

Associated Students

Bill Number 2

Author: _____ Signature: Valerie Fabbri Menna _____

Co-Author: _____ Signature: _____

Subject: Revision for Prosperity of the Environmental Directive

Date: 11/10/20

Whereas: The language in the Environmental Directive is too vague where environmental efforts in Associated Students have become stagnant. With a great foundation set, the directive has the opportunity to become prosperous and ultimately provide a sustainable campus for all.

The passage of the California Global Warming Solutions Act (AB-32) and the establishment of a Sustainability Policy by the California Community Colleges (CCC) Board of Governors have made it imperative for all community colleges in California to develop an organized, comprehensive approach that incorporates the elements of sustainability, satisfies state regulations, takes advantage of available resources and complementary programs, and adopts the best practices of other institutions further along this path.

The Environmental Directive, authored by Logan Snyder and Lucky Morales, was deemed as an official Directive of Associated Students on March 20, 2018 to holistically catalyze environmental and sustainability efforts on campus. The collaborative efforts for environmental sustainability were harnessed within “The Sustainability Council” and granted due process to provide an equitable system for the allocation of resources to students.

With the absence of an A.S. Environmental Senator for Fall 2018, issues of the inevitable turnover rate arose. It is a tumultuous operation to find and appoint a successor, and a hassle to pick up the critical workload and responsibilities. When an officer leaves the organization, it has an impact on productivity and essentially the ASO’s services. It is indicative to explore a holistic path that can cope with serious development; that will improve human lives and protect the environment.

The new Environmental Senator, Sophia Ruiz, of Spring 2019 was in a whirlwind to fully understand the tasks that lay ahead, like organizing Earth Week with open mindfulness to the other campus operations also happening and understanding the full scope of composting with scaling procedure and specified rules. In Fall 2019, a group of students- Andy Shin (AS Finance Senator), Anne Shen (Political Science Club Officer), and Sophia Ruiz- were accompanied by Mt. SAC Sustainability Co-Coordinator, Dr. Tania Anders, to attend The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Conference in Spokane, Washington. After digesting effective models, policies, research, collaborations and transformative actions from the conference, the student group met on December 6, 2019 to draw out a Think Tank for an “Environmental Action Committee” fostering goals and project concentrations.

The project concentrations discussed at the Think Tank meeting were essentially formulated with a very intersectional bubble map that included large bubble emphasis’ on: energy, food, water, waste, academic opportunity, and outreach. It was recognized that a relationship with Mt. SAC Sustainability and Climate Change Implementation Committee, Facilities Committee, Citizens Oversight

Committee, and Auxiliary Services Committee would be coherent with the Environmental Action Committee's goals.

The Energy Bubble was to ensure access to reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. It included incentives for Electric Vehicles like a designated parking lot near the science buildings. As well as exploration in renewable energies such as wind and solar.

As for the Food Bubble, the group aimed to end hunger, achieve food security, and promote sustainable agriculture. Notions of a No Single-Use and Plastic-Free Dining Services arose. Food Justice meant ensuring jobs and opportunity, appropriate choices of quality and low cost meals, being mindful of waste, and sustainable produce and products.

The Water Bubble was set to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. This Project Concentration explores Mt. SAC's plan for Storm Water Quality, the campus aqueduct and aquifer, and habitat restoration.

The Waste Bubble encompassed sustainable consumption and production patterns. Effective control of the storage, treatment, recycling and reuse, and disposal of hazardous waste is imperative to proper health, environmental protection, and natural resource management.

The Outreach and Academic Opportunity Bubble defined the importance of networking to share knowledge, expand awareness, and further develop the environmentally sustainable initiatives. Outreach meant not just making connections with the students and organizations, but also with staff, faculty, and administration- i.e. Chief Architect, Sustainability Committee, President's Office, and L.A. County Chief of Sustainability Center. Academic Opportunity meant enabling paths to educationally prepare students for the future workforce. The Environmental Action Committee would support needs of research experience and mentorship. Student-Paid Internships would offer students of all different economic and social classes the opportunity for a more equitable career development system without having to sacrifice financial stability.

The Sustainability Council will now be known as the Environmental Action Committee (EAC)- a recognized and prosperous student government committee. The purpose of the EAC is to have student-led voices, research, events, and projects targeting intersectional sustainability. The student government committee is chaired by the Environmental Senator who will also sit on the executive board of student government.

EAC will adopt integrated pedagogies for peace and prosperity for all students, community members, and the Earth- now and into the future. This is an urgent call for action recognizing that ending environmental deprivations must go hand-

in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth- all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

The EAC will evaluate system-wide implementation. It is recommended that the committee refer to the 17 United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG's): no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth, industry/ innovation/ and infrastructure, reduce inequalities, sustainable cities and communities, responsible consumption and production, climate action, life below water, life on land, peace/ justice, and strong institutions, and partnerships for the goals. The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs carries a Division for Sustainable Development Goals that can provide substantive support and capacity-building for the SDG's.

Associated Students will support, but not limit themselves to, the related thematic issues including climate, water, energy, food, waste, and transportation. Associated Students will play a key role in advocacy and outreach activities relating to the EAC. The goals must translate into a strong commitment by all stakeholders to institutionalize and facilitate this engagement.

