Minutes

Notice is hereby given that the Student Senate of the Associated Students of Modesto Junior College shall conduct a meeting on Friday October 2, 2020 at 3:00pm through Zoom Conference: https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/96767835457

All meetings of the Associated Students of Modesto Junior College are open to the public and are accessible to persons with disabilities. Any person(s) with disabilities requesting special accommodations should contact Jennifer Novoa, President of the Associated Students of Modesto Junior College by phone at (209) 575-6700 or by e-mail at asmjcpresident@my.yosemite.edu for such accommodations to be made.

These minutes, as well as any related documents which are distributed prior to, or during the meeting, are public records. To request a copy of these records, please visit the Student Senate office or the ASMJC website at www.mjc.edu/campuslife.

I. Call to Order: 3:00 PM

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call:

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October 2, 2020 MINUTES
Adoption of the Agenda:
Motion by Vice President Carvajal; Seconded by Senator Medina

*Approved with No Abstentions*

Public Comment (Brown Act §54954.3):
This segment of the agenda is reserved for members of the public to directly address the Student Senate on any matters within its jurisdiction. A time limit of two (2) minutes per speaker and ten (10) minutes per topic will be allotted. The law does not permit any action to be taken, nor extended discussion of items not on the agenda. The Student Senate may briefly respond to comments made or questions posed. For an item to be placed on a future agenda, please contact President Novoa.

Persons who want to comment on topics not included on the agenda can do so as part of this section of the agenda.

Persons who want to comment on agendized topics may do so after being recognized by the ASMJC President before Senate discussion on the action item.

Prior to comment at the Senate Meeting, all speakers should complete a Speaker Request form in advance and give it to the ASMJC President.

*Ariana Gonzales, MJC Councilor,* (3 minutes 8 seconds) introduced herself to the senate as a counselor and a worker in the project lead for the UndocuAlly network. Ms. Gonzales invited ASMJC to participate in something they have been working on. She also shared a resolution made by the Academic senate regarding the Nonresident Student Tuition Exemption (a program specifically for undocumented students who do not meet the AB-540 requirements). Gonzales elaborated that many colleges are adopting this policy which allows undocumented students to take up to 6 units without having to pay nonresident tuition. She added that after 3 years at a community college, students would then qualify for in state tuition rates. She explained that the interpretation on the Ed Code allows for students to do this, but the board policy is what would have to be revised. This item was being brought to the attention of ASMJC to look into further and hoping that it would later be brought up for discussion. Gonzales added that the Undocumented Student Week of Action is coming up, and that this year it will be virtual for administrators, educators, and students. ASMJC was then encouraged to share this event to raise awareness and ensure know they belong at MJC.

Approval of Previous Minutes: September 18, 2020
Motion by Secretary Gonzales; Seconded by Senator Rojas

