

Associated Students of Laney College

MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, March 24th, 2025

Time: 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Location: Student Center, 4th floor, Room 401

Zoom: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/97528675287>

1. **Members of the public may address the Council on** any item within the Council's jurisdiction. **Members of the public must be recognized by the presiding officer to address the Council.** A summary of Council rules concerning communications from the public is available from the ASLC Secretary of External Affairs at the meetings. Persons addressing items included on the agenda will be heard at the time the item is considered. Persons requesting to address items or subjects which are not on this agenda will be heard under the agenda item "Communications from Members of the Public." Assistance will be provided to those requiring accommodations for disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Interested persons must request the accommodation at least 48 hours before the meeting with the ASLC Secretary of External Affairs. **Laney College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, color, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ancestry, citizenship, national origin, military or veteran status, disability, marital status, pregnancy, medical condition, and immigration status.**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting started at 3:30 pm.

I. ROLL CALL:

Title	Name	P/A
President	Frida Veliz (FV)	P
Vice President	Motse Mosola (MM)	P
External Secretary	Zoe Molter (ZM)	A
Internal Secretary	Ayla Madrid (AM)	P
Treasurer	VACANT	
Club Affairs Officer	Ahlam Ibrahim (AI)	P
Publicity Commissioner	Carmen Tan (CT)	P
Student Advocate	CK Chan (CC)	P
Senator	Sebastian Del Castillo (SDC)	P

Senator	Giovanni Jordan (GJ)	P
Senator	Josh P Villatoro (JPV)	P
Senator	Lindsey Wirgler (LW)	A
Senator	Josh Gumperz (JG)	P
Senator	VACANT	
Senator	Juniper Vintson (JV)	P

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.

JV motions to adopt the agenda, JG seconds the motion.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

IV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

This portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Council on matters not included on this agenda. *A maximum of 14 minutes (2 minutes per individual maximum) will be provided for speakers under this agenda item.* Requests to speak that cannot be honored within the time limit will be scheduled for subsequent meetings in the order received. Under the Brown Act, Council members are not allowed to discuss and/or take formal action at today's meeting on items brought before them under this item. Council members are only allowed to respond briefly. Persons requesting to address an item included on the agenda will be called upon at the time the agenda item is considered by the Council, and comments on tangential issues not directly related to the item may be ruled out of order. Written statements can be submitted to the ASLC for inclusion in the minutes.

V. ASLC OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bookstore Conversation with Deputy Chancellor & Chief Operating Officer, Greg Nelson. (30mins)

Greg Nelson - In mid December/fall, he was notified that we want to get out of

contract for the bookstore. However, this was difficult at the time because we were entering Winter Break. The management fee is \$40000 per store. Revenue after this period is \$60000 for all stores combined.

Had several conversations during break & January: Rolling closure of 3 smaller stores, then incorporated smaller stores into this one. We drop & ship to other campuses or our homes as needed. Bookstore had a legal contract from 2004. 2009 was the most extreme. District had the same contract language. Textbooks are now going to electronics companies (Amazon), we have a lot more options. The contract was not involved. 12% commissions and so forth. Most book contracts are 1-2% commissions since margins are so thin. Came here to see what we want to see in a bookstore.

New store & open market. We could select a new vendor that could be different. Will definitely get a new contract in place, which will take 12 months. Takes 30 days to sit on the street. Go to the board meeting and get it formally approved. Goal is to get it done before July and finish everything up for fall semester. We can mail stuff out to students. Pop up stores for the first semester. They will list all options to the vendor, get most options as proposals, & see which proposal wins. At bookstores, 12/14 items are food. Not good since they don't have a health permit. Merritt College is open and has stuff in stock & can actually order stuff in time. We want faculty to turn stuff in on time. Faculty should turn in 6-8 weeks ahead. 21% submission rate from faculty. This is why late start students have a historically higher drop rate than other students.

This store will not stay in the building. Had a lot of issues, including being very small. Wants to be in a bigger space. Just don't know where yet.

Asks the board what are some things we can incorporate in the proposal?

FV - Lots of career majors require materials. Architecture department requires vellum. Great to go get these things at the bookstore. Especially for other majors: Culinary, Cosmetology, etc.

GN - We have kits assigned for specific classes. Welding: boxes, glasses, gloves, etc. We also apply financial aid ahead of term to put money in storage. Whatever you don't spend, we put in debit card. Mails, kits, things you can't find on your own, etc. Make better for students who have their own obstacles.

