

**OTTER STUDENT UNION AT CSU MONTEREY BAY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL AND BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 1, 2022**

**6:15 PM - 7:30 PM**

**OSU Room 310 & via Zoom**

<https://csumb.zoom.us/j/88166214067>

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Time: 6:20 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Board Directors

- a. Andres Mena, Chair, Present
- b. Sean Meeks, Vice Chair, Present
- c. Dylan Masters, Treasurer, Present
- d. Anisha Jadhav, Secretary, Present
- e. David Ledesma, Student, Present
- f. Kassandra Fimbres, Student, Present
- g. Nawied Amin, Student, Present
- h. Dylan Woodbridge, Student, Present
- i. Patterson Emesibe, Alumni, Present
- j. Dr. Babita Gupta, PhD, Faculty, Present
- k. Chris Illig, Community, Present
- l. Jeff Rensel, OSU Director, Present
- m. Dr. John Fraire, PhD, Interim VPSA, Absent

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA 12.01.22**

Andres Mena asks for approval for agenda items.

Nawied Amin, Dr. Babita Gupta, David Ledesma motions to approve.

David Ledesma and Patterson Emesiebe approved the motion.

The motion passes 17-0-0.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 11.03.22**

<https://csumb.edu/media/csumb/section-editors/otter-student-union/November-3,-2022.pdf>

David Ledesma seconds the motion.

Motion passes 17-0-0.

## V. BUSINESS ITEMS

### i. Special Guest: President Vanya Quiñones

- Andres Mena introduced and welcomed the President, Ms. Vanya Quinones. He narrated the works of the OSU BOD including services, operations, teams roles, students representatives and the main values of OSU BOD. Andres introduced himself and asked everyone to introduce themselves to the President.
- Everyone introduced themselves.
- Andres Mena asked a question to the President about what the role looks like in day-to-day life of the President. The President responded to the question by saying that the things connected to the students, the decisions based on the strong future of the university, agenda and cabinet helping running the university are the activities that need to be carried out everyday. She mentioned that the job is pretty dynamic, 24/7, workaholic, big and fast paced.
- There were some discussions about the Covid-19 pandemic situation and how everyone faced that period. The President mentioned that Covid situation actually helped the university to be more flexible and agile, and also wanted to help the people suffering still after the covid.
- Dylan Masters asked a question about some changes needed. The President mentioned that she has a 5 year mission plan, continuing with the services and surveys. She mentioned that she is continuously working to improve the services on campus including increasing the number of vending machines, getting food courts at every corners of the buildings on campus, moving some offices for example - Financial services office to the center of the campus's buildings, increasing the number of engaging activities for students, and working overall through the surveys and feedback that she personally received from the people about campus services.
- There were furthermore a couple of questions asked to the President by Andres Mena and Patterson Emesibe, and all were answered by the President very convincingly.
- One question was asked by Jeff Rensel to the President, "What were the first impressions of the President about the OSU". The President responded to the question by saying that the OSU building is very impressive, beautiful and is the heart of the university campus. She elaborated further by saying that she feels blessed that we all have such a nice building on campus where everybody feels welcomed, engaging and interactive as there are sometimes people seen in the building staying

even late until 11pm. Also, she continued saying that the activities, celebrations, events and ceremonies conducted in the OSU building are everytime contributing more and more in bringing the community together; engaging and spending nice time together. She also appreciated everyone present in the meeting and their work.

## **ii. Spring 2023 OSU Board Meeting Date/Time Discussion:**

Andres Mena suggested to the Board Members that it was a good time to have discussion about the Spring 2023 OSU Board Meeting schedule and asked everyone to share the timings that works for them, so as to figure out one common timing that works for everyone.

Rudy Medina responded that we will have a Google Form shared with everyone and through the form, it would be easier to keep track of everyone's availability.

## **iii. Policy and Procedure Committee update**

Andres Mena asked about whether there were any updates about the Committee to the committee members.

Jeff Rensel mentioned that there were no reports or updates to be shared in this meeting and thus, new updates will be discussed with everyone in the next meeting.