*Approved with No Abstentions*

IV. Presentations and Introductions:

A. Jenni Abbott: Cradle to Career
Abbott introduced herself as the Dean of Planning, Research, Innovation, and Institutional Effectiveness at MJC, where she coordinates the research office, the strong workforce program (this develops funding for CTE programs), and many other things in the community. She then asked ASMJC “How many of you know exactly what your career is going to be once you’ve finished school?” She elaborated that while this question is one of many varieties of “what do you want to be when you grow up” the importance of understanding what difference one wants to make, or the impact someone wants to leave. She also talked about a program that that can gives students and community members in Stanislaus County an accurate list of potential
careers, skills required, earnings, and employers within Stanislaus County that are hiring. She then gave an example of a program where the waiting list is very long, the program is competitive, and most of the people doing this program don’t realize that after completion, they will most likely make about $13 an hour. Abbot used this example to explain the importance of knowing all the factors of potential careers before pursuing so one can understand the value of the work before they move forward. She then explained Stanislaus County in the last year really there’s a new kind of initiative and is called the Cradle to Career program this involves many high school staff the staff from MJC and CSU Stanislaus the workforce development Department people from the city of Modesto and the County offices and lots of nonprofits all of which are people coming together because everybody's doing a little piece of the work in this field and they developed five different teams. One focuses on childhood education before they go to school when we need to do for children to get them ready for school. One team focuses on making sure that children can read at a third late 3rd grade level by the time they are in 3rd grade. Another one that is focused on being able to do math skills at 5th grade that prepare you for the rest of your math career on how we get from high school into college, and then a fifth one that is focused on what is the career training and the career resources that people need when they're looking for changing careers or enhancing the career that they've chosen or maybe coming back to school all of those things. She then gave a brief background on herself stating: “I raised seven children. During the time that I raise those children, I was at home, I volunteer in their school, I taught music and drama. My plan when I was going to school in my early 20s was to be a movie star, and I didn't think I needed a college education to do that, so I got about 75 credits in acting, which, was delightful for me, but I couldn't graduate with 75 credits in acting and. So, then I got married I had seven kids I still performed, in fact I still perform quite often, but when I started working at the college, I did not have a Bachelor’s degree. I started as an administrative assistant, and I learn how to write grants and I worked my way up and at the same time and I'm going to tell you this was in my 50s. I got a Bachelor’s degree and then I got a Master’s degree and two weeks ago I defended my dissertation and got a doctorate, and so one of the things that I want to share with you is you're never too old. Because I'm going to be really honest I had my Beatles birthday 2 weeks ago I turned 64 and you have to look up The Beatles criteria to see what that means but I’m old enough that you know most people don't think about going back to school but you are never too old to learn.” She shared this to explain that about 30% of our students are older (over the age of 25), employed, have children, underemployed, and are trying to come back to school to learn a new skill, gain an education, or move to a new career. Since ASMJC represents all students, Abbott aimed to make sure the senate had all the essential resources to reach all varieties of students. She also explained that not everyone has to know what career they want yet, and that on average people are changing careers every three years. She emphasized the importance of taking the skills from your education to career A, then the skills from A to B, and so forth. She continued by stating one study out of Philadelphia nationwide found that people in low wage careers change jobs much more often than people who are making more money but when they changed careers they changed to another low wage job. So, they go never break out of what that low wage skill set. They also found that in 48% of these low wage skilled jobs the skills that are listed by employers where it is the same as high wage jobs. That means the likelihood of you being a barista some of the skills that are required of you to work at Starbucks are going to be the same skills that are required from somebody who might pay you twice as much. the question for everybody who is a job seeker or wants to improve themselves in their career is, “how do I transfer those skills”. Abbott then asked the senate if they “if they have a general idea of what your major is or what your career is going to be? How many of you are working in a field right now if you're working a job that's similar to the long-term career you'd like to have? Is anybody have that experience that they can share?” And, “How many are you working in addition to going to school and how many of you that have those jobs the job is in an area that has nothing to do with what you're studying?” She emphasized they’re going to ask you “what's your
education” She reiterated education matters and when employers look at your resume and see if you have a bachelors degree you're going to stand out against many other people. Abbott informed ASMJC members Stanislaus County is the fifth lowest in the nation in educational attainment, 16% of our population has a bachelors degree, and a lower rate when you break it down by ethnicity. What that suggests is that it's harder for people to get through to a bachelors degree you don't always have role models. She also spoke about being the first one in your family to go to college and that it's harder you don't have anybody to say this is how you do college. She then moved to speaking about the average wage in Stanislaus County is $22.87. There are some that are higher and some lower. $22.87 is above the living wage if you are one person, however, if you are one person and one child what's considered baseline living wage is $26.15, so you're already below that the average job. Abbott encouraged ASMJC members to share out to the students and suggested to talk to them about if they are looking at the experience they are getting through college, and not just the education. Usually both on a resume is best, and some ways to get it is through volunteer experience, service learning, and asking your instructors “do you have any service learning opportunities specially in your program areas?” Also, if they know of internships. Students can also go to the Career Center on both campuses and Dejeune Shelton is the Career Center director. She also has two people working with her, and they will help students find resources, will help you shape your resume, they can talk to you about service learning, about internships, and help get the experience that you need, so when you're ready to get a full time job, (or even a summer job or a part time job) you're more focused on what's going to give me the skills for the next career. Abbott included employers look at 25 or 100 resumes to find “what makes you stand out?” It's going to be your education and your experience. She then showed the senate how to get to the institutional effectiveness office page on the MJC website where there are dashboards on the ethnicities of our students, various ages, how many students are getting a degree, how many are graduating, and how many are getting certificate. The institutional data can also break down by your division by term fall, winter, summer, particular year, or an academic year. You can see all of the data that pops up for all students 26,435 (the number of students that were at MJC last year). Abbott then directed attention to syllabuses and the Student Learning Outcomes, and asked the senate “do you know what those are anybody look at them? Do you do see what they are or what they mean? Do you pay attention to them?” She encouraged ASMJC members to look at them because the Student Learning Outcomes are what students should perform when they finish the course. There are usually two to four Student Learning Outcomes, and they are probably one of the most important things in your syllabus because that is what you walk away with at the end of that course. She also requested for students to ask your instructors to point out when you're doing activities that help you with these SLOs because at the end of that course students should be able to take that and turn it into skills to put on a resume someday. She reiterated Career Services Center can help identify and write these skills to shape them into what makes you stand out when you go to a career. She added she drove that snow cone truck she still uses the skills from that career today and that it all goes with you. Abbott then asked if certain kind of information that as this body you would like to know and added that her department sends out an email every month is every week that's called just the facts, but it doesn't go to all students and goes to employees is there's 26,000 students. They do archive them on the website. She then stated other students won't hear this directly but they all need to know they need to not just to get through this class but get the necessary experience.

