
DISTRICT STUDENT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Coast Community College District
Regular Meeting of the District Student Council
Friday, March 8, 2024 at 2:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Student Trustee John called the meeting to order at 2:49 pm
Quorum was not met. A 2:40 pm the meeting started with item #5 (no quorum).

2. Roll Call

a.) Students:

- John Bruning, Student Trustee – Present
- Dennise Rusk, Coastline College – Remote and voting
- Jon Reuker, Coastline College – Remote and not voting, Depart at 2:59 pm
- Darla Nunez, Golden West College – Remote and Present
- Breanna Berrera, Golden West College - Absent
- Mathew Gonzales, Golden West College – Present
- Carla Santoyo, Golden West College (Alternate) – Present
- Amberly Truong, Golden West College - Present
- Tom Nakatomi, Orange Coast College - Present
- Savannah Garcia, Orange Coast College- Present, Arrived at 2:42 pm

b.) In person quorum was met at 2:42pm

3. Opportunity for Public Comment – no Public Comment

4. Approval of Minutes from the February 9, 2024 DSC meeting (attachment #1)

On a motion by Dennise and seconded by Savannah the minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Welcome Guest Speaker Joseph Melo, Senior Associate at Townsend Public Affairs

- Joseph works with Casey Elliott in the Washington DC office; Casey works in Sacramento
- Originally from Lordi Northern California (in between Sacramento and San Fransico)
- Worked at Townsend Public Affairs a little over a year now
 - Previously was a policy advisor on Capitol Hill with his hometown congressman Jerry McNerney, who retired, with his office for many years.
- Education and career journey began at UC Berkley when he was an undergrad, ended up getting an internship in a congressional office (District office of Nancy Pelosi - one summer).
- Worked many jobs prior to Capitol Hill.
- Everyone starts out as an intern then moves up the later

- Intern to staff assistance to legislative correspondence (different routes from Policy, Communications or Press)
 - Went the Policy route
- President Biden gave state of Union address last night (3/7)
 - Keeping government funded and funding it for next school year
 - Funding every year
- Higher education:
 - Some movement on this issue
 - Bipartisan workforce Pell Bill
 - Getting taken off the floor for other measures
 - Expands Pell Grant eligibility to short term workforce programs
 - Changes:
 - Industry
 - Economy demands
 - Stronger workforce for America Act
 - Reauthorize the workforce innovation opportunity act
 - Funding for training, workforce training at all colleges and beyond

6. Student Advocacy Day Washington D.C. - Update

- Dates: March 15-19, 2024
- Policy or career in Politics
- Monday March 18th (Joseph and Townsend will join Coast District)
- Personal Life story will stick (Monday March 18th), Offices with Senator Lofonza Butler (Newest California Senator), Representative Michelle Steele office and Senator Alexandria's office. Capitol tour in between meetings
- Most of time in House and Senate office buildings. House and Senate floors in Capitol
- Tuesday, March 19th library commerce tour
- Waiting to potentially to reschedule a meeting with office Katie Porter
- Meetings with Michelle Steel office
- Library office tour Tuesday, March 19th
- First meeting scheduled for 11:30 am with Senator Butler's Office

7. Student Advocacy Day Sacramento - Update

- Tuesday April 9th 2024 (Single Day)
- Similar to Advocacy Washington DC trip
- Meeting with Legislators staff
- State capital under construction
- Legislative office is now a block away due to the capital being under construction
- Swing place is tighter and smaller
- Hallway and lobby meetings
- Guest speakers in morning (Policy Perspective and Budgetary Perspectives) and afternoon (Swing spaces)
- Legislative and staff know bill numbers
- Make personal connections and how they will affect us as students
- Explain what and how they affect students
- 2 weeks out for a confirmed schedule from April 9th.
- Talk about State budget conversations and how they might impact students on a student's lens
 - Adjustment of Cal Grant Program from ABC to Cal Grant 2/Cal Grant 4
 - Cuts... \$78B deficit of \$60B deficit cuts here and there and how they impact students?

8. Service Project - Update

- Grey Whale washed up on shore and will get to inspect (Miane Biologist majors)
- 40 students from GWC
- Date set: Sunday April 21 9-12 pm at Bolsa Chica Wetlands
- More things need to be update with new information
 - Student name, email and what college
- Transportation: Bus (limited to 50 Seats) or drop off due to lack of parking
- District is providing lunch
- To reserve a bus, we need 25 people minimum and max 50 people
- Project holds 70 people as a cut off
- Refundable deposit of \$5 and if shows up the students gets the \$5 back (example)
- Location meets up: GWC at 8:30 am
- An advisor per college should be present
- Back to campus at 1 pm

9. Reports

a. General DSC Reports

Officer and Staff Reports (limited to 3 minutes per person)

- Golden West:
 - Women's Month Panel moderated by Vice President of Student Advocacy
 - Application open on the March 1st (Student Government)
 - Fund X for discounts
- OCC:
 - Report from President Madison Harris given to her student on her behalf
 - 2 vacancies and appointments filled
 - Vice President Student Senate
 - Working on the college service charge to increase current price of \$31
 - Plan to be presented and implemented Fall 2024 to Board of Trustee
 - March 12th Meet and Greet at 12-2:30pm
 - March 20th Annual Town Hall
- Coastline:
 - 2 will be attending D.C
 - 2 will attend General Assembly
 - Approved funding for 3 students to go to Kenya, Africa with Dr Henry (Professor of Anatomy and Physiology)
 - March 22nd Knott's Berry Farm Trip funded by ASG
 - Passed a Resolution on Academic Senate

b. Report from Student Trustee

- No report

10. Items for the next agenda

- Debrief on Washington DC and Sacramento
- April 1st Application for Student Trustee will open

11. Opportunity for Public Comment - No public comment

12. Adjournment Meeting adjourned 3:41 pm