



**71st Student Senate
Internal Affairs Committee
April 9, 2019 in Thagard 401**

Call to Order: 7:58pm

Members Present: Baxter, Mella, Durham, Gurau, Glanton, Villacorta, Sandoval, Alvarez, Rios

Members Tardy: N/A

Members Absent: Latham- Excused, Deliz-Unexcused

Guests: Donnelly, Harmon, Uddin, England, Marcel, Warren

Announcements:

- Chair - None
- Vice Chair - None
- Members - None

Committee Business:

There are 6 candidates for interview:

- Asian American Student Union – Jully Dong – Director
- Asian American Student Union – Tanvi Marulendra – Assistant Director
- Hispanic Latino Student Union – Kristian Diaz – Director
- Hispanic Latino Student Union – Alexa Isaac – Director
- Women Student Union – Joelle Lawrence – Director
- Women Student Union – Samiah Bansal – Assistant Director

Old Business: None

New Business:

- **Interview One:** Asian American Student Union – Jully Dong – Director
 - **Opening Notes:** Current programming director for AASU, junior, Asian Studies major, involved in SSF, K-Pop Vice President
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - Sandoval: How long with AASU?
 - 3 years
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Alvarez: How do you feel that you are the best qualified person to represent the AASU?
 - As a Chinese-American, struggled with identity can highlight issues pertinent to Asian community, interagency collaboration, was a part of the homecoming committee and was able to represent the Asian community campus wide
 - Rios: How do you want to partner with the career center?
 - This year we did a resume workshop but next year we will try bringing the career center to us for a larger turn out
 - Glanton: How do you want AASU to address the lack of South Asian Involvement and inclusion?
 - Problem in the society and AASU, the past year has seen improvement, the South Asian Association has had increased programming and attendance.



- Sandoval: What is your goal for the affiliates?
 - We can improve room reservations for affiliates so there is not conflict between programming, we implemented a timeline and that has improved. More interaction with affiliate leadership
- Villacorta: What flaws did you find with the previous leadership and how would you improve?
 - A lot of interaction with the e-board and AASU but we can improve how we interact with the affiliates with more personal relationships
- **Questions of Character:**
 - Alvarez: How will you manage the time commitment of being an agency director with your academic and personal life?
 - I will limit other involvements next year, academically I will have completed my major so I will have time to commit to AASU
 - Baxter: What is your definition of the next level of leadership for AASU?
 - I could start building up AASU with more programming, we have a good foundation, but I want more agency collaboration, international students, and our affiliates
 - Gurau: How will you being a shy person affect your position?
 - I have been growing since my freshman year, so I have been making steps putting myself out there, but I have found the passion I have for APIA advocacy and how much my identity means to me.
- **Other Questions:** None
- **Closing Notes:** Thank you and I hope I gave you a vision of what I want to build for AASU next semester
- **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question – Gurau, Second - Alvarez
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (8)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Sandoval, Villacorta,
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (0)**
- **Interview Two:** Asian American Student Union – Tanvi Marulendra – Assistant Director
 - **Opening Notes:** First generation, Indian-American, sophomore, Parents ensured she had a deep connection to her culture (art, dance, and language). Wanted to continue engaging in her culture and found a home in AASU. AASU was a way for her to define her identity and interact with impactful student leaders. Grew personally and professionally in her role on AASU e-board. Wants to continue that growth with being AD for next year and also give back to younger Asian Americans.
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - Alvarez: How long have you been involved with AASU?
 - 1 year
 - Mella: Are you a part of the community service committee still?
 - Yes, I am currently chair
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**



