blidarescu's attendance at ASO meetings.

Point of Personal Privilege, VPAA Shunnon Thomas 2:38 pm.

Move to revisit roll call by Senator Jonmmica Walter, Andrew Douglass. Motion passed 9/1/0.

President – John Cabral - Present

Vice President, Academic Affairs - Shunnon Thomas – Absent

Vice President, Student Services –Timne Randolph- Present

Vice President, Club Affairs – Johnatan Olguin – Present

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Secretary – Roxanne Schleben – Present

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Membership is 18, Quorum is 10, 14 were present, Quorum is established.

Student Trustee – Elizabeth Soos –Absent

Senator Curtis Smith- It is not a manner of demonizing a person or pointing a finger at a person. This has been issue in ASO since the beginning of the year. We had this issue with Chad Wood who decided to resign for that reason. No one has a personal issue against Mihaela. There were four people in discussion: Sean, Elijah, and Shunon and Mihaela. Out of those four people, only two were going so the others were not discussed. This is not just about Mihaela. This is about Sean and Mihaela. So, if a vote is going to come to order, it will be on whether Sean and Mihaela will be allowed to go. It is not just about one person. It should not be on the record that we are pointing the finger at one person.

Senator Mihaela Blidarescu- It seems that this discussion has focused on me for the past twenty minutes. John overlooked Sean’s absences because he was out of town. **Senator Sean Izquierdo-** I only missed those meetings because I was in Chicago. On this last one, it was my bad, I fell asleep during it and my sister was sick. I own up to it. **Dr. Zimmerman-** the other concern I had is that we got a bigger bus for March on March because Sean signed up to go and then he cancelled the Friday before. **Senator Sean Izquierdo-** I signed up at the last minute. I forgot I had class.

Senator Curtis Smith- Attendance is only part of what should be considered. Being a person who goes to all the events that ASO and SDO do, I know who participates and who doesn’t, who comes to events and who doesn’t. If a vote does come to order, we should take into consideration everything. It is not just about attendance, but attendance does shine quite brightly because we have to get things done and it affects quorum; quorum has been affected by nonattendance of certain members. **VPSS Timne Randolph-** We should reflect on what Dr. Zimmerman always says: ASO is more than just a meeting. There are new members of ASO who are working harder than those who were elected. All things are relative. You cannot take out one thing. If this comes to a vote, you cannot make a personal vote. It is business. ASO is not a personal club, it is business.

Dr. Zimmerman- I would like to remind you that for most of you in the room, there has been a time or two that I had to remind you to do something that you failed to do that has created an issue in ASO. Not anyone goes into something with malintention. I think we all try to do the best that we can. Time gets away from us. Other commitments become higher priority. What we have not done is hold each other accountable to each other. When an issue comes up or we have missed each other, we have not said it personally and we waited for a crisis. When someone missed a meeting, we needed to say ‘Sean where were you,’ or ‘Mihaela where were you,’ or ‘John where were you,’ and let everyone else know. We all said ‘oh another absence’ and went to the negative side ‘oh they must not care.’ I am not sure that is the answer. All of us have said ‘I wish I had done that better.’ How many times have I said ‘if I had gotten the paperwork done we would have been able to go to Region Six,’ how many times have I said ‘where is the agenda, where are the minutes, where is this?’ We all want to do things better. We are trying to juggle so much in our lives. You all have very busy lives and you have chosen to have ASO as one more thing to juggle. It is easy to cast stones on someone else but be careful that you are not throwing stones when you are living in your own glass house.

Senator Curtis Smith- I don't think it is a matter of throwing stones. President John Cabral- I understand that all of you all friends and some of you see it as a personal attack, but I am trying to look at this as professionally as possible and it does not look good.

There was further discussion of whether Senators Mihaela Blidarescu and Sean Izquierdo should be allowed to attend the conference and what the financial consequences of their nonattendance would be.

Dr. Zimmerman- Is there a motion? It sounds like we are just repeating what we have been saying. **Senator Curtis Smith-** I don't think there has to be a motion. Discussion has been made, it has been brought to the attention of ASO. Everyone has to perform now because everyone is on the spotlight and we are paying attention. That is why we had this discussion, what are we going to do about people who don't come and if we were going to vote, we had to consider everything. We all know what is going on. The next time this comes up, we will know who is doing what and who isn't.

Point of Personal Privilege, VPSS Time Randolph, 2:51 pm

There was discussion of the free time allowed by the conference and how ASO officers attending the ASAC conference should use that free time.

Point of Personal Privilege, Senator Jessica Theologidy, 2:55 pm

There was discussion of President John Cabral communicating meeting times to ASO.

Point of Personal Privilege, Senator Shannon Izquierdo and Senator Sean Izquierdo, 2:58 pm.

Quorum Lost.