CITY AMBASSADORS MEETING
May 6, 2021  4:00PM

ZOOM LINK:
https://csus.zoom.us/j/85673356564?pwd=bEpFNnhoeWVJTjFINURNY1ZIcEZFUT09

PASSWORD: CivicWork!

I. Call to Order - 4:09pm

II. Roll Call – Chair Lexie Tesch, Vice Chair Korey Jones, Outreach Coordinator Jose Arebalo, Alejandro Buenrostro

III. Approval of minutes from April 22, 2021 meeting

IV. Discussion Items
   a. Guest Speakers from Housing and Financial Wellness
      1. Special Presentation - Sac State Residence Life and Housing

Presenter: Samuel N. Jones

- North Village: For upper division students, Riverview Hall and American River Courtyard
- All students must have a meal plan
- Eight-month plan (August to May)
- Hornet Commons will open in the fall - takes Financial Aid into consideration for rent
- All properties come with a payment plan
- Alejandro asked Samuel: Are there any sub city areas available for programming to receive assistance in paying for housing? What is the increase of housing costs? Samuel answered that there can be an increase of 1.2/1.5 percent – sometimes 5 percent
• Alejandro asked Samuel: Will online classes affect housing costs? Samuel answered that no, online classes will not affect housing costs.

• Are there any advantages of going through Financial Aid?
  o Samuel: Money comes back to the student, once debt is paid. Financial aid will cover most of the cost. Financial aid primarily helps students living in Hornet Commons.

• Jose: Will the costs be impacting anyone sharing a room?
  o Samuel: Every student is still solely responsible for their rent/meal plan.

• Lexie: Is there a limit on how much a student can spend with their grants?
  o Samuel: approximately $2,500

• Note: A committee member asked if there is any sort of financial support, they can apply for to specifically pay for housing costs. Samuel said that there is not a direct grant or scholarship students can apply for to assist in the housing bills.

  Samuel leaves the meeting at 4:27pm

2. Special Presentation - Sac State Financial Wellness

Presenter: Courtney Patton

• Budgeting as a student
  o Calculating expenses throughout the semester
Tips on how to save/gather money

- Downloadable PDFs for books
- Use Sac State’s transportation to save on gas
- Get a part time job
- Properly spread-out financial aid

Lexie: How can students gain access to this Budget expense calculator?

Courtney: The document can be sent to the student if they inquire within the Financial Wellness Center

Alejandro: Do you know if the Financial Wellness center will open to be in person in the Fall?

Courtney: Unsure

-Courtney leaves the meeting at 4:40pm
b. Questions and discussion

The Committee asked the presenters questions once they had finished presenting. After the presenters left, the committee discussed housing costs for the Hornet Commons and students’ being able to afford on campus or near campus housing. Jose shared that he has been in communication with housing efforts in Sacramento, and if anyone was interested could contact him to get more information.

c. Reflection and Feedback on City Ambassadors 2020-2021

- Alejandro: Outline goals and directives of the committee to have a set strategic plan throughout the semester that the committee can refer back to in order to focus on their goal and complete necessary steps. He was able to apply the information he received during his time in the committee to his everyday life. He utilized his knowledge and skills in other areas of leadership.
- Lexie: Gained knowledge on engagement and issues affecting Sacramento State.
- All members shared that it is important to keep the conversation of these issues going in order to create progress on resolving them.

V. Announcements

- Chair Lexie Tesch shared to check out the @sacstateoga page to look at volunteer opportunities.
- If you are planning to return to City Ambassadors, make sure that you have the Grade Authorization Form.
- Thank you for serving on the City Ambassadors committee!

VI. Adjourn – 4:57pm

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