



**CESAR CHAVEZ
STUDENT CENTER**
San Francisco State University

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STUDENT CENTER GOVERNING BOARD
July 13, 2006

The Student Center Governing Board at San Francisco State University held a **meeting on Thursday, July 13, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. in Rosa Parks A-C.**

<u>Members Present</u>		<u>Members Absent</u>
Derek Aitken	Evelyn Hooker	
Isidro Armenta	Chris Jackson	
Kit Bomar	Mirishae McDonald	
Lily Cortez	Cindy Morales	
Guy Dalpe	Amrah Salomon-Johnson	
Meredith Duke	Arline Van Ness	
Maya Whearty	Maire Fowler	
<u>Guests</u>		<u>Support Staff/Consultants/Presenters</u>
Fred Astren	Christine Anderson	Rafael Martinez Larry Salomon
Charlie El-Qare	Heather Erez	Nicole Watts
Bret Allan	Susan Greene	
Steve Zeltzer	Richard Kay	
Paola Mejia	Karla Valencia	
Victoria Ramirez	Daisy Martinez	
Saran Indigo Goodson	Alex Fu	
Jacqueline Husary	Kelly Parpovic	
Kristin Lubbert	Kenneth Monteiro	
Horace Monboring	Bitra Shoushani	
Karla Castillo	Peter Gallego	
Sharef Al Najjar		

Recording Secretary: Rachel Damiano and Natalie Christou
Minutes Prepared By: Rachel Damiano

i. The meeting was called to order by Cortez at 9:42 a.m.

Changes to the agenda of July 13, 2006

- Remove “iii. Approval of the minutes for the meeting of May 4, 2006 and May 11, 2006.”
- Add “V. Palestinian Conference Fee Waiver.”
- Add “6. Arts Committee- Native American Mural” under “VI. Committee Reports.”

- Add “7. Arts Committee- Palestinian Mural” under “VI. Committee Reports.”
- Add “8. OSPLD Advisory” under “VI. Committee Reports.”

ii. Approval of agenda for the meeting of July 13, 2006. Approved as amended.

Changes to the minutes of June 1, 2006

- Add “Richard Giardina” to “Members Present” list.
- Add “Maire Fowler” to “Members Present” list.
- Include page numbers on all proceeding minutes.
- Change the spelling of “Rendwood” to “Linwood.” Top, page 3.
- Change the spelling of “Lowery” to “Lowry.” Top, page 3.
- Change the spelling of “close” to “closed.” Bottom, page 4

iii. Approval of minutes from the meeting of June 1, 2006. Approved as amended. One abstention.

iv. Public Comment

Tai Levy-Chen introduced herself to the committee. She presented Whiffles, a low fat, snack for students made from natural ingredients that could be a substitute for bread of rice cakes and had a two-week shelf life. She conducted a survey that showed 72% of students liked and would purchase the product at \$2.99. She distributed an information sheet on the product to the committee members and requested to formally present the product at the next Vendor Services meeting. **Salomon-Johnson** asked if **Levy-Chen** would like her own stand in the Student Center. **Levy-Chen** replied affirmatively, indicating that the stand could be near the front entrance. **Morales** announced that the next Vendor Services meeting was to be held on Thursday, August 17, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. and invited Levy-Chen to present her product more formally at that time.

Charlie El-Qare introduced himself to the committee.

Bomar pointed out that some members of the public had video cameras and seemed to be intent on taking images, further noted that at the previous meeting when a group expressed a desire to video tape the proceedings, the Board was not of the mind to allow them to do so. He suggested that in order to be consistent and fair with the previous decisions, the Board keep that rule in mind.

Cortez asked those who were recording to stop.

Zeltzer asked if the meeting was a public hearing.

Cortez clarified that she was asking, not demanding. She indicated that previous to the start of the meeting a few members expressed their discomfort with being recording and she was respecting their feelings. She stated that if the **Zeltzer** was going to record, that he moves to the back of the room.

Zeltzer stated that he was from the Labor Video Project and that he would like the opportunity to record the speakers but would not want to record any person that did not want to be recorded.

Van Ness reiterated **Bomar's** point that the Board remain consistent and not afford the privilege of video taping to someone since it was denied to others.

Cortez once again asked the gentleman to stop, but to proceed if they felt it necessary. She informed the public that they also have access to the recordings and the minutes if they would like to review them. She further emphasized that some of the members felt uncomfortable being video taped.

