

Associated Students Inc.
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo

Bill #18-04

ASI Bylaws Amendment - Implementation of ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Article I. Origin

This bill is presented in accordance with the ASI Bylaws by Nimrah Aslam, Secretary of Inclusivity and Diversity, Mitchell Collins, College of Science and Mathematics, Denise Hensley, Orfalea College of Business, and James Smith, College of Liberal Arts.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of Bill #18-04 is to create the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Standing Committee dedicated to promoting and addressing issues pertaining to diversity and inclusivity at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly).

Article III. Background

As a university, Cal Poly and ASI need to take steps to ensure the campus as a whole promotes an inclusive environment for the diverse, underrepresented minority groups on campus, and actively seek to implement national best practices. To initiate the evaluation of the best practices, on October 25, 2017, the 2017-18 ASI Board of Directors voted to create an Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion. Over the past six months, the Ad Hoc researched the work of other universities and conducted discussions with campus partners to evaluate best practices for implementation. Through their research, the Ad Hoc Committee found that one step that Student Government could take is the creation of a standing committee as it is one of the most commonly incorporated and effective solution utilized.

The standing committee strives to create a tangible, meaningful and imperative nexus between the underrepresented minority communities and ASI. Through which, trust, faith, and rapport are built. It is at this juncture that the proposed Diversity and Inclusion Committee truly diverts from the purview of any other committee within Student Government. Whereas the Recruitment and Election Committee serves to recruit members of the student body to run for office, and the Outreach and Communications Committee serves as a vehicle connecting constituents to representatives. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee serves to build the foundational trust, relationships and connections across campus that fall outside of the purview of the other committees, as well as lacking the feasibility to do so within their current structures and charges. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee would be charged with building, and maintaining a relationship with the underrepresented minority communities at Cal Poly, while actively advocating for those groups through committee action. The research conducted by the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, and the current climate on Cal Poly's campus necessitate the establishment of a Committee on Diversity and Inclusion. This committee will build a relationship with the underrepresented minority communities advocating for those communities through committee action, and serving to promote inclusivity across Cal Poly's campus.

In summation, as the “Official voice of students” ASI needs to ensure that every individual voice on Cal Poly’s campus is equally valued, considered and supported. The most prudent and effective way to support the underrepresented minority groups is through the establishment of a permanent standing committee on Diversity and Inclusion. The external research done by the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion and an internal needs assessment illustrates the external prevalence and internal need for this committee. The maxim of this position is to build relationships with the underrepresented minority communities to ensure advocating for those communities through serving to promote inclusivity across Cal Poly’s campus.

Article IV. Implementation

Insert after section 4.3.5:

4.3.6. The ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The ASI Diversity and Inclusion committee is responsible for ensuring ASI Student Government serves as an inclusive environment to serve the needs and address concerns of underrepresented minority students. This committee may make recommendations to the Board on inclusive language and consideration of student intersectionality’s within endorsements, resolutions, and bills. This committee will also host town halls open to all students and advertised directly to underrepresented minority groups to garner feedback on campus and ASI issues pertaining to diversity and inclusion. The committee in conjunction with the Chair and Vice Chair of the ASI Board of Directors, will pursue and complete trainings about diversity, equity, inclusion and ally ship issues. This knowledge will then be applied to all committees they serve on to ensure ASI Student Government is considering all matters relating to diversity and inclusion.

4.3.6.1. Voting Members:

4.3.6.1.1. The Chair of this Committee shall be a member of the Board of Directors as appointed by the Chair of the Board and shall cast tie-breaking votes when required.

4.3.6.1.2. A minimum of three additional members of the Board of Directors appointed by the Chair of the Board.

4.3.6.1.3. One member of the UUAB as appointed by the Chair of the UUAB.

4.3.6.1.4. One member of the ASI Executive Cabinet as appointed by the ASI President.

4.3.6.1.5 One Student Government member will serve as a liaison between this committee and the ASI External Affairs Committee. The liaison will maintain communication between these committees regarding matters of diversity and inclusion. The liaison is responsible for incorporating knowledge from the ASI Diversity and Inclusion committee

to the ASI External Affairs Committee has a commitment to serving underrepresented minority students.

4.3.6.1.6 One Student Government member will serve as a liaison between this committee and the ASI Outreach and Communication Committee. The liaison will maintain communication between these committees regarding matters of diversity and inclusion. The liaison is responsible for incorporating knowledge from the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee to ensure the ASI Outreach and Communication Committee has a commitment to serving underrepresented minority students.

4.3.6.1.7 One Student Government member will serve as a liaison between this committee and the ASI Recruitment and Elections Committee. The liaison will maintain communication between these committees regarding matters of diversity and inclusion. The liaison is responsible for incorporating knowledge from the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee to ensure the ASI Recruitment and Elections Committee has a commitment to serving underrepresented minority students.

4.3.6.2. Non-Voting Members:

4.3.6.2.1. The ASI Executive Director or designee shall serve as staff representative to this committee.

4.3.6.2.2. Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs- Diversity and Inclusion or a University Student Affairs representative.

Insert after section 4.3.1.1.2.1

4.3.1.1.2.2. One Student Government member will serve as a liaison between this committee and the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The liaison will maintain communication between these committees regarding matters of diversity and inclusion. The liaison is responsible for incorporating knowledge from the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee to ensure the ASI External Affairs Committee has a commitment to serving underrepresented minority students.

Insert after section 4.3.4.1.2

4.3.4.1.2.1. One Student Government member will serve as a liaison between this committee and the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The liaison will maintain communication between these committees regarding matters of diversity and inclusion. The liaison is responsible for incorporating knowledge from the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee to ensure the ASI Outreach and Communication Committee has a commitment to serving underrepresented minority students.

Insert after section 4.3.5.1.2

4.3.5.1.2.1. One Student Government member will serve as a liaison between this committee and the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The liaison will maintain communication between these committees regarding matters of diversity and inclusion. The liaison is responsible for incorporating knowledge from the ASI Diversity and Inclusion Committee to ensure the ASI Recruitment and Election Committee has a commitment to serving underrepresented minority students.

CERTIFIED as the true and correct copy, in witness thereof, I have set my hand and seal of the Associated Students, Inc. this ____ day of _____, 2018.

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors by **majority/ *unanimous vote*** on _____, 2018.

ASI Secretary

ASI Chair of the Board

ASI Executive Director

Sponsored by: Nimrah Aslam, Secretary of Inclusivity and Diversity, Mitchell Collins, College of Science and Mathematics, Denise Hensley, Orfalea College of Business, and James Smith, College of Liberal Arts.