## **iv. Art Committee update:**

- Andres Mena asked about whether there were any updates about the Art Committee to the Committee members.
- Dylan Masters mentioned that the Committee had an Email template designed professional. As he had talks with some local artists about their art contributions willingness to the OSU, and thus the committee had plans to send the artists an invitation through this email template. But before that, the committee wants everyone to review it and give approval for further process.
- Dylan Masters shared his screen virtually and displayed the email template to everyone. He mentioned that some of the few ideas mentioned in the email template needed to be reviewed. He also expressed a doubt asking what the OSU Board from their end, will be able to offer to the local artists.
- Dr. Babita Gupta, Ms. Karina Alvarez, Mr. Chris Illig suggested some changes needed in the email template.

- Mr. Jeffrey Rensel mentioned that we have an Art agreement that used to have earlier years incorporation with the OC3.
- After reviewing and editing in the email template document as per everyone's suggestions, Dylan Masters asked for approval from everyone for the final email template.
- Mr. Chris Illig expressed excitement and appreciated the committee's work for getting new art on campus.
- Ms. Karina Alvarez again mentioned that some changes were needed.
- Rudy Medina raised a query that the artists might ask a question of whether they will be getting paid if they were willing to contribute to the OSU. So, he made sure from everyone that the OSU Board will not be able to offer money to the artists at this moment. And thus, he asked Dylan Masters to better write the same in the email template to share proper information to the artists prior.
- David Ledesma suggested that he can ask some artists for their contributions from Service learning, Capstone projects and students involved in arts.
- Dr. Babita Gupta asked about reaching out to some departments that could help contribute. On it, Dylan Masters mentioned that it would be inappropriate to reach out to anyone asking for their contributions directly, before the email with proper information is shared with them officially.
- Patterson Emesibe also appreciated the email template and suggested some changes in the last paragraph.
- Nawied Amin recommended having some social media posts advertising the artists' background, and their contribution once they contribute to us. On it, Dylan Masters appreciated Nawied's idea. He mentioned that it was very important, and made sure to also that point in the email.
- Dr. Babita Gupta recommended highlighting the series or posts of the artists to introduce themselves, tagging on instagram, and other platforms.

**v. Audit Committee update:**

Andres Mena asked for updates about the Audit and budget committee.

Jeff Rensel replied that they didn't have many updates to be shared in this meeting.

He mentioned that the OSU Taxes were filed and they are posted online.

**vi. Budget Committee update:**

This item was skipped since it was covered in the earlier business item.

### **vii. Suggestion Box options (Andres):**

- Rudy Medina raised a query about what would be the location that will be used for locating the suggestion box. On it, Andres Mena replied that the suggestion box will be or can be located somewhere near the main entrance of the OSU building.
- Andres Mena shared his screen virtually and shared some ideas about the suggestion box that he had.
  - He shared the following two options about the suggestion box that can be ordered online:
    1. **Wooden box priced \$39.99 (without tax or shipping).**
      - a. dimensions : 7 "L \* 6 "W \* 8" H
      - b. Material : rustic burnt wood:
      - c. Locking: lockable hinged side panel with two keys
      - d. Front erasable chalkboard surface.
    2. **Metal box priced \$29.99 (without tax or shipping) and related details as the first one.**
- After everyone's review, the first option suggested for the suggestion box got decided.
- Andres Mena asked for motion to pass the approval of the **wooden box of first option as the coming suggestion box.**

### **viii. Closed Session: Executive Board Evaluations:**

Andres Mena moved on to this part.

Jeff Rensel mentioned that as part of the OSU Board, we have an evaluation period for the board members getting compensation. Each semester they are compensated.

Jeff Rensel asked the Student Director Board members to leave the room and asked Dylan Masters and Sean Meeks to jump off the zoom meeting room and join after 5 mins.

Everyone present in the meeting voted for the Board Members' work separately for getting compensated each semester.

There was a closed session from 7:31 to 7: 36 pm about voting for the same.

### **Closed Session: Executive Board Evaluations:**

Mr. Jeffrey Rensel reviewed and discussed the Executive Officer self-evaluation and peer-evaluations with the rest of the OSU Board. The Executive Board was invited to rejoin the meeting/Zoom session.

**Announcement to the board regarding Executive Board Evaluations:**

After review and discussion, the OSU Board approves full compensation for the executive board for the Fall 2022 semester. A big thank you to the Executive board members. Keep up the great work. Multiple board members praised and congratulated the Executive Board for their involvement and accomplishments.