V. Action Items (Items to be voted on):

A. NTE: $3,000 for Visiting Author Series (Cristina Henriquez) (Fund 71)

Bruce Anders started by thanking the senate for inviting him back quick very brief history in purpose of the Visiting Authors Series seriously, after his monthly division
meeting where 60 faculty wanted to convey thanks from the department for the support over the last 10 years for the Visiting Authors Series. He explained what happened pre-COVID is the funds are used to ask published authors to come to the campus and visit our classrooms, the authors kind are settled on pretty quickly in the fall semester because our instructors like to assign books or have coursework based on that author or those authors appearing in the classrooms, and ASM JC is asked for funds to sponsor. Faculty goes out and find an author or authors to come visit the school in person, those authors come to the classrooms answering questions from the students, and then it's capped off with a public reading. Usually in one of the forum rooms, those are usually standing room only, and the general public students faculty staff and peers to ask questions. These authors usually read passages from their books, and the situation is some authors don't like their presentation recorded or their publishing companies won't allow it at all. Publishing Companies have been persnickety about their authors to be on YouTube and other platforms such as. So, judging by phone previous minutes Anders could saw that there is a general concern from ASMJC that if the school is going to pay $3000 the event should be able to be recorded and put up on the YouTube page. This is the first year that Anders has been the chairman committee and believed thought we could use COVID instead of a hindrance but maybe an opportunity to look at things differently, and go in different directions, but he certainly would love to get the Senate’s input on what you would like to be seen because this is from the students benefit nobody else’s. Anders was thinking of two possibilities that his division is wide open for. One, Anders could try to “woo” the very top tier author such as Cristina Henriquez (recently named one of the most 5 influential Latina authors in United States history and underneath that comes to capture the best author you've ever heard of) whom, on websites, costs $7500 to speak, and when contacted to consider coming or zooming at MJC for substantially less she forwarded the request to her booking agent at her publishing company. Which the publishing company that stated, “you must really rate highly because we would never even consider having Cristina's being for $3000”. But after looking at the previous minutes there was the concern of “should we put all of our eggs into this one basket”. So, Anders started thinking along with his fellow members “maybe we should do more of a scattershot strategy” inviting two or three or four authors from much less, and invite them because now there is not much of a worry about flying them here, driving them here, putting them up in a hotel, feeding them, custodial services for prepping one of the forum rooms, or worrying about stepping on somebody else's time was booked that room. So, Anders wanted to get the students feedback and to answer any questions the senate might have about the Visiting Author Series.

