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Senate Meeting

Friday, September 20, 2024

1:00 PM

Presiding officer: Vice President Mauro

Minute Taker: Justice Zabaleta

1. **Call to Order:** Call to Order at 1:01 pm
2. **Roll Call:** Roll Call complete at 1:02 pm
3. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion by Senator Halember, Seconded by Senator Rodriguez
4. **Public Comment:**
5. **Unfinished Business:**
6. **New Business:**
   1. Senate Bill 2024-25-01 A Bill to Cancel Senate on September 27th for Community Service Event (15 Minutes)

* **Presented by Senator Rodriguez**
* Motion by Senator Vega to add Senator Peshimam to the roll call, Seconded by Senator Rodriguez
* Motion by Representative Craig to add Senator Gothwal, Senator Pradhan and Representative Valdez to the roll call, Seconded by Senator Mehta
* Motion by Senator Halember to approve SB2024-25-01, Seconded by Director Shelton
* Roll Call Vote: 15-0-0
* SB2024-24-01 is PASSED
  1. Senate Bill 2024-25-02 Allocation Request for Civic Engagement Committee’s Food Nourish Now Project (15 Minutes)
* **Presented by Senator Rodriguez**
* Senator Halember: When we did tabling for Nourish Now, the resources went quickly. Are you making a specific amount of resources available for students?
* Senator Rodriguez: Nourish Now usually lasts two days, so it's about how we allocate resources for both days. We've revised our purchase spreadsheet and are adjusting to fix issues, and with the increased budget, we'll be buying more. Our goal is to avoid excess food but increase the amount to last longer. If we run out and fully distribute everything to students, that’s a win. We're using the budget to ensure resources last longer.
* Motion by Representative Craig to approve SB2024-25-02, Seconded by Senator Halember
* Roll Call Vote: 15-0-0
* SB2024-25-02 is PASSED

1. **General Business from the Floor:**
2. Representative Valdez: We had a speaker from Auraria Campus discussing the Tivoli Reimagined project. They’re asking SACAB to send one representative, and each institution needs to nominate a student representative. Nominations are due by Monday, September 30th, at 5 PM. The Tivoli Reimagined Project is part of the Auraria Campus' 5-year capital construction plan. They want to work with an architect to develop a Program Plan to submit for funding in FY 26-27, with approval needed by March 2026. The project focuses on the infrastructure and modernization of the Tivoli. As a steering committee member, representatives will attend monthly meetings.
3. Senator Rodriguez: What is the time commitment of the position?
4. Representative Valdez: They are holding monthly meetings, each lasting around one hour.
5. Senator Rodriguez nominates Representative Favorite, the nomination is accepted
6. Vote of Affirmation: 15-0-0
7. Representative Favorite is the CU Denver Steering Committee representative!
8. **Reports:**
   1. President: On Monday, we met with AVC Herndon to clarify confusion around the SSRC process and what we’re asking for. The main issue was why we wanted the Wellness Center and Housing & Dining to present to us, as some offices felt they weren't being equally represented. Vice President Mauro and I were guests on a podcast with Vice Chancellor Antonio Farias for diversity, equity, and inclusion, which will launch in two weeks. We’ve conducted several interviews this week and will be extending offer letters next Thursday, so we'll see our new team at the next Senate meeting. On Wednesday, we attended the Auraria Board of Directors meeting, where we learned that the Ballpark Project has been replaced with an MSU Denver housing project. This was surprising since the Integrated Project Group had been focused on the Ballpark Project, and the agenda was released late. We’ve requested better communication in advance for such major decisions to gather appropriate feedback. We also met with Interim Chancellor Ann Schmiesing, to have an honest conversation about student concerns and support. We raised transparency issues with the board and discussed student fee allocation and professional development. This morning, I had coffee with the Director of Housing and Dinning, and we’re setting up regular meetings to discuss student employee advocacy
   2. Civic Engagement: We reviewed the Nourish Now spreadsheet to adjust items and passed legislation for allocation. Excited for Lynx Day of Service, our advisor Jodyanna has been working hard to ensure the event is a success. We’ve started drafting legislation on student fee allocation and student life, which will be presented at the next Senate. It's important to have our ideas on paper to set a precedent, and I’m collaborating with others on the legislation.
   3. College Council: We've been working on sending out newsletters and contacting deans to set up meetings. Some deans have been out of the office this week, so scheduling is in progress. For the Business School, we have events with recruiters reviewing resumes and preparing for interviews on the 23rd and 26th. We'll also have a College Career Fair on the 25th and 26th—one for engineering and one open to all majors.
   4. Motion by Senator Rodriguez to add Senate Leaser to the roll call, Seconded by Senator Vega
   5. Finance & Funding: Today, we had two presentations due to requests over $500 from the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers, approving $938.60 to attend a national convention. We reviewed the guidelines several times, as some requests were denied for not following them, which helped us approve and deny smaller requests as well. A few were tabled due to time constraints, and we’ll connect asynchronously to review them. We'll meet before Friday next week due to Lynx Day of Service, as Senator Anson is participating in creek cleaning, so we want to meet the day before.
   6. Judicial: We met this week to discuss the basics of the committee, plans for this year, and our respective responsibilities. Please use the absence form and ensure attendance. If you don’t participate and communicate, we may proceed with impeachment. Please also speak with judicial and the executives.
   7. Public Relations: I worked with the executives on designing hiring posters for vacancies, which I completed yesterday. I'm now collaborating with Ex Officio Dew on a graphic aid for a voting event next Tuesday. I also discussed the Mini Minutes newsletter with President Brooks to decide on the best format.
   8. SACAB: We met recently, and a highlight was discussing the steering committee. Thank you for nominating someone, and thanks to Representative Favorite for accepting. We selected Representative Craig as our ABOD representative and chose our Vice Chair and discussed communication and plans for next week. Our next meeting will focus on selecting a representative for the steering committee for the new public safety building. We received a grant from the state and are moving forward with planning. Zack from Auraria Campus was supposed to talk about budgeting for RTD but was unable to attend; we'll reschedule and keep everyone updated. RTD wants to come and speak to SACAB, they have a three-step outline of what to expect from Zack, who will discuss the current RTD contract. They'll share their perspective on contracts and future possibilities, followed by another meeting to discuss our next steps as a body.
   9. SSRC: n/a
   10. Advisor: n/a
   11. Ex Officio: Shoutout to F&F for your incredible work and being pragmatic and supporting organizations with structure and organization. Your changes to the guidelines are much appreciated, and we'll keep improving the process. Guidelines help us justify decisions for those who missed minutes or weren't present. Thank you, Civics, for making things happen; we need to start operationalizing your great ideas. College Council, thanks for being open and creative and for reconnecting with colleges and campus. Representative Favorite, we appreciate you taking good notes and bringing items back for discussions. Thank you, Judicial, for keeping order and structure—your role is crucial. Director Shelton, we’re completing the circle, and your execs are doing a great job hiring. I’m flexible with office and meeting hours but strict about Senate starting on time. If you're late, submit an absence form because without quorum, we can’t conduct business. Think about the body. Attend the pumpkin party after Senate to connect with others. The more connected we are, the better our work will be. The student body relies on us to do good work.
9. **Adjourn:** Motion by Senator Rodriguez to adjourn, Seconded by Senator Anson

* Vote of Affirmation: 16-0-0
* Senate adjourned at 1:42 pm