

ASCSU 54th Senate
18th Session
January 29th, 2025



Agenda

- I. Call to Order — 6:43
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Land Acknowledgment
- IV. Swearing-In of new Senator and Associates
 - 2 new members sworn-in
- V. Beginning Roll Call — Clerk took attendance on a separate spreadsheet
- VI. Consent Agenda
 - Motion to move the Ratification of BSOF Member after Gallery Input — PASSED
 - Motion to move Election of Senate Public Relations Officer after New Business — PASSED
- VII. Gallery Input
 - Mitchell Meyers: Stated that there are significant uncertainties regarding politics but there have been repeated attacks on DEI. Remains committed to DEI and advocacy work, started that diversity is our strength.
 - Fiona Miller: Stated that DEI programs have been labeled as discriminatory but, in her experience, DEI initiatives have given her opportunities to feel heard and seen and meet people from similar backgrounds. Stated that these attacks on DEI are also an attack on American values. Advocated for the university to make a statement in solidarity with DEI.

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- Ellie Lutz: Stated that we must not give into fear but need to understand what is happening and be in solidarity. Stated that while we can't control what decisions are being made, we can control how we react and fight back and there is power in numbers.
 - Michael May, President of Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA) at CSU: Stated that support for undocumented communities and the nation's most vulnerable populations is critical. Is interested in collaborations between YDSA and ASCSU members.
 - Vladimir Lora Pardo: Stated that undocumented communities are facing immense stress and resources for undocumented students from the university are disappearing. Called for solidarity with undocumented communities but urged against people who are not undocumented speaking on undocumented students' behalf and performative activism. Stated the university needs to commit to action supporting undocumented students that extends beyond a statement.

VIII. Ratification of BSOF Member

- Luke Leahy
- Q&A
 - What is your interest in BSOF?
 - Works with the Department of IT in accounting which has given insight into the financial processes on campus. Enjoys doing the



behind the scenes work and interested in supporting student organizations.

- Discussion and Debate
 - Candidate appears qualified for the role.
 - Candidate ratified with unanimous consent

IX. Guest Speaker — None

X. Executive Reports

- Director of Basic Needs Jorja Whyte
 - Expressed gratitude to the Senate and acknowledged the current difficulties students are facing.
 - Basic Needs is continuing to take action to support students' needs. If you have any ideas for initiatives that would be beneficial, reach out to Director Whyte.
 - Director Whyte's office hours: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm on Fridays.
 - Palentine's Day Cooking Class on Tuesday, February 11th, 5:00 – 7:30 pm
 - The event is in collaboration with Rams Against Hunger.
 - All the cooking class ingredients will be from the Rams Against Hunger Food Pantry.
 - The Colorado Basic Needs Higher Education Summit is April 9th, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm at the CSU Spur Campus
 - If you are interested in attending, let Director Whyte know ASAP.

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- Director of Public Relations Joseph Godshall
 - Rocky Mountain Student Media is creating a Print Advisory Board to examine the role of printed media at RMSM and CSU.
 - If you are interested in being interviewed briefly on the matter, contact Director Godshall.
 - Director Finance Tangia Zheng
 - BSOF Information Night is Tuesday, February 11th, 5:30 – 7:30 in the Senate Chambers
 - Vice President Braxton Dietz
 - The Student Fee Review Board (SFRB) are voting on proposals regarding student tuition increases.
 - The worst-case scenario if all if all proposals are voted “yes” on, will be a tuition increase of 2.82% or \$1,425.67.
 - Opposed to the \$1,386.59 students paid last year.
 - Reviewing these proposals on a weekly proposal and voting.
 - More updates to come.
 - President Nick DeSalvo
 - President DeSalvo and Governmental Affairs will be meeting with the Joint Budget Committee to advocate for funding higher education.
 - Will be absent next week to attend the Board of Governor’s Meeting.

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- Hoping that the meeting will provide answers as to how the new administration will affect CSU.
 - Focusing on protecting the most vulnerable student populations on campus.
 - ASCSU Branch Leaders had a meeting discussing where to go from here.
 - Asked that members don't mistake the silence from CSU leaders as ignorance since they are trying to navigate the uncertainties and find answers themselves. Does not want to provide false hope or inaccurate answers.