President Novoa answered stating that Anders has answered most of the questions that ASMJC had, and stated that focusing on first generation authors, Latinx authors, African American authors, and/or LGBTQ+ authors would be beneficial given this is a large population of students at MJC.

Anders responded stating that different authors from various backgrounds would be beneficial to bring in, not discrediting Cristina’s cachet, but if getting two or three people from these backgrounds just as inspirational, it would be fantastic. He added that having these authors recorded is a good idea given many students are asynchronous and need to
have access to these recordings even after this semester. He also further explained that for publication it may be a possibility to have this event announced on radio to visit the MJC page for the event and for this to be promoted through social media. Another factor could be Anders and the author(s) going on NPR to announce what will take place.

Vice President Carvajal added that a worry was participation, so this explanation gave clarity, and that opening the event to the public is a good idea to get the word out.

Anders also added he may be able to work with UC Merced and Merced Community College for publication. He added that using YouTube will allow the possibility to see how many people see the event, and how many have seen it clarifying that this will be on YouTube but potentially broadcasted through Zoom.

Vice President Carvajal also asked how, if it arises, to deal with “zoom bombers” or people in attendance for inappropriate reasons.

Anders clarified that waiting rooms and passwords to this event will be enabled, there will be someone in charge letting people in and monitoring the chat to prevent inappropriate behavior.

Motioned by Senator Joy; Seconded by Vice President Carvajal

Approved with No Abstentions

Roll Call Vote Results:

12 Yeas (These votes are to approve the action item.)

1 Abstention (These votes are not counted to the total of yeas or nays.)

2 Nays (These votes are to not approve the action item.)

Action Item A is Approved Due to Majority Vote

B. NTE: $25,000 for Student Center Workers (Fund 73)

Motioned by Senator Cordova; Seconded by Secretary Gonzales

Approved with No Abstentions

ASMJC Shared Governance Council/Committees:

A. YCCD Board Meeting: Jennifer Novoa: No report
B. AB 705 Taskforce: Diana Ledesma/Lila Mae Young: No Report
C. Academic Senate: Gabriel Barajas
Senator Barajas reported during the meeting, in Chad Redwing’s report, MJC is in the process of creating a program for juveniles and incarcerated people from the ages of 18 to 90 as a way of them getting schooling while they’re incarcerated, so they can get back into school and work afterwards. Action items 4235: credit for prior learning credit for prior learning, this allows students to demonstrate competence and earn credit for YCCD courses or curriculum requirement through AP exams IB exams in etc. Also, then action item FA20A: a way to thank class classified professionals who have help through COVID. This was voted and approved, then action item FA20B: name recognition respecting student center staff preferred name, nickname, or pronouns was noted on an approved as well.

D. Accreditation Council: Raymond Gonzales/ Sadie Joy
Secretary Gonzales reported that for accreditation council, the meeting started with the mid-term report requirements which most of what we need to have completed by the time the accreditation report is submitted. This is also the review on the institution-set standards based on the average of the past three years, and an annual discussion on what might need to be changed or kept the same (6 out of 12 of these relate to SLOs). We covered the mission statement (which must be rewritten or decided to stay the same by November), reviewing the institution-set standards (including graduation rates and grades), a full program review of library services. There also needs to be a report for the student standard requirements (under Guided Pathways, with SLOs, CLOs, and ILOs) that identify assessments, outcomes, and the syllabus. During this part of the discussion it was also brought up the distinction between student achievement and learning outcomes where achievement is the grade or certificate and the outcome is the actual being able to perform the skills that have been taught. Throughout the meeting Jenni Abbott emphasized that everything on the final report must have evidence (or must be proven) which can be difficult when it comes to the SLOs (student learning outcomes) because all the data was typically put in a program called illumine and cannot easily be accessed and the previous person who worked with this program recently retired. So, it was asked if the possibility of bringing Anita back in a coordinator position may be possible to be able to
have discussions on these topics and be able to publicly publish our report afterwards. At the moment, Chad Redwing will agenize a discussion for his senate while Jenni reaches out to Anita, and a possibility of making a training specifically for faculty to be able to connect the gradebook to learning outcomes, and to incorporate the CLOs in their Canvas shells, and to find evidence for Action Plan One and Action Plan Two on the Mid-Term Report Timeline Document. The goal is to make the report as simple as possible while still making the process as meaningful as possible.