Charlie El-Qare agreed to be video taped. He thanked the SCGB for accepting the proposal to have a Palestinian Mural. He stated that working in the committee for approximately a year has been a great process that he has learned a lot from. He stated that each element on the mural is significant to the Palestinian community in that they represent pride, peace and education, and is a great addition to the campus. He expressed appreciation for the SCGB involvement. He further stated that he wanted the Board to be aware of some misconceptions about what the Palestinian community represents, as well as some symbols on the mural that are misrepresented, noting that all the symbols are of peace and humanism and hopes that everyone will enjoy the mural as much as he does.

Allen introduced himself to the committee. He asked **Zeltzer** to stop video taping him. **Zeltzer** stated that it was a public meeting.

Cortez requested that Zeltzer keep to his earlier commitment of not video taping persons who did not wish it.

Armenta stated that **Zeltzer** has access to the minutes. **Cortez** agreed.

Morales stated that if the videotaping was going to continue, all persons taped have to sign a waiver to allow the tape to be publicly shown. **Zeltzer** asked by whose orders. **Morales** stated that it is the law. **Zeltzer** disagreed, stating that the law is that there are meetings open to public. He further stated that a waiver has to be signed only if the tapes were used commercially, he clarified that his recordings were not for press release.

Bomar stated that because there was no request to record, the Board couldn't be sure what the tapes would be used for. He asked if the camera located in the back of the room was on and if so, may it be turned away or turned off.

Gallagher replied in the negative, stating that according to the Brown Act, any person attending an open public meeting has the right to record the proceedings with an audio or video tape recorder.

Dalpe stated that the Student Center is not under the open meeting requirements of the Brown Act, the Student Center is an auxiliary organization and that act does not apply to auxiliaries of Student Centers, and as such the Governing Board has a right to determine whether or not there

should be videotaping at the meeting. He strongly suggested that the people discontinue recording and asked **Zetlzer** to take the camera off of him.

Zetlzer continued recording after being asked to stop at few times.

Dalpe asked the chair for a recess.

The committee went into recess for ten minutes. Upon reconvening the two members of the public with the video cameras discontinued their videotaping.

Allen, a recent graduate student from San Francisco State University, expressed his concern about the Palestinian Mural, clarifying that he was not against it, but noting that being Jewish and pro- Israel, the cultural reference to the politically charged items can be offensive to pro-Israel, refugees. He specifically noted that the key, symbolizing the Right of Return, implicates the eventual destruction of Israel as a Jewish state, and that Palestinians able to move back means the end of Israel as a Jewish sovereign state. He stated that although Palestinians have been misrepresented, Israel is also misrepresented; one action cannot justify everyone that lives there, and it is offensive to call for the destruction of a country.

Erez stated that she thought the mural was very nice, and that the artists did a great job, but she felt Handalah to be a problem because he represented the destruction of Israel and that representation has no place on a public campus. She has received many emails from students that are very emotional, and would feel more comfortable if the image were removed.

Anderson expressed much appreciation for the mural. She stated that the UN supports the Right of Return and it is a symbol of peace. She felt the committee should vote on what's in the mural and not on current political issues. She stated that Palestinians across the globe, just like the Jewish community, stand in solidarity.

Hisalae felt the mural to be beautiful and that it fit the campus. He noted that Edward Said was subject to an attack by right wing extremists and compared it to what **Allen** had expressed. He expressed that the symbol of the key was a symbol of peace and hope and should bring an understanding for both people.

Greene, one of the artists, introduced herself to the committee. She expressed that the mural was about pluralism and tolerance, and that the key and Handalah represents the past of the Palestinians. She stated that all Palestinians are refugees and the key represents refugees who still have the keys to their original homes. As a psychologist and an artist, she feels it important for people to have past and present, and that heritage can't be separate from culture. Lastly she stated that we have to consider people's history and heritage, as they are intertwined, and to deny that is very problematic.

Kay introduced himself to the committee, stated that although he supported the concept of the mural as it has aspects of brotherhood and sisterhood, he felt the symbol of key to be highly divisive and would advocate that it be removed because of it's politicized nature.

Ramsey El-Qare introduced himself to the committee, and clarified that Handalah, the cartoon character on the mural, was holding a pen, not a sword.

