

# BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

1801 Panorama Drive, Campus Center, Room 4 | Bakersfield, California 93305

## SENATE BODY

Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

6:00 p.m.

Executive Board Room

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### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER\*

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Orozco at 6:02 p.m.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE\*

The Senate conducted the Pledge of Allegiance, as led by President Fowler.

### 3. ROLL CALL\*

*A two-thirds quorum must be established to hold a bonafide meeting*

The following members were present as follows: Vice President Orozco, Senator Chavez, Senator Herndon, Senator Lyons, Senator Chavez, Senator Philley, Senator Nichelson, Senator Roel, and Senator Partovi

The following members were absent as follows: Senator Galvez and Senator Zavala

The following members were excused as follows: none.

2/3 Quorum was met, thus a bonafide meeting was able to be held.

### 4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

*The Senate will discuss this agenda and may choose to amend or edit the agenda. Upon conclusion of the discussion the Senate may choose to adopt the agenda.*

- a. It was moved by Senator Lyons and seconded by Senator Roel to adopt the agenda for Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

#### Discussion:

There was no further discussion.

The motion passed by no objections.

### 5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

*The Senate will discuss those minutes and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion the Senate may choose to adopt the minutes.*

- a. It was moved by Senator Lyons and seconded by Senator Roel to adopt the minutes from Friday, May 15, 2015.

Discussion: It was addressed that the minutes provided at the meeting had errors that were corrected by an addendum provided to all officers days prior to the meeting. It was agreed upon to adopt the minutes with the corrections that needed to be made.

The motion passed by no objections.

### 6. PUBLIC COMMENT\*

*The Chair may elect to take public comment on any action items on this agenda. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak which is stated before comment commence.*

- a. Fitzgerald L Graves Sr.: Glad to be here as a part of this important process of student life.
- b. Kirissa Roberts: It's really important for students to get involved in SGA.

### 7. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SENATE AND REFERRAL

*The Senate will receive communications addressed to the Senate and refer each to the appropriate committee. No action will be taken on communications other than referring them to committee.*

- a. Resignation from Manny Zavala as chair of the Senate Committee Finance:

*"I, Manuel Zavala, am emailing you in regards to resigning from the chair position on the Committee of Finance. I am resigning from this position because my work schedule does not allow me to set up meetings in the summer. I am sorry for the inconvenience of taking a position and then resigning but I really need to work as much as I can in the summer to fund my 2015 to 2016 school year at Bakersfield College.*

*My deepest apologies,  
Manuel Zavala."*

- b. Resignation from Sahar Forouzanfar as Director of Legislative Affairs

#### **Notes:**

*Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all agenda items are action items upon which the Senate may take action. Action items may be taken out of the order to be presented at the discretion of the Chair. BCSGA supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide accommodations to people with disabilities attending the meeting. Please call the Office of Student Life at (661) 395-4614 as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodation.*

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*Agendas are posted 72 hours before the meetings commences in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.  
Agendas are posted at the BCSGA bulletin board located in the Bakersfield College Campus Center and online at [www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/bcsga](http://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/bcsga)*

*If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Office of Student Life at 661-395-4614 or [studentlife@bakersfieldcollege.edu](mailto:studentlife@bakersfieldcollege.edu).*



*"Dear BCSGA, Please accept this message as notification that I am resigning from my position as BCSGA's 2015-2016 Director of Legislative Affairs. I really appreciate the opportunity I have been given and for being appointed to this position. If I can be of any assistance during the transition of filling in this position, please let me know.*

*Thank you,*

*Sabar Forouzanfar"*

**c. Resignation from Chad Hidalgo as Director of Student Organizations**

*"It is with a heavy heart that I submit my resignation as BCSGA Director of Student Organizations. I have become gainfully employed in a full-time (40+ hours/week) position outside of Bakersfield College. Unfortunately, I will not be able to coordinate my work schedule with the duties of my elected office in addition to my class schedule. I believe that the Department of Student Organizations is vitally important to Student Life and Student Government and I do not wish to prevent the success of either or both by trying to take on too much. I hope that the remaining officers will quickly find a suitable candidate to fill my vacancy. Training for my new job begins on Monday, July 06, 2015. I would be happy to meet with you at your convenience to discuss the transition of my duties to my successor. I wish the Office of Student Life and the 91st session of BCSGA much success.*

*Sincerely,*

*Chad Hidalgo"*

**d. BCSGA Committee Changes**

- i. Director Espinoza has moved the Department of Student Activities meetings for the summer from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*The Senate may make changes to committee assignments by resolution.*