E. Curriculum Committee: Sadie Joy

Senator Joy reported on September 22nd and the first thing about students discussed was a resolution to allow students to make their own name changes. So, this will be beneficial for people who are not ready to come out or prefer a different name. Students can do it by themselves and do not have to go through the process so that was in the first resolution. Also, they created an eLumen committee, as mentioned in book club, for the catalog because they are trying to condense it, so if anyone is interested Senate members should email Senator Joy. It was discussed, the MJC degree requirements where the main question that was posed was should MJC make students take a guidance and activities class. Reason being many students make it to the end of their degree then realize they have not taken a guidance course or an activities course which sets them back. So, the committee was created to decide whether or not we should make that a requirement for students. In the meeting Senator Joy mentioned something that could help is just making it more aware that students need to take those classes because she personally did not know she needed those until last semester. Currently in her second year, it would be better probably just to spread awareness for students in the same position.

F. College Council: Samantha Carvajal: No Report

G. Facilities Council: Maria Marquez/ Diana Ledesma:

Senator Marquez reported that Facilities council committee met on Monday planning 21st of September and one report given was doing the tax work project to prioritize having a smoke free campus. They stated the activities for the project
were performed before and during the quarantine, and the website has been updated with the new policies and procedures in it. Also, construction projects such as the AG doors are being replaced next month, an electronic remodel/career placement education between October through November 1st, the MJC museum demolition between January 1st-31st of next year, the MJC original fire center will undergo replacement of the pavement, they are going to remove all concrete and update the contract for other places that need to be replaced and the cost is between $2000 and $6600. The MJC soccer path of travel, since there's no shade structure for the players they will build an area for it, which will cost $2300. The MJC track relocation to remove the track from the football field and relocate it to the area closet to the ASMJC storage area is toward the back. There is also the update where you are no longer required to use the W number to sign in, the student emails. The Wi-Fi will also be expanded to the parking lots given many people go to school to do homework and need the Wi-Fi. So, some of them have been there has been complaints that they do not receive necessary Wi-Fi, so they are going expand it to the parking lot. Finally, campus safety there handing out laptops.

H. Instruction Council: Hailey Cordova: No Report

I. Student Success and Equity: Jesus Medina/ Gabriel Barajas: No Report

J. Distance Education: Richard Garcia: No Report

K. Resource Allocation Council: Hannah Ransdell/ Samantha Carvajal

Director Ransdell reported that in the Resource Allocation Council, on September 4th, 2020, they discussed what we have saved since mid-March and where MJC's money has been invested in like laptops and other necessary resources that students need at this time due to COVID-19. The Federal Government has dispersed money to MJC's CARES funds but in CARES funds 2 & 3, the Federal Government has placed certain restrictions on how MJC can use the money they have given us. At this time RAC has purchased 600 laptops for students and is purchasing 300 more and has boughten hotspot access for both student and staff. Overall MJC has 3.8 million dollars to spend until we must give whatever is left over back to the Federal Government on May 11, 2021. In this meeting they also
went over RAM which stands for the Resource Allocation Model. This model is designed to get savings back from a one-time allocation. In other words, it is a compensation that is ongoing and now we have savings of $178,994. The last thing that was discussed was the RAC goals which are to continue working on RAM because it can help us budget and save our money. Next, we want to create a smaller subgroup, update our website with more information and start communicating with outside campus communities. Our last goal that was discussed was to increase student enrollment by improving student services.