JG - Knows that budget is a concern, but would prefer if each college had their own bookstore. If students need a textbook, they don't need to get it mailed to them. It's a life improvement to have a bookstore.

GN - Not a budget issue. It's a business decision for the budget. Before COVID, they're already losing \$250 a year. That's what drove this decision.

JV - Would like to have a permanent store at Laney & Pop up shops at the beginning of semester. Important for people to have access to things in the semester. They have the refill stations & half don't work. Great to have pop ups in the beginning in fall and spring, and even summers.

GN - Wants to bring up the referendum shuttle bus program they are directly starting. They had at this college last worked at, but they no longer use them. Will run weekly M-Th 7AM - 7PM & every 20 mins. Summer and fall 6 total buses. This will slow down when there's construction in tubes. Additionally, there'll be anxiety from students about taking mass transit.

We're also looking at something similar to Amazon boxes for students to pick up packages. Scan QR code and it pops up. Looking for something similar. For students uncomfortable sharing their address.

MM - District is gonna prioritize regular session students. After pop ups are done at each campus, what about students who come in late & are taking late start classes?

GN - You can take a shuttle to go to Laney to pick up textbooks. Craft a proposal around those apparatuses. If we're not successful, we'd have the store here and ship out stuff directly. Contract negotiation with current vendor. We have to at least make an attempt.

Atiya Rashada - Will graduation items continue to be independent & be delivered?

GN - Graduation & book returns still happen on campus. Since other campus stores are closed, he took them all. Has a lot of graduation stoles and gives them to Student Services so students don't have to buy them. Last year, he sponsored a graduation program so students don't have to pay for ups and downs. Walk 3-4 students a semester. Why spend \$100 a regalia? Had a wardrobe closet where they cleaned them. Will wait till next year to do this since it's late

FV - How will this affect digital textbooks?

GN - ZCT & book loans. Which faculties have their own lab manuals? What is the core book function? What sales are happening? ZCT will grow, rather than shrink. You may take ENGL 1A: same class, different textbook. They want to keep the core textbook the same across all sections: district decision, not institutional decision. We're trying to encourage that so we don't have multiple books for each class. Trying to help faculty, they gotta turn in textbooks on time. Texts we can get from certain publishers such as teacher's editions, which include course texts, premade powerpoints, etc. Already available to other students. Lots of options for faculty to choose from. Faculty doesn't pay for textbooks. They'll

get them for free and try to make teachers adopt them which is frustrating. Had to change textbooks from the afternoon to the evening. \$500-\$600 difference in a week's time.

MM - Considering Amazon vendor, would the system be centralized?

GN - It'll be on campus. You can scan it open. Haven't tested yet. May use campus as a pilot. If it doesn't work, we can look into other options.

JV - UC system uses it & it works really well.

GN - Lots of discounts. Public entity: chromebooks, laptops, devices. We aren't really promoting it. You can get an Apple MacBook for 45% off. Get code from stores and buy it directly so students don't have to buy it off the retail market. Scantron, bluebooks, etc. They're essential vending machines for those.

FV - Will students be given access to AutoCad & SketchUp?

GN - Yes. Same as hardware, can do with software. Uses AutoCad himself as he bought his own version. Didn't buy through the district. Retail is \$250. We can list those out in a digital footprint.

MM - Where will the bookstore be temporarily?

GN - There were water issues in the basement & textbooks got damaged. Need to remedy that by getting stuff out there & scrubbing everything down. Finding a new store will take time. Current Bookstore: 400 sq ft.

MM - Considering book return for when students return their books, wants to have a system to track books to when we get them. Laney is losing books on average. Some do pay and never bring them back. Bookstore is not going to have enough books. Will incentive help?

GN - Faculty adoption schedule. If there's not enough textbooks to order. There's no reason for the store to buy them back. Ex: 1000 history books. Only 20 of each since different. They'll look at databases compared to what other schools are doing & use books even less so. A lot of students are renting. If they have to return, put them on hold. Books are not something we hold onto for a career. Not a perfect solution, but we can improve on it.

2. Introduction from Acting President Rebecca Opsata. (10mins)

RO - Is currently the acting president of Laney College. Was officially appointed last Tuesday. Will be acting until the end of June. Here to answer any of your questions. Was previously vice president. Dean of math and sciences is now right behind her & doing 2 jobs at once

JV - What happened to our previous president and why are they no longer president?

RO - When you're part of administration, you're on a contract. Contracts are usually for 1 or 2 years. When it runs out, the institution can decide to renew it or not. His contract expires June 30th. State law requires that districts send pink slips by March 15 each year to any employee who could be laid off by the end of the school year. He is gonna get laid off by the end of June. In the board of trustees meeting, they decided not to renew his contract. He went on leave for the last 3 months. She is acting a lame duck president, who has no power. She's finishing his term.