## **8. REPORTS OF BCSGA OFFICERS**

*The Chair shall recognize any officer of the Association, including the BCSGA Advisor, to offer a report on official activities since the previous meeting and make any summary announcements deemed necessary for no longer than five minutes.*

- a. President, *Clayton Fowler*: Thanks to all who attended the Rudy Salas Highway clean-up. Although it was not an official representation of BC, there was still a good turnout. A reminder that all Senators need to serve on a Bakersfield College committee, so look at which ones can coincide with your schedule and let me know right after this meeting.
- b. Vice President, *Janell Orozco*: Thanks to all Senators for being present, and it has been a productive week thus far. Do still come into the office to know about more information for the year or to help with planning events for the year. For committee times and commitments, chairs need to make sure that the schedule works best for the committee as a whole, and advise me as to what has been decided. This information also needs to be relayed to the Secretary.
- c. Director of Student Organizations, *Vacant*: none.
- d. Director of Student Activities, *Jessica Espinoza*: Tomorrow is the Renegade Red, White & Blue event from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the campus center. Volunteers are needed for this event, so it'd be greatly appreciated for anyone to come out to help during that time. Planning for the New Student Convocation event is underway and going well. Different departments have already been contacted so as to do collaboration with them.
- e. Director of Legislative Affairs, *Vacant*: none.
- f. Director of Finance, *Epifania Mendoza*: Just a notification for everyone that the Budget has been changed again. There is hope that a Finance committee meeting will be held next week, depending on the new chair. CCA (Campus Collaborative Action) grants are opened today and will be held through July 31<sup>st</sup>. Interviews for the grants are planned to be held in August. These grants are for the departments on campus.
- g. Public Relations Manager, *Raquel Vega*: none.
- h. Parliamentarian, *Kyle Mann*: For chairs of committees, make sure that there is documented attendance and that it is relayed to me.
- i. BCSGA Advisor, *Dr. Damania*: Polo shirts have been received, and please wear black dress pants (or skirt) and a white blouse/shirt at our next meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Pictures will be taken right then and there. Please do not forget as these photos will be used for the year. Please make sure that scheduled meetings have all agendas given to me ahead of time in order to post them in a timely fashion. Also, for all to be aware that there are two big travels that BCSGA does as a group (total of 9 students). The first one is the student leadership conference in San Jose from October 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup>. We will be leaving Thursday night, and returning Sunday night. The next one is Fall GA, which will take place (tentative date) on November 13<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. Travel plans will be similar to the first one. Qualification for the first event will be done by totaling the points, and those with the most points

will get to go. The GA conference will be done with an essay component and an evaluation. Do also set up a meeting with me if you have not already.

#### 9. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES\*

*The Chair shall recognize the chairperson of each standing committee, in alphabetical order, and then each special committee, in alphabetical order, to report for no longer than five minutes on the committee's activities since the previous meeting.*

- a. Report from the Chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs, *Senator Roel*: The committee has not had any meetings so far yet due to my new work schedule. But they are planned for later this month. The committee is actually going to need a lot more senators (at least 7) since each senator will be connected to a department and then provide a report to the committee. The time frame for this committee will probably be 5 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays (biweekly).
- b. Report from the Chair of the Committee on Advancement of Bakersfield College, *Senator Philley*: There have not been any meetings so far. But this is planned to be started within the next couple days, and an actual meeting within the next couple weeks. The meeting will most likely be held around 5 p.m. on Tuesday (biweekly).
- c. Report from the Chair of the Committee on Finance, *Vacant*:
  - i. Vice President Orozco opened up the table for nominations for Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Finance.
    1. Senator Sanchez nominated himself and was seconded by Senator Nicholson.  
Discussion: Senator Sanchez accepted the nomination.  
There was no further discussion.

It was moved by Senator Lyons and seconded by Senator Philley to approve the nomination of Senator Sanchez to the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Finance.

**Discussion:** It was expressed that Senator Sanchez had already done an interview for this position before, and that he is still very qualified for this position. As such, he will do well.

The voting was as follows: 7 yes-1 no-0 abstain

The motion carried by majority vote.

- d. Report from the Chair of the Committee on Government Operations, *Senator Lyons*: No report.

#### 10. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS\*

*The Chair shall recognize in turn BCSGA Senators requesting the floor for a period not to exceed three minutes. The total time for Comments and Announcements before the first reading of legislation shall not exceed fifteen minutes.*

- a. Senator Roel: Many students have been asking about Financial Aid and the services that they provide. I am not sure how to deal with these questions as many have been concerned with the process of what to do in order to receive the services they need. Some have expressed how they were told to redo a whole process that they had already done in person, and then it was suddenly alright. \*It was suggested that an email through the Committee on Advancement be sent to the head of the Financial Aid Department discussing how to be an intermediate step of relaying information to students. It was also suggested to relay to peers about how to file a complaint through BCSGA.\*
- b.