Zeltzer introduced himself to the Board as a representative of the Labor Video Project. He stated that the Board having a fear of the camera, especially during public comment, was a serious problem. He emphasized that the people should be able to hear and see the events that occurred during public comment. He further stated that the mural itself seemed to be controversial and pointed out that Edward Said was a literary writer and stood for peace and not violence. He felt that the Board should remember that during the approval process and hopes that the Board allows the people to see the mural

I. Chairs Report

1. Faculty Appointment

Cortez spoke to the Academic Senate Chair and he indicated that he would set up an appointment in late August or early September

2. Administrative Appointment

Cortez introduced and welcomed **Derek Aitken** as a new board member. *The members welcomed Aitken.*

Bomar pointed out that this was the first time among administrative representatives on the SCGB that all Vice President units are represented on the board, and the first time the SCGB has had a representative from the office of the Vice President for Advancement. He felt this would help keep the Board informed on what is going on in each of the Vice Presidential units.

3. Mid-year Retreat

Cortez announced the mid-year retreat and asked members to think about a date for the event. She indicated that she would send out an email about possible dates to consider, preferably on a weekend.

4. Attendance Report

Cortez reviewed and announced the Board and Committee absences.

II. Elections Chair, Nominations & Approval (A)

Cortez stated that the elections were coming up in November and inquired if there were any interested persons to chair the elections committee.

Jackson nominated **Whearty** for the Elections Chair. Seconded by **Armenta**.

Whearty accepted the nomination. *There were no other nominations. Whearty was approved by consensus.*

III. Palestinian Mural Rendition (A)

Motion to approve the Palestinian Mural Rendition. Moved by Jackson. Seconded by McDonald.

Salomon-Johnson noted that during public comment the Right of Return was brought up. She reiterated that it was a part of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights and was advocated by survivors of Holocaust, indicating that it was insulting to the survivors of the Holocaust to not recognize the Right of Return for all refugees.

Jackson thanked members of the Palestinian Mural Project for their efforts and for meeting the timeline diligently. He further expressed his full support of the mural and indicated that he had learned a lot about the Palestinian culture, history, and symbolism.

Morales thanked the members of the Palestinian Mural Project for their hard work and the artists as well. She asked for the significance of some of the images to be expressed.

Cortez recognized **Greene** who gave a general overview of the murals contents.

Van Ness thanked everyone for explaining the symbols presented on the mural. She stated that the only symbol she was concerned with was the key. She explained that she felt this way because some persons felt it to be a politically charged symbol rather than celebration of the people and their culture. She further implied this was reason enough for the mural to go back to Arts Committee for further consideration.

Cortez stated that it was a beautiful mural, not only for the building, but also for the campus, as it added more color and beauty and educates the student body about the Palestinian culture and what the elements symbolize.

McDonald, the Co-Chair of the Arts Committees, felt the project had been extremely successful, the Town Hall meeting educated the campus and students had a chance to express their thoughts, and be educated on the cultural history of Palestinians. She stated that they have, as a committee, followed the Arts Policy that was established by the Student Center. She noted that she didn't hear any negative comments about the mural during the process and urged the Board to approve the mural

Jackson called the motion to question.

Motion passed.

Dalpe called for a point of information to advise that the Arts Committee- Palestinian Mural Project inform the Board on the next step in the process of installing the mural.

Jackson announced that the next Arts Committee- Palestinian Mural Project meeting would be held on July 20, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. in the Delmy Rodriguez room and that the committee would discuss the contents of the letter to the President of the University. He invited the public to the meeting.

IV. Noche De La Familia Charges (A)

Cortez recognized **Mejia**.

Mejia introduced herself to the Board as the Chair of the La Raza Graduation Committee. She gave a brief overview of the 26th Annual, Noche De La Familia La Raza Graduation, a family oriented event that acknowledges student's accomplishments and struggles. She announced her request to have the fees of \$1,400.00, waived as they have in the past. She stated that she felt that all student organizations should have their fees waived. She informed the committee to refer to the booklet that she distributed for more information on the event. She further informed the Board that the historical graduation was very well known and that the students did all fundraising. She stated that the graduation costs were \$15,000.00, of which \$6,000.00 was donated, leaving the rest for the students to raise themselves. She expressed that she would highly appreciate if the Board waived the fees.

Aitken asked if there was a policy on fee waivers.