- Alvarez: From your past experiences, in your opinion, what is the best way to reach out to smaller affiliates?
 - I think face to face meetings are best, so I plan to have one face to face meeting every month with affiliate leadership.
- Villacorta: What flaws did you see in the previous leadership and how do you plan to improve it?
 - Not the great communication with affiliates so improving how we communicate in a timely manner and enthusiastically?
- Alvarez: How do you plan to improve representation for AASU?
 - Lack of accurate representation and helping members improve their passions
- Villacorta: How do you plan to engage affiliates?
 - Deeper relationships and involving them in programming
- Mella: In your past involvement, how do you think you can better prepare for programming?
 - More direct communication
- **Questions of Character:**
 - Sandoval: What would the “month” theme be’?
 - Something centered around identity because that has been so important to me. ‘Momentum’ with the progress we have seen in media representation
 - N/A
 - N/A
- **Other Questions:**
 - Harmon: How has secretary of AASU prepared you for this role?
 - I have had experience and exposure to all the e-board positions so I can help them with anything that needs to be done as well as being a helping hand to affiliates.
 - Donnelly: How would you further diversity and inclusion in relation with AASU?
 - I would continue to co-sponsor with other agencies and organizations as well as educating our own community of stereotype and hardships as AASU. I would like to implement a townhall. I would like to utilize more visible and shareable works with the community.
- **Closing Notes:** I am excited to continue working with AASU
- **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question: Villacorta, Second-Mella
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (7)** Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Sandoval, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (1)** Alvarez
- **Interview Three:** Hispanic Latino Student Union – Kristian Diaz – Director
 - **Opening Notes:** Programming coordinator for HLSU, Cuban and Puerto Rican, from Miami, Strong relationship with grandmother who raised, has loved to give back to the community, wants to enact change in the culture at FSU
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**



- Glanton: What year are you?
 - Sophomore
- N/A
- **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Alvarez: What are your 3 primary goals as director?
 - Education – educate students of Latinx and Hispanic culture, increase involvement on campus through education. Community-further community and build up relationships with affiliates and address discrimination and to give back to community through service (Godby partnership). Inclusivity- change the name from Latino to Latinx so that everyone is included in the agency and increase affiliate involvement
 - Villacorta: How do you plan to recruit new members who may be intimidated to get involved?
 - More visibility to affiliates by bringing them into a smaller place and then increase our relationships with our affiliates
 - Villacorta: What would you do to increase retainment?
 - We need to increase the amount of feedback that we are getting from students so we can know what programming and events they would like to see. We want to have feedback and town halls.
 - Baxter: How have your previous leadership positions help you as director?
 - They have taught me about inclusivity and increased compassion and understanding. I learned to be open to all identities. I have learned how to get involved in other areas on campus.
 - Rios: As director how would you bridge the divides within the community?
 - More collaboration between affiliates and be the facilitator between the communities
 - Villacorta: What flaws did you find with previous leadership and how would you improve it?
 - Alvarez Seconds
 - Communication. We started off moving groupme and so we have moved to another platform so important information is not lost.
- **Questions of Character:**
 - Alvarez: What makes you the most qualified?
 - I have served as the programming coordinator, so I have had communications with e-board and affiliates. I was an advocate, using my position as a platform for my constituent's voice
 - Glanton: Tell me about a time that you have made a difficult or unpopular decision
 - Facilitate social media, people disagreed with what the posts should be wanted to move from a formal platform to a more exciting and interactive platform
 - V: How has your experience prepared you to encourage diversity and fight ignorance?
 - Important to find the middle ground which is something learned through PeaceJam
- **Other Questions:**



- Garcel: How will you work with other agencies to bridge the divide?
 - Making sure events do not overlap so people with multiple identities can go to multiple events.
- Garcel: How would you deal with inactive affiliates?
 - Making sure affiliates do not go inactive in the first place by providing resources and assistance if needed.
- Donnelly: How will you further HLSU goals for the community?
 - By increasing visibility on campus by increasing how many flyers we are posting.
- **Closing Notes:** Thank you
- **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question - Sandoval, Second- Rios
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (8)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Sandoval, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (0)**
- **Interview Four:** Hispanic Latino Student Union – Alexa Isaac – Assistant Director
 - **Opening Notes:** Sophomore, Puerto Rican, current programming director for HLSU, first generation, undergraduate senator, aspirations to serve community and found passion in HLSU
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - A: How long have you been involved with HLSU?
 - 2 years
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Villacorta: How do you plan to recruit new members who are reluctant to get involved?
 - Wants to plan a summer week to encourage incoming freshman to get involved, increase tabling, and being relatable
 - Villacorta: How do you plan to retain new and existing members?
 - Wants to open up executive board meetings to the student body so that students feel heard by the agency. Increased social media activity
 - Baxter: How would you enforce diversity and inclusion
 - We can have more events with affiliates especially during heritage month and look for collaboration with affiliates and not just other agencies. Mover carnival to the Fall so that affiliates are able to interact with each other sooner.
 - Alvarez: How would you ensure that affiliates stay involved?
 - We need to limit how many transitions in leadership we have per year and streamline what is being transitioned from administration to administration. Increase the number of one on ones with affiliates
 - N/A
 - N/A