**VI. OSU UPDATES**

**i. Jeff Rensel - Otter Student Union (OSU) Director:**

**OSU Updates given by Mr. Jeffrey Rensel:**

- Since the last meeting, there was a successful Veterans Day Celebration, a Game Show with Otter Media/CART, and Monte's Music yesterday.
- There were several events scheduled for the end of the semester including our Staff Spotlight Monte's Music tomorrow at 12pm.
- There will be hosting of 'Transfer Orientation program' on Dec. 10th. and have a variety of programs scheduled for 'Welcome to Finals Week'
  - ( MyRaft link: [https://myraft.csumb.edu/CSUMBAS/rsvp\\_boot?id=1925857](https://myraft.csumb.edu/CSUMBAS/rsvp_boot?id=1925857) )
- In addition, additional OSU meeting rooms were opened as study rooms for Finals Week. The OSU will be open until 11pm. So he encouraged everyone to share this information with their friends to use this opportunity.
- The new direction graphics were added to the walls in the Meditation room, and he would like to review two graphic wall options for the Game Room with the Board.
- He gave a reminder of inviting the OSU Board to the OSU Holiday Celebration anytime between 12pm - 3pm on Friday, Dec. 9th for hot chocolate and cookie decoration.
- He mentioned to stay tuned for 'Welcome Back Week programming' for the Spring Semester, Jan. 21 - Jan. 28th.
- He discussed that we have received an estimate for a Cell Phone Booster system for the OSU with an estimated cost of \$112K. And thus, we are approaching the Corporation and Cabinet about the financial support.
- He mentioned that we are working on the options to add seating to the OSU exterior spaces, and will seek OSU Board input.
- He also mentioned that the Associated Students is looking to add an OSU Board member to the AS Elections Committee for the Spring 2023 semester. As this is an opportunity to AS Elections activities ranging from tabling, hosting candidate orientations and debates to helping to run the AS Elections in general over a 3 day voting period. Furthermore, he added that we are seeking someone from the board to assist with this request.

## VII. OC3 UPDATES

### i. Rudy Medina - Otter Cross Cultural Center (OC3) Director

#### Updates for OC3 given by Mr. Rudy Medina:

- Successfully conducted of:
  - Indigenous Peoples Day
    - “TYA”
    - Native American Voices
- Successfully completed yesterday with Social Justice Dialogues.
- Conducted the event successfully of Navigating as a First Gen event, which is a part of celebrating first generation where the OSU participated and it was held in the downstairs lobby, and took some suggestions from First generation students.
- For the ‘PRIDE in STEM’ event, many LGBTQ + students attended it who are in STEM.
- About the Conference Presentations:
  - Pro-Staff presented at the NASPA Western Regional: *My Identities are Strength: Rebuilding Student Counter Spaces On Campus*
  - Student staff presented at the Region 1 ACUI Conference: *(Re) Claiming Space: Nurturing Historically Marginalized Student Agency.*
- There are other couples of events upcoming.
  - Late Night Study Hours at OC3
    - December 5th, 13th, and 14th (5pm to 8pm)
      - With Hot chocolate and coffee.
  - Finalizing Spring Semester schedule next week for the OC3.
  - He mentioned that they are hiring ‘New Program Coordinator’, for which the Applications were due tonight.
  - He also mentioned that they are going to start the review process tomorrow and suggested that any queries can be asked to Sean Meeks.

## VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

### i. Upcoming Events:

- Welcome to Finals ([https://myraft.csumb.edu/CSUMBAS/rsvp\\_boot?id=1925857](https://myraft.csumb.edu/CSUMBAS/rsvp_boot?id=1925857))
- OSU Holiday Celebration - Dec. 9th, 12-3pm OSU Admin Office

## IX. ADJOURN

Andres Mena motions to adjourn the meeting

Nawied Amin motions.  
Patterson Emesibe seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

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\*Electronic submissions of agenda items:

- Email Secretary at [secretary@otterstudentunion.org](mailto:secretary@otterstudentunion.org)
- Include in the subject line “OSU Agenda Item”
- Provide title for the agenda item
- Provide a brief description of the agenda item
- Provide the name of the individual who will present the agenda item or a designated appointee
- If applicable, provide an attached written proposal for the item

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