XI. Judicial Reports

- Chief Justice Morgan Wright
 - The Court's tracker and the Judicial Branch's office hours will be shared soon.
 - The Court is here as a resource and to support students.
- Elections Manager Garrett Lopez
 - Please consider applying for Election Committee, the application is available on the main tab of the ASCSU website.

XII. Legislative Reports

- Officer Reports
 - Speaker Taylor
 - Echoes President DeSalvo's message.

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- Campaigned for Speaker of the Senate on a platform for student advocacy where all students are heard. Remains equally committed to those principles today and will work with ASCSU leaders and members to ensure the success of the organization and greater student body.
 - The Budgetary Affairs Committee Chair is vacant. Next week there will be an election to fill the position, if you are interested, reach out to Speaker Taylor.
 - Decorum is outlined in the Senate Bylaws for a reason and motions to suspend these rules will not be entertained.
 - Parliamentarian Kamberg
 - Discussed that not everything signed by the president is enforceable and fear is a tactic to get people to turn on each other. Condemned attacks on DEI and attacks on undocumented communities. Stated that we are stronger in community and ASCSU will not back down.
 - Encouraged switching from CSU emails to personal emails to discuss advocacy work since university emails may be monitored.
 - There are red cards in different languages on a table of the ASCSU lobby.
 - Speaker Pro-Tempore Reese

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- Ran for Speaker Pro-Tempore to uplift the autonomies of senators and magistrates to utilize the full power of their positions.
Encouraged people to share their thoughts or questions regarding how the new presidential administration will affect ASCSU.
 - Knowledge and outreach are critical components to empowering ASCSU to represent the student body. Implored everyone in ASCSU to use resources and gain more knowledge.
 - Including the Social Justice Library in the ASCSU Office.
 - Office hours will be sent out in the weekly newsletter.
 - If you have been recently sworn-in, meet with Speaker Pro-Tempore Reese to get set up.
 - Strikes will be implemented this semester. If you are going to be absent, let Speaker Taylor and Speaker Pro-Tempore Reese know in advance.
 - Committee and Caucus Reports
 - Chair Snyder — Accessibility Caucus
 - Meets Fridays, 3:00 – 4:00 pm
 - When running for Accessibility Caucus chair, they ran on the premise of accessibility for all, and they will continue these efforts regardless of what occurs in the government.

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- Chair Lutz — Internal Affairs Committee
 - Meet Fridays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
 - Elected a new secretary to Internal Affairs Committee.
 - Chair Miller — University Affairs Committee
 - Meet Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:00 pm
 - Fully intends to follow through on hearing students’ concerns and facilitating conversations through Committee.
 - Chair Friske — Women’s and Social Justice Caucus
 - Meet Mondays, 5:00 – 6:00 pm in the ASCSU Lobby
 - Next week the meeting will be Tuesday at 5:00 pm
 - On the week of Valentine’s Day, they will be writing Valentine’s Day messages related to social justice.
 - The week after that will be a Rage Room.
 - Encouraged members to check out and read a book from the Social Justice Library.
 - As Chair, has a duty to protect and represent. The Caucus is a safe space and a resource that will fight for you. To move forward, it is essential that all voices are heard. There are plans in the works to advocate for students.
 - Chair Meyers — DEI Committee

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- Meet Fridays, 2:00 – 3:00 pm
 - Senator and Associate Senator Reports
 - Chair Lutz — Warner College of Natural Resources
 - Looking at legislation for Caucuses and hoping to present the next Senate.
 - If you are interested in looking over it, contact Chair Lutz.
 - Warner College Council wants to partner with other organizations.
 - Senator Yoseline Rivera — El Centro
 - Central/South American and Caribbean Meet-Up Coordinators’ new office hours are Mondays, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm in El Centro.
 - Hosting a Series on Immigration online and in Spanish, this Saturday from 12:30 – 2:00 pm.
 - Spread the word.
 - More information about the event can be found on Instagram at: @elcentro1976
 - Chair Davis — SAFE Center
 - Working on a bill regarding the Social Justice Library.
 - If you are interested, reach out to Chair Davis.
 - SAFE Center Events
 - Starting an Eco-Feminism Book Club