- **Questions of Character:**
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - N/A
- **Other Questions:** N/A
- **Closing Notes:**
- **Deliberations:**
 - **Roundtable**
 - **Call to Question- Baxter, Second-Villacorta**
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (8)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Sandoval, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (0)**
- **Interview Five:** Women Student Union – Joelle Lawrence – Director
 - **Opening Notes:** junior, EWM major, involved with WSU for 3 years, became the organization of women leaders' coordinator, found WSU that has allowed to develop personally and professionally
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Alvarez: How will you adjust the amount of programming for the increased membership of WSU?
 - More pointed programming that aligns with the mission statement of WSU through intersectionality
 - Sandoval: How do you plan to uphold diversity and inclusion?
 - Diversity and inclusion are at the core of WSU believes in intersectional feminism, making sure every attendee feels included
 - Gurau: How do you plan on reaching out to freshmen?
 - Developed a program to encourage 1st and 2nd year students to get involved and increase visibility to strong women leaders
 - Villacorta: What goals do you have to make sure that all gender identities are included?
 - Encourage gender inclusive language and using pronouns. Making sure that e-board knows about inclusive language
 - Mella: What inspired you to be director?
 - Previous directors were a big inspiration
 - **Questions of Character:**
 - Alvarez: What were your difficulties as assistant director and how were you able to turn them into strengths?
 - Communication. I learned how to ask for help when I needed it and communicate effectively
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Other Questions:**



- **Closing Notes:** Thank you
- **Deliberations:**
 - Roundtable
 - Call to Question - Baxter, Second- Rios
- **Voting Results**
 - Yay: (7)** Alvarez, Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Villacorta
 - Nay: (0)**
 - ABS: (1)** Sandoval
- **Interview Six:** Women Student Union – Samiah Bansal – Assistant Director
 - **Opening Notes:** sophomore, criminology major, membership coordinator for WSU, loved the programming and education offered by WSU
 - **Non-debatable Questions:**
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Questions related to desired position, experience, and/or future goals:**
 - Sandoval: What do you want to see for the Woman Initiative and affiliates?
 - Continue the Woman’s Initiative with a mentorship program with campus wide woman leadership and more organizations involved with the initiative.
 - Mella: How do you plan to bring women together?
 - Continuing the Woman’s Initiative and create programs and services on campus that are involved with the initiative
 - Alvarez: What goals do you have to increase visibility to woman leadership?
 - A week of programming with our affiliates and increase the amount of bonding programming with organizations. Bring more awareness to underrepresented woman on campus (like woman who have kids)
 - Villacorta: What flaws did you see in the previous leadership and how do you plan to improve it?
 - Communication. Increase transparency and accountability within the e-board
 - Baxter: How would WSU mentorship be different from other organizations?
 - Hope to have mentorship be intersectional and more partnerships on campus
 - **Questions of Character:**
 - Alvarez: Why are you the most qualified?
 - I have been active and held leadership positions, reliable, was heavily involved in programming
 - N/A
 - N/A
 - **Other Questions:**
 - **Closing Notes:** Thank you
 - **Deliberations:**
 - **Voting Results**



Yay: (6) Baxter, Glanton, Gurau, Mella, Rios, Villacorta

Nay: (0)

ABS: (2) Alvarez, Sandoval

Unfinished Business: None

Final Announcements:

Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 16th at 8:00pm

Adjourned: 9:58pm