JG - Come June, a new president is going to be elected?

RO - Yes. Hiring process takes a long time. We advertise the position nationwide. There can be applicants all over the country. It's a very long hiring process: interview & submitting paper (resume). The chancellor is in charge of that. There's not enough time to do that now until July 1st. So they will hire an Interim president who will start July 1st. It'll take a year for the hiring process of the actual president. Still undecided.

MM - What are the things you're going to be taking care of for the next few months?

RO - 1) Being here, talking to all of us, and letting us know things are fine. Talked to professionals, faculty, senate, management, then us. A rumor was that Laney was gonna close on July 1. There will be a president. We got it & will take care of stuff. Also here to hear concerns.

2) Was appointed during the most fun part of the year. All of the celebrations, graduations, events, she'll go there. At graduation, she will do a speech and shake graduates hands.

3) Ensure projects here don't die. Things keep moving forward and try to get through the rest of spring.

AI - Might not be specific to the role, but how will budget prices affect the fiscal year?

RO - This is actually a good part of the role. Was the accreditation liaison officer as VP. Her job was to make sure they submit stuff on time & comply with accreditation roles. Concerns with budgets are real. Accreditation means doing things at budget. Laid off a bunch of people since we're underwater. If the state institution is spending more than it is taking in, accreditors don't like that. They do look at the budget & how much we pay for to make sure we're not embezzling

money and using it effectively.

JG - How come we as students don't have a say in who gets to be president or who gets their contract to be renewed?

RO - You do get a say in permanent hiring. It takes so long. After a job is posted for a month, the committee reads applications. They even come to ASLC to meet students. At the open forum, anyone from the world can watch and put in comments. As for the contract renewals, we can give feedback on how the administration is doing. For elected representatives, students can bring points to the chancellor. If somebody's not doing a good job, we can bring that to the president which will be brought to the chancellor. Didn't do this last few years performance evaluation - people would fill out feedback forms.

MM - Is it possible to fill out performance evaluations for teachers & faculties? Students always go to VP of Student Services & there's no conclusion for them.

RO - Anytime that happens VP of SS is not responsive, bring concerns to RO. At the moment, we don't have to wait until the end of the year. We still do the evaluation process of faculty and staff. The part we didn't do is public feedback (360 evaluation) where they get feedback from the public. We do performance evaluation like any job.

FV - Students on campus don't know where to go or how to get appointments with you.

RO - They should come to you. We could send an email that says send to FV & bring it up to RO. Write what it would like and who it sends out to.

JV - Write on a physical poster since students don't check emails daily.

Conclusion: Students bring concerns to FV, then to RO.

3. SSSCC General Assembly by CK Chan. (20mins)

[2025 SSSCC General Assembly Candidate Statements](#) & [2025 SSSCC General Assembly Resolutions Packet](#)

CC - Starting off by introducing another student from BCC: Tenzin Jungney. Can tell us more about the SSSCC General Assembly. Has been to it before. Give us a rundown of what to expect.

TJ- Is not sure how familiar we are with SSSCC. SSSCC is like ASLC but at the state level where students are elected by other students and given positions & responsibilities. We advocate for CA legislation such as student college human

rights. SSCCC hosts different events such as this. This is the main event of SSCCC. Last one happened last November. 3 main things: 1) Elections for the next board 2) Resolutions approving 3) Levels. There are a bunch of different workshops and networking opportunities at SSCCC General Assembly. Students across CA asking to be approved by SSCCC delegates representing ASLC for anything. Ex: Whether they want 2 legislators on topics and issues in their college. In terms of elections, it's like how we have ASLC elections. SSCCC has 2 levels. State level is the executive board. Regional level which consists of the 10 regions. All regions of CA split across. We're a part of Region 3. Each has delegates like him & CK. Elections for positions shown on resolutions packet. If anyone is interested in running for the academic year, let us know & we'll get information to you. Peralta has not had students on the regional level during the past few years. Also other than 2 levels of government, there's the Caucus. He is the vice chair of the student research committee & is currently working with Steven to get resolution. Great opportunity to meet, work & get to know other students. There are workshops. Lots of info from Atiya's email.

TJ - Candidates are students shown on the Resolutions Packet. Process: Statement & speech. These positions are at state level. Encouraged to go all out with candidacy. We can give you info on what to do. Can apply for these positions in advance or the day of SSCCC. Do positions and the whole spiel.