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- More information is available in the Microsoft Teams General Chat.
 - If you are interested, sign up as soon as possible.
 - “The Body Is Not an Apology” Art Display
 - In collaboration with the Rec Center.
 - Accepting art submissions. For digital submissions, email them to the SAFE Center. For physical submissions you will submit them to their office in the LSC.
 - More information can be found [here](#)
 - The SAFE Center’s Annual Feminist Queer Empowerment Conference canceled due to lack of interest and submissions.
 - They are coming up with an alternative event, more details to come.
 - The VAT hotline is open 24/7/365 and was sent to the Microsoft Teams.
 - Email is always open.
 - Chair Friske — SAFE Center

ASCSU 54th Senate

18th Session

January 29th, 2025



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- Sweet Shop is Tuesday, February 11th from 6:00 – 7:30 pm in Braiden Hall
 - It is the SAFE Center’s Annual Sex Positivity Consent Fair. There will be booths on sex positivity and sexual health as well as handing out contraceptives.
 - Senator Luna — Student Disability Center
 - Consider joining Accessibility Caucus. They have a hardworking team but are sometimes spread thin.
 - Open doors to others, consider making advocacy more accessible. Implored constituents to use the space as a megaphone rather than an echo chamber and invite others into ASCSU.
 - The SDC Senators are here for others.
 - The Collegian wrote an [article](#) discussing Accessibility Caucus and their work.
 - Senator Gray — Student Disability Center
 - Consider accessibility and social justice and what may be accessible to one individual may not be accessible to another.
 - Senator Greene — Pride Center
 - The Rams in Q’mmunity Mentorship Program application is still open.



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- Here for constituents.
 - Senator Monanti — B/AACC
 - Here as a voice for his constituents and those he represents.
 - Black History Month and events start this Saturday
 - Engineers: A World of Difference
 - This Saturday, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm at Foothills Mall
 - Artist Spotlight on Chavez of Efilaf Art Department
 - This Saturday, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm at Foothills Mall
 - Proud to Be Me Painting Workshop with Jasmine Henley
 - Saturday, February 15th, 11:00 am – 2:30 pm at Foothills Mall
 - Table Reading of “A Raisin in the Sun”
 - Friday, February 7th, 6:00 – 9:00 pm at the Museum of Art Fort Collins

Confidence Business

XIII. Old Business

XIV. New Business

- Bill #5408 - Increased funding to Rams Against Hunger Pocket Pantries



- Abstract: This bill seeks to continue ASCSU’s legacy of supporting the Ram’s Against Hunger Pocket Pantry Program, allocating \$54,000 from the ASCSU General Discretionary Fund to the Rams Against Hunger Pocket Pantry Fund, bringing the total budget from the previous \$12,000 to now \$18,000 for each academic year, during the next three-year cycle, (\$9,000 per semester, \$18,000 per year, \$54,000 per three-year cycle) beginning June 2025.
 - This Bill continues the precedent of ASCSU funding the pocket pantries which need to be renewed every three years.
 - The current budget does not fit with the state of food prices, housing prices, inflation, etc. and there is a rising need from students/CSU Community so an increase in funding is needed.
 - The funding would be spread across 8 pocket pantries so it would be a modest but still impactful budget increase.
- Bill will be sent to DEI Committee, Internal Affairs Committee, and University Affairs Committee.
- Because of a vacancy for the Budgetary Affairs Committee Chair, the process for this Bill will likely take a bit longer to leave committees.
- Resolution #5407 - Asking Colorado State University Administrator for More Accountability and Transparency

Commented [Da1]: Your math might be off: is ASCSU giving 18,000 per year or are we trying to get it to 18,000 per year? I think we are just giving 6,000 per year to make their total budget 18,000 which would end up being 18,000 for all 3 years

Commented [Da2R1]: Or i could be wrong since I'm not sure if ascsu already allocates the 12000 or if that is from different sources. Maybe just change the text to make it more clear

ASCSU 54th Senate
18th Session
January 29th, 2025



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- Abstract: “we ask Colorado state university administration and leadership to provide more transparency on their decision making and the processes that happen on campus. As well as take more accountability by providing more tangible and actionable means of improving support on campus and addressing the student body during times of distress”
 - Resolution will be sent to DEI Committee, Internal Affairs Committee, and University Affairs Committee.

XV. Election of Senate Public Relations Officer

- There were no candidates so election will be held next session.

XVI. Ending Roll Call — 8:37 pm

XVII. Adjournment — Clerk used beginning roll call as ending roll call