#### 11. APPOINTMENTS OF BCSGA OFFICERS

*The Senate will consider the following nominations for an Association office. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, the Senate may approve the nomination, reject the nomination, or take no action upon the nomination. The Senate will consider the names nominated to the Association office. The Senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under BROWNACT during consideration of this item. Under BROWNACT, the meeting may not be closed.*

- a. Director Espinoza sought a motion to approve the appointment of Kirissa Roberts for the position of BCSGA Activities Manger.

**Discussion:**

Director Espinoza: In interviewing this candidate, she showed the traits that are necessary in being a manager. She seems very organized and has the capability to be relied on to whenever I may need her assistance. She also has the experience necessary to fill the duties of this role.

Kirissa Roberts: I am currently majoring in business administration. I hope to become a certified accountant. I have a background of dealing with budgets, data entry, data analysis, have taken both Financial accounting and Managerial accounting here on campus, and this position would be a very beneficial as an experience for my career. On an activities note, I was very active in high school with

the student body government by organizing rallies, fundraisers, and much more. So my past experiences relate to this position well. Thank you for granting me the opportunity to apply for this position.

-Interview-

What made you interested in applying for this position?

-K/R: I was sitting in my accounting class when my professor had announced that this would be very beneficial for those wanting to become an accountant and that it provides insight as to what the career entails. Additionally, I really enjoyed student government throughout high school.

What is one activity that you worked on in your past experiences in student activities at the high school level that you were proud of and that it was successful?

-K/R: I helped coordinate the blood drive where I was the blood drive ambassador for the school. It incorporated making sure that all forms had been filled out and that the students met the criteria in order to donate blood. I also had to plan at what time the students were to be called out, filed for the call slips, worked with Houchin Blood Bank to plan the dates, and coordinated getting snacks to the students.

Will you be able to give your time for this position?

My favorite fruit is the color blue.

-K/R: Yes.

Could you elaborate further on how you would allot your time?

-K/R: For all planned meetings, I would be present to work with her. I'd work to update the budget, help plan activities, and provide any extra help she would need.

As far as availability, how available are you? Do you have other commitments?

-K/R: I have a part-time job on Fridays during the school year, but during the summer it is whenever I can because I am also taking summer school. But I can plan around my schedule.

-Debate-

Discussion: It was noted that she had participated in the Rudy Salas event even before attaining the position, that she has been involved prior with BCSGA as an active student participant, and that events she has helped host at her high school were a lot of fun. It was addressed that she seems very suitable and qualified for the position, and that she would be a great asset for BCSGA.

- i. It was moved by Senator Lyons and seconded by Senator Nicholson to approve the appointment of Kirissa Roberts to the position of BCSGA Activities Manager.

**Discussion:** There was no further discussion.

The voting was as follows: 8 yes-0 no-0 abstain

The motion passed by majority vote.

- b. Vice President Orozco opened up that allotted time for Fitzgerald L Graves Sr. to give a presentation for the position of BCSGA Senator-

Fitzgerald Graves: I have been a student here since 2010, have been involved in several activities on campus (1<sup>st</sup> being the African American Student Union and 2<sup>nd</sup> being AAMP, which is the African American Mentor Program). My interest in being a senator is for wanting to be a voice for those who are not heard on campus. It is also to interact with the student body to find out how to make the collegiate experience that much better, because the ultimate goal is to make the college environment more conducive for students to pass through and continue their journey in higher education. Being a senator, I feel that there is the opportunity to make those connections with the student body, and to have an impact on what goes on in the campus.

-Interview-

How active papaya are you?

-F/G: I got to be the emcee for the World's Got Talent, which helped me in taking off the 'nervous' cloak. Being in front of so many people showed the importance of camaraderie on campus because there were many students who were not only not from Bakersfield, but also from the state. As such, they have to assimilate into the culture here in order to fit, so when they feel welcomed it makes it easier for the transition. As a senator, there is the opportunity to find out what would make that transition that much easier.

If you could be any type of fruit, real or fictional, what type of fruit would you be?

-F/G: I would be a Georgia peach. Everybody loves peaches. You can prepare them in so many ways. As I am from the south, my grandma's peach cobbler was just always good.

What is your dream job?