Salomon-Johnson stated that the Finance Committee has considered a policy and is working with the Rules Committee to establish one. She reiterated that the graduation had not been charged in the past and therefore should be waived. She feels it is a multicultural and beautiful event that is important to families and deserves support from the Student Center.

Van Ness agreed that the event has value, as do all of the events held in Student Center, but stated that a business can't be run without acknowledging a financial responsibility and therefore is against the motion due to that responsibility.

Jackson stated that he has attended the event in the past and charging for the event is a double taxation as the students already pay for the Student Center fees through Student fees. He pointed out that the fees have already been raised and this further stifles student's form wanting to hold events on campus, more specifically the Student Center.

Dalpe stated that the Reservation Guidebook states that student events are not charged for when held during normal building hours, but are when they go beyond these hours, such as a Saturday evening, when the event at hand took place. These fees are part of the process to cover after hours labor costs and as such should not be perceived as "double taxation".

Salomon-Johnson commented that the Board does not incorporate favoritism, noting that it has been a long-standing practice to not charge for event. She expressed concern regarding how the charges were distributed and pointed out that the Graduation Committee has come in conflicts with the department before.

Mejia stated that receiving the invoice only four days before the graduation was inconvenient.

Morales commented that she was a firm believer that students paying for usage of building are paying double because the fees are already included in the student fees and they have a right to use the facilities. She pointed out that in the booklet provided by La Raza, it stated that in the past the after hours fees were not applied. She indicated that the Rules Committee was looking into the guidelines further.

Bomar indicated that the Board seemed to be slip sliding into a policy and suggested that the staff should put together and estimate of charges for all events that are conducted after normal business hours and bring it the Finance Committee.

Salomon-Johnson stated that the Finance Committee had already assessed the issue and confirmed that they do have funds to waive these fees.

Bomar urged that the Finance Committee bring the issue to the Board in a more complete fashion.

Armenta noted that he was in favor of the waiver.

Motion to waive the fees for the Noche De La Familia, La Raza Graduation event. Moved by Salomon-Johnson. Seconded by Jackson. Motion passed. One abstention.

V. Palestinian Conference Fee Waiver (A)

Ramsey El-Qare announced that GUPS received an invoice for the Al Awda Conference from Mary Keller and he, as a representative for GUPS, was asking that the fee be waived.

Hooker commented that the charges were because it was during after hours, the facilities were policed and staff at the Student Center cleaned up the event. She noted that this particular event had a registration fee that was being charged to each attendee.

Ramsey El-Qare stated that they were providing breakfast, lunch and, dinner for the three days, and the monies they charged for the event went towards that as well as speakers and entertainment. He noted that a group off campus helped logistically, but not financially.

Salomon-Johnson pointing out that it was an event for students, put on by students and not for an outside community, even though they were partaking in the event. She expressed concern that other events put on by African American and Asian dancers group were not charged the same insurance, suggesting the charges were based on oppressive assumptions about someone's background. She stated that if the Student Center was going to be charge, they should charge the same insurance for all events.

Dalpe stated that the Student Center only acts as an intermediary for insurance charges, which are accessed by the insurance company based on a defined risk factor.

Bomar asked if it was a GUPS event.

Van Ness stated that she was against the waiver and all future waivers until a policy is established. She asked if the organization had made the same request to DPS.

Ramsey El-Qare stated that the organization planned to.

Hooker commented that GUPS was not paying to use the Student Center, but clarified that overtime charges were being assessed.

Jackson asked what the insurance policy was and if it was in writing, noting that he hadn't seen a policy. He disagreed with having a policy, stating that students should have unabridged access to the Student Center. He stated that he felt the Board should waive the fees and that in the meantime, if necessary, the Rules Committee should establish a policy.

Dalpe stated that the regulations for the charging for after hours usage of the building are in the Reservation Guidelines and are approved by the Board and have been for a number of years, clarifying that the charge is not just applied to one organization. The organizations having events outside of normal building hours are provided an estimate with a breakdown of the charges. If the organization does not come before the Board for a fee waiver request, then they are charged in full. The Insurance Policy is put in place in case of an injury occurring during this event. It protects the student organization as well as the Student Center and the University against injury claims. If GUPS had insurance, they could have used it and not need to be charged for separate events insurance.

McDonald commented that she found it ridiculous that students are paying double and she hadn't seen any policy that justified the charges.