MM - How is the format of meetings & what's the schedule for the day?

TJ - Last year, they had breakfast in a large ballroom-esque room where everyone was sitting down with the current SSCCC president and other people speaking on board. Bulk of time will be resolution approval. Actually we went overtime last year. 55 resolutions. Each resolution was heavily discussed. Can be open mic or different people proposing or opposing giving their words. Then the actual approval process. Actual event should've ended before 12 pm. Many people had to come on Zoom since they had to go on planes. Delegates stayed till 2 pm. 70-80 resolutions this year. We need less time per resolution or we'll go over time again, probably the latter. Lunch provided, but we'll be getting dinner with cards.

MM - For resolutions, how would we pick? Is it split by region or whole state?

Tenzin - Resolutions Packet linked we'll be using. In order from top to bottom. 108 delegates. Pretty big area with a lot of people voting. Some people feel really strongly about solutions, especially people who made them. You can talk to them during open mic or outside of meetings. All delegates vote based on the college meeting.

CC - To add onto this, he started a survey. Live throughout the entire meeting. He will be the vote for ASLC & making surveys accessible to all of us & sending us to link to candidates and resolutions. We decide on policies & legislations that

may be important to us. Other categories are outlined at the beginning of the packet. Will see stats during the meeting at time of voting process: Which number of specific resolutions we want to advocate for, what are the most highly prioritized, etc. Will send to Signal. CT can help create flyers and promote so students can give their voice too.

TJ - Will all of us be voting? We can vote yes or no for each resolution.

CC - It can help vote yes on items with that. Doesn't know a lot of things on those packets. If we're interested please send any additional information to him so he can go over individual items and talk about them.

FV - Do we have any resolutions from region 3?

TJ - Region 3 didn't submit. Meeting time didn't match. We're unable to submit resolutions. Unfortunate since COA wanted to send some.

AM - Will the survey have a yes or no option for each resolution?

CC - Won't be a yes or no survey, it'll be a textbox entry survey. Anything we want to advocate for, we type in. We have to do our own research.

AI - If nobody mentions a resolution, will it be an automatic no from us?

CC - If he doesn't get anything, he will be sitting in at debate & collecting info from other delegates from other colleges. They decide which will impact the best reasoning.

JG motions to extend meeting, JPV seconds the motion

FV - What's the majority for a resolution to pass?

TJ - Majority vote.

CT uses Point of Privilege to leave the meeting.

Atiya Rashada - Wants all of us to contribute at least a few words. CC will be at the table doing great debates.

FV - Suggests separating resolutions into categories. Make a group around each.

TJ - Giant room with the other delegates. We'll be sitting with CC most of the time. Mostly out workshops, food, bathroom.

CC - Check invite to Whova. Actually, it's really useful. Spend time looking at app.

MM - Resolutions throughout all 3 days or 1 day?

Tenzin - It took so much time, probably 3 days. Delegates have to be there and vote.

CC - Entire program posted in app, check it out.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

This time is reserved for any ASLC Members to make announcements on items not on the agenda. A time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker and (15) fifteen minutes total shall be observed. NO action will be taken and the total time limit for this item shall not be extended.

JG - Wanted to talk about CTE Open house, April 26 from 8 am until the event ends which is around 5 pm, which is hosted by his committee CTE. Looking for volunteers, at least 10 volunteers. Needs help with tour guides, coordination, setting up, taking things down, breakfast, etc.

Interested: JV, JPV, SDC, AM

Maybe: AI, CC

AI - Who is this event for & what will it look like?

CT - Think of it as any other event we had in the quad. For anyone. Many high schoolers attended last year.

JV - Includes EMT programs.

FV - Events will be throughout campus.

MM - Presents Food Vouchers Spreadsheet he created after he had his concerns with CT's spreadsheet last week & discussing with CC. In this spreadsheet, it's much easier to sort out data. We have specific data of total vouchers we're going to give out. It will take a week number and date using formulas. We can track dates on a much wider range through weeks and months. We can filter data allowing us to check dates into days, weeks, months. We can track vouchers we get out during specific periods of time. Much more efficient way to keep data on one document. If you want to know what week, we can check by the selected date. All done with formulas used in Google Sheets. Just in case CT's doesn't work & info gets overloaded.

We will be starting to give out food vouchers this week. Atiya said we can go ahead. Just need CT to give a sample voucher to Neil first. Just a regular food voucher, but with ASLC logo. We would like to have access too since she can print it out.

The meeting ended at 4:49 pm.