Whereas: Expanding the Environmental Directive will hold accountable Mt. SAC’s commitment to provide quality education, services, and workforce training so that students become productive members of a diverse, sustainable, global society. The EAC is an engaging and supportive learning environment for students to serve our community by improving economic achievement, advancing civic engagement, enhancing personal well-being, promoting critical thinking, and enriching aesthetic and cultural experiences.

Therefore: Be it resolved that the A.S. Senate, the A.S. Executive Board, and the A.S. President approves Revision for Prosperity of the Environmental Directive.

A.S. Senate			
For: _____	Against: _____	Abstain: _____	Date: _____
A.S. Executive Board			
For: _____	Against: _____	Abstain: _____	Date: _____
A.S. President			
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve	<input type="checkbox"/> Veto	Signature: _____	Date: _____

Environmental Action Committee

(Associated Students Committee- Reports to A.S. Vice President)

Purpose:

The purpose of the Environmental Action Committee is to have student-led voices, research, events, and projects targeting environmental and intersectional sustainability.

Goals:

- Help integrate sustainability on campus by promoting student projects and activities with sustainable issues.
- Ensure accountability of Mt. San Antonio College’s Climate Action Plan and it’s responsibility in preparing society for a sustainable future.

- Use grassroots strategies to research and publicize local environmental issues facing our community to inform, empower, and educate Mt. SAC's community.
- Partner with local communities, organizations, govt, businesses, and members to ensure max public participation around local environmental issues.
- Provide opportunities to learn about the environment through events, community workshops, outreach, and publications.
- Use science, law, and policy to make ethical decisions around complex government issues in a dynamic environment and political landscape.
- Respect the complex ecology and instinct value of the natural world.

The Environmental Action Committee Shall:

- I. Be chaired by the A.S. Environmental Senator.
- II. Hold meetings at least once a month during the academic year.
- III. Research environmental issues affecting the students, the campus, and its surrounding area, as well as recommendations for improvement.
- IV. Address and advocate for environmental concerns from Mt. SAC's student body, providing education and outreach.
- V. Works with the students, administration, student government, environmental groups, the City of Walnut, and other relevant bodies in order to better recognize and address the environmental concerns of the campus and its community, as well as to encourage collaboration in working toward the creation of a more sustainable environment.
- VI. Abide by all finance policies of Mt. SAC and A.S. student government.
- VII. Coordinate Earth Week events with campus groups every year.
- VIII. Coordinate with AS Activities Committee to approve a prospective Event Calendar during the last three weeks of the semester for the upcoming semester. This calendar will include dates, times, and location of the event(s).
- IX. Recommend funds for research, projects, and events related to sustainability and the environment.
- X. Present to the A.S. Senate on the impacts and benefits of the research, projects, and events organized on campus.
- XI. Plan programs, events, and workshops that seek to educate, create community, and foster dialogue revolving around the theme of sustainability specifically related issues of social and environmental justice, human and non-human rights, and healthy lifestyles.
- XII. Submit a line item for A.S. deliberations in the Spring for the yearly budget.
- XIII. Further develop and enforce past legislation to catalyze environmental and sustainable endeavors.
- XIV. Have a palpable relationship with Mt. SAC Sustainability and Climate Commitment Implementation Committee (CCIC).
- XV. Evaluate for Environmentally Preferred Purchasing (EPP) of products or services that have a positive effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose.
- XVI. Have A.S. EAC attire available for all Officers, such as a polo and/or cap.
- XVII. Create sub-committees and task forces to work on specific targets of environmental action.

Members (13):

- Environmental Senator, chair

- A.S. Activities Senator, vice-chair
- A.S. Political Senator, vice-chair
- A.S. STEM Senator, voting member
- A.S. Finance Senator, voting member
- A.S. Campus Community Senator, voting member
- Environmental Action Group for a Livable Earth (EAGLE) Club Student Representative, voting member
- Native American Inter-tribal Student Alliance (NAISA) Club Student Representative, voting member
- Political Science Club Student Representative, voting member
- Student Representative (Appointed by ICC), voting member
- Student Representative, voting member
- Advisor, non-voting member
- Co-Advisor, non-voting member

Rules:

1. Have a Land Acknowledgement prior to Public Comment.
2. Only official members of the Environmental Action Committee may vote. The chairs have full voting privileges.
3. The application process for student representatives will be created at the discretion of the EAC Chair.
4. Student Representatives will adhere to the job description described in the Organizational Directive.
5. A Secretary will be appointed by the Chair by the second meeting of the EAC, from existing members. The Secretary will take minutes and assist the Chair with the agenda.
6. If the EAC does not have a majority of student representatives by the fourth week of the semester, the A.S. President shall appoint student representatives as necessary.
7. All student representatives must meet with the A.S. President at least once per semester.
8. All student representatives must meet with the chair at least once per semester.
9. In the event there is no sitting Environmental Senator, the A.S. Executive Board will appoint a chair by majority rule.
10. EAC may meet during the Summer and Winter terms at the discretion of the Chair and Advisor.
11. It is encouraged for all EAC Officers to wear AS attire during service hours.
12. Decisions made by this body will go to the Senate and Executive Board for Consent Calendar.