Salomon-Johnson expressed concern that the Board approved the request for fee waiver for La Raza, but not for GUPS, noting that is sent a mixed message. She confirmed that the Board has the money to waive the fees and recommended doing so.

Motion to waive the fees for the GUPS Conference. Moved by Salomon-Johnson. Seconded by Jackson. Motion passed.

IV. **Committee Reports**

1. Finance

• Chair's Report

Salomon-Johnson stated that the committee was currently reviewing recently assessed accounting practices, possible streamlining, and Auxiliary Business Costs. They are also reviewing the 3rd quarter adjustments, annual reports and will have a report on these documents by the next Board meeting. She stated that everything seemed to be in order and up to date on

the monthly Financial Statements. The committee was working on ways to fulfill the annual goal of transparency, indicating that students don't understand where the revenue comes from and they are working with staff on the Student Center website to educate them on where monies come from and how they are being spent. They are also working on displays to present pie charts, revenue and expenditures, as well as who is on the Board and how it is constituted. She suggested having all committees do the same to impact the way students use the building.

2. Master Plan

- **Major Projects**

McDonald stated that the Pyramid I project would be receiving a recommended cost estimate and then the project would go out to bid.

McDonald stated that the Pyramid I Computer Lab was in progress. The committee was working with an Interior Design that was familiar with the building with a low bid to do space planning. She stated that when this was discussed in more detail, the committee would present it to the Board.

McDonald stated that the Soul Food project was in the Plan Check process, and when this was executed, they project would move onto the bidding process, which will take approximately seven weeks.

McDonald stated that the West Alcove project that the bid of \$862,000.00 was over the budget of \$850,000.00 and would need to renegotiate.

- **Minor Projects**

There was no report on the Minor Projects.

- **Filtered Water Stations**

McDonald stated that there would be Filtered water stations installed by the end of July, the first one to be located near Gold Coast grill.

3. Vendor Services

- **Chair's Report**

- **Vendor Compliance**

Morales stated that all vendors were in full compliance.

4. Human Resources

- **HR Mgr Selection update**

Armenta stated that the committee was contacting the potential candidates and should possibly have the positions filled by the fall semester for a smooth transition.

- **Committee goals**

Armenta stated that the goals were approved to fill vacant positions and revise outstanding vacant positions. He indicated that management would provide the revised proposal at the next Human Resources meeting. He further stated that the organization chart has positions that have not been approved and the committee is looking to fill an Assistant Director for Operations position.

- **Evaluation Process Clarified**

Armeneta stated that the committee was establishing a review process for the Evaluation and comparing all evaluations that have been performed in the past to move along with the Managing Director Evaluation.

5. Community Relations

- **Mural Unveiling Ceremonies**

- **Fall Dates**

Whearty gave an overview of the fall event dates.

Bomar suggested that the Board anticipate the date of the next annual Cesar Chavez celebration and that there be a motion to have that date reserved solely for that purpose.

The Board recognized **Bomar's** suggestion.

6. Arts Committee- Native American Mural Project

McDonald stated that the Native American Mural Project was about three months behind schedule, but they did have an artist.

7. Arts Committee- Palestinian Mural Project

Jackson stated that the Board had just approved the Palestinian Mural Rendition and announced the next meeting date.

McDonald stated that the costs were higher then budgeted and the issue was referred to the Finance Committee.

8. OSPLD

Armenta stated that the Committee hadn't met recently, and that he would prepare a report for the next Board meeting.

V. Closed Session

Motion to include the Local 856 Union Representative in the "Local 856 Negotiations" portion.

The meeting entered into closed session at 11:23 a.m. and returned to open session at 12:42 p.m.

Motion to approve the rent reduction for Carmalina La Petite as recommended by management. Retroactive to January 1, 2006 and continuing to January 1, 2007. Motion Passes.

Move approval for rent reduction for Bark N' Bun as recommended by management. Retroactive January 1, 2006 and continuing to January 1, 2007. Motion passes.

VI. Managing Director's Report- Tabled

1. CSU Internal Audit Review
2. Executive Order 753
3. Academic Qualifications
4. West Plaza Renovation
5. LCL Restaurant build out (Soul Food)
6. Pyramid I Amphitheatre

VII. Announcements

There were no announcements.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Guy Dalpe, Executive Secretary

Date