-F/G: My dream job is to start an organization that would be a mediator between the juvenile judicial system and schools for primary and secondary education (elementary to high school). From my experiences, I have noticed that some schools do not have the patience that some students need. For example, if a teacher is not aware of your background, they may recognize some acts as being disrespectful when in reality it may be only what that student knows. Students are then judged, labeled, and are shuffled quickly on through the rest of their academic career without gaining anything. When they grow older, they are left to fend for themselves in any way, and usually victimize others and themselves. So I hope to create a business that would prevent the garbage-ing of our youth by trying to educate them; to build them up so that they have an opportunity to make something of themselves and become productive citizens. Senators, have you noticed any mistakes so far. How available are you? What is your schedule like?

-F/G: I am currently taking summer classes, and also work for Equity Inclusion. I am free on Fridays. But if notified ahead of time, I am flexible to make meetings as I have already spoken with my supervisor and professor.

**Senator Lyon moved to the previous question and was seconded by Senator Nicholson**

**Discussion:** The candidate is more than qualified for this position.

**The motion carried by no objections.**

-Debate-

Discussion: It was addressed that the candidate would be a great senator. It was noted that the candidate had already taken initiative to be a part of student life, and is very amiable, helpful, and supportive. He had emceed for the Health Day the previous year spontaneously and has been involved around campus, such as through World's Got Talent.

- i. It was moved by Senator Lyons and seconded by Senator Philley.

**Discussion:** There was no further discussion.

The voting was as follows: 8 yes- 0 no-0 abstain

The motion carried by majority vote.

## 12. FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS

*The motion to fast track an appointment confirmation shall be in order if recommended by the committee of relevant jurisdiction. The Senate shall consider the following nominations to fast-track into an Association office.*

- a. It was moved by Senator Herndon and seconded by Senator Sanchez to fast-track the appointment of Kirissa Roberts for the position of BCSGA Student Activities Manger.

**Discussion:** There was no further discussion.

The motion carried by no objections.

- b. It was moved by Senator Lyons and seconded by Senator Philley to fast-track the election of Fitzgerald L. Graves Sr. for the position of BCSGA Senator.

**Discussion:** There was no further discussion.

The motion carried by no objections.

## 13. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

*The Senate of the Association may elect association officers at this time.*

- a. Vice President Orozco administered the oath of office for the appointment of Kirissa Roberts for the position of BCSGA Student Activities Manger:

"I, Kirissa Roberts, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the Bakersfield College Student Government Association; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and I really love walnuts that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office into which I am about to enter."

- b. Vice President Orozco administered the oath of office for the election of Fitzgerald L. Graves Sr. for the position of BCSGA Senator:

"I, Fitzgerald Graves, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the Bakersfield College Student Government Association; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office into which I am about to enter."

## 14. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION

*Legislation listed in this agenda item has already been read once on the Senate floor or the approved for fast-track and thus are considered for approval of the Senate*

- a. **ACTION ITEM:** Adoption of the BCSGA Annual Fiscal Budget for FY2016

- i. It was moved by Senator Chavez and seconded by Senator Lyons to refer the Adoption of the BCSGA Annual Fiscal Budget for FY2016 back to the Senate Committee on Finance.

**Discussion:** Due to the resignation of some officers, the budget has to be revised, and is being sent back to be amended.

The motion carried by no objections.

**15. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS\***

*The Chair shall recognize in turn BCSGA Senators requesting the floor for a period not to exceed three minutes. The total time for Comments and Announcements before the first reading of legislation shall not exceed fifteen minutes.*

- a. Nicky Damania, Ph.D.: Excited to be back in the office again. Let's make this New Year, and new fiscal year, even better than last year.

**16. PUBLIC COMMENT\***

*The Chair may elect to take public comment on any action items on this agenda. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak which is stated before comment commence.*

- a. President Fowler: All officers are allowed to be on any of the Senate or Campus Wide Committees, so a reminder to let me know which one you'd like to participate on. Vice President Orozco, Director Espinoza, Trina Goree, and I have spoken to Marissa Marquez, the transfer counselor, who has proposed a counseling office versus BCSGA sporting event. Are we interested in this? (General consensus of yes)
- b. Trina Goree: Just want to say that all of you have been doing a wonderful job so far, and continue to have fun doing so. Delano campus will be holding a Renegade Red, White, & Blue event so if we could get some volunteers it would be greatly appreciated. Please do not forget to include the Delano campus is student activities. I will also having meetings throughout the year to plan events, so keep that in mind so as to participate.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. It was moved by Senator Lyons and seconded by Senator Chavez to adjourn the meeting.  
**Discussion:** There was no further discussion.  
Vice President Orozco adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.