Vice President Carvajal reported that in the Resource Allocation Council, on September 18th, 2020, the RAC 2020-2021 goals were discussed, Sarah Schrader touched on developing an MJC resource allocation model, reviewing and clarifying the role of RAC in the revised ‘engaging all voices document’, revising the RAC website, and establishing a communication calendar to share fiscal info to the college community. For the enrollment update of 2020-2021 budget vs. actuals, Sarah Schrader touched on going over the budget and each section and what was given and reimbursed. We have saved a lot of money due to COVID over 600+ thousands of dollars. she touched on what an FW meant and what an EW meant. An FW can be used by any student and an EW is used during an Extreme circumstance by which both do not affect financial aid or how many times students must retake the class. Any student who drops currently due to COVID will earn an EW. An EW circumstance due to COVID ends in the middle of September so they were going to do a meeting to go over if they should continue giving EW’s to students due to the circumstances going on right now. She also went over state budget process and the monthly cash flows to the YCCD, this process was showing that the monthly cash flows are not all coming at the same time they are coming in small amounts and adding up to the amount that goes to YCCD.

VI. **ASMJC Executive Officers & Senator Reports:**

A. Student Relation Report: Hannah Ransdell

Director Ransdell informed the senate that she will have her Student Relations
Committee once her schedule is more consistent and explained a new project that ASMJC will be doing. Director Ransdell has a 3 to 5 and will assign a sentence or phrase and for each member to say over recording then send it to Director Ransdell. This is for a post campus life Instagram to reach out to students and encourage them. The goal is to give them an opportunity to seek help if they need it right now as it is very hard to do school and be home all the time with quarantine. So, the senate will talk about ways that they can such as a great app that students can use, they can use their MJC information and log into. She then explained she will send out the little script after the meeting. So, the senate’s job is to record it and send it to her, and a specific deadline will be Wednesday. Director Ransdell want to post this on social media as soon as possible, and if the ASMJC members had any questions, she reminded them her email is always open.

B. Vice President Report: Samantha Carvajal

Vice President Carvajal thanked ASMJC members who did finish the survey and stated she got some good information get some got some good feedback that her and the execs will go over. Some things will be adjusted to help ASMJC members as a team. Vice President Carvajal also expressed she was saddened there were five senators that didn't finish their survey as she did ask for them to be turned in Thursday, and she still hasn’t got them. She requested that if those senators could, at the end of the meeting, do the survey quick it would only take about 5 minutes of their time.

C. Presidential Report: Jennifer Novoa
President Novoa stated she was really impressed with the mission statements that have been sent to her. She is excited to get them altogether and see all the different ways that the senate believes that the mission statement should be represented. Then reminded ASMJC members it was due the night after the meeting. President Novoa then thanked the senate for being patient with everything going on. She continued in saying she knows the meetings aren't the most exciting, but they are very helpful in informing us about important things that we need to know as a Senate and as a student representatives. She then reminded the senate about book club next Wednesday at 4:00 PM as the senate is almost near the end of the book, and with acknowledging that Carmen has been reaching out to some ASMJC members about FLOW. Also reminding them to make sure that if they are available to let Carmen know. President Novoa concluded by thanking the senate again for sitting through the meeting as we normally do not run this long, but it was needed.

VII. Campus Life Staff Reports:

A. Campus Life Program Specialist Carmen De La Cruz informed the senate that FLOW is growing participation and to keep sharing/posting it. She told ASMJC members they are doing a great job spreading the word and reminded them to tell their fellow students they can come as it is first come first serve. They can sign up for multiple weeks it's very easy, name and W number. She reiterated to reach out to their classes and if they have that platform to be able to let the students know this is for them as a way for us to help with food insecurities and to keep the promotion going.

B. Campus Life Program Assistant John Griffin expanded on what Carmen talked about with getting the word out through social meet because before COVID-19 you hit us lot of times the way we would advertise for events would be with Flyers or it would promote itself because we would have DJ's and food. Since ASMJC cannot do this, it is important to get in touch with the senate’s professors and ask for 3 or 4 minutes to explain such things as flow or events that are coming up. He reiterated that ASMJC members have really a responsibility to getting the word out and
finding innovative ways on social media to get it out to the students. Because if not ASMJC fall through the cracks.

C.  

VIII. Adjournment: 4:32 PM

Next Regular Meeting of the Associated Student will take place:

October 2, 2020
Via Zoom

* With the exception of special meetings and holidays all ASMJC meetings take place the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month during the Fall and Spring semesters.