

**A meeting of the Student Senate of the
Associated Students of Portland State University was held
Date: October 24, 2016 Location: SMSU 238 Call to Order: 5:04**

Chair: Brent Finkbeiner (BF)

Voting members in attendance: Liela Forbes (LF), Kaitlyn Verret (KV), Phoenix Singer (PS), Zia Laboff (ZL), Alex Herrera (AH), Kaitlin Hoback (KH), Braedon Lehman (BL), Jocelyn Rodriguez (JR), Jose Fallas (JF), Sulakha Hassan (SH), Mahamadou Sissoko (MS), Andy Mayer (AM), Jemila Mohamed (JM), Donald Thompson III (DT), Mustafa Almuzel (MA), Fatmah Worfeley (FM), Jaclyn Humphry (JH), Josephine Claus (JC), Emily Korte (EK), Violet Gibson (VG), Eliya Matz (EM), Catherine Everett (CE), Bhaskar Venkataramaiah (BV), Fio Law (FL)

Ex-Officio members in attendance: Shannon Warner,

Guests in attendance: Hanna- SUPER, Anneka- PSU Student, Dana Ghazi- Past ASPSU President, Sara Levy- PSU Student, Tighearnan- PSU Student/SUPER, Maxine- JVP, Mohammed- SUPER, Linda Bell- Unitarian Church, John- ISO, Jenna- SUPER, Sam- PSU Student, Tom Beilman- No Way To Treat A Child, Shannon- PSUSU, Layla- SUPER, Ned Rosch- JVP, Jenka- PSU Student, Patricia Komoda- JSU/Student, Anthony Safir- "You Know" Craig- Jewish Community Relations Committee,

[5:06] The next item on the agenda was Public Comment
None

[5:07] The first item was the consent agenda which included:

a. **Approval of the agenda-**

**AM proposed to move up "Get Out The Vote" to first item seconded by BL
Agenda approval motioned by KH seconded by AH**

b. **Approval of minutes from 09/26/16**

**Not completed, recording online, table until the next meeting Motioned by BL
seconded by KH**

c. **Approval of minutes from 10/10/16**

Motioned by AH Seconded by KH

The consent agenda was approved by acclimation.

The consent approval of minutes was approved by acclimation.

[5:15] The next item on the agenda was Divestment Resolution

1. **Ground Rules**

a. **PS: Leads ground rules- general behaviours expected during this conversation.
Non-binding. See recording for exact rules set.**

2. **Second Reading**

a. **DT: Leads second reading. You can find the Resolution on the ASPSU Public Drive.**

3. Public Comment- PLEASE reference audio recording for in depth public comment
- a. Hanna (PRO)- Apartheid is a crime against humanity. Israel has committed these crimes. 522 checkpoints that hinder the movement of Palestinians not Israelis. Grandmother just passed away after moving to the states in the 80's was never able to return.
 - b. Patricia (CON)- Incoming transfer student. Researches genocide and holocaust for the past four years. The resolution feels antisemitism. And the symbolic nature of this resolution would harm our community.
 - c. Anneka (PRO)- Participates avidly in social justice. Believes it is our job as a student body to not stand with the oppressor.
 - d. Anthony (CON)- The text of this resolution is bigoted and one sided against Israel. Points to historical inaccuracies and passes out proposed amendments.
 - e. Sara (PRO)- The resolution does not hold anti semitism. Should not confuse the Jewish people with the governmental state that enforces apartheid. Must stand up for equality for all of us.
 - f. Craig (CON)- Here representing the greater Jewish population in Portland. Views the resolution as insulting. The complicated history and nature of this conflict is not one sided as it's presented in the resolution. *Motion to extend EK JC

Y 15 N 6 A 5

(KE) made a motion and (JC) seconded to extend speakers time by one minute

Vote (Yea 15 /Nay 6 /Abstain 5):

[Motion Passed]

Proposes to support joint projects. To pass this sends a clear message of hate and intolerance.

G. Tighearnan (PRO)- Not palestinian, in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

H. Maxine (PRO)- Jewish community member in full support for the resolution. Growing up in Sunday School was taught Jewish values such as peace. The human rights offenses have been researched extensively for this document.

I. Mohammed (PRO) - Community member, acknowledges the time spent on the resolution. The resolution recognizes the Palestinian people in their suffering and stands with them.

J. Linda (PRO)- PSU Alumni and foundation contributor through a scholarship. Here to ask us to honor human rights and pass the resolution.

K. John (PRO)- Has been reporting on the resolution since last may. Speaks that's the process for this resolution has been undemocratic. The president who is supposed to be neutral has spoke out against the resolution. Opposers use anti-democratic techniques because they know the resolution is just.

L. Jenna (PRO)- Alumni of PSU. Supports the resolution because after so many years this is what SUPER has been working for. Important to vote yes because previously PSU stood on the right side of history with South Africa: To get peace with justice. What's wrong with Palestinians having equal rights?

M. Sam (PRO)- The oppression is systemic by the government of Israel on the Palestinian people. Black Lives Matters stands with BDS, if you stand with BLM why don't you stand with BDS. This resolution is not antisemitic.

N. Tom (PRO)- Local lead for a human rights campaign. A few months ago had a chance to travel to Palestine. Witnessed Israeli forces using caterpillar tractors in blatant anti-human right actions. *Reference audio recording for specific examples.

O. Shannon (PRO)- Our responsibility to set an example. By supporting these companies we support infractions on human rights

P. Layla (PRO)- Israel is apartheid. Palestinians are not granted the privileges of Israeli civil law as Israelis do, including land ownership, 'public' roads, resources such as water.

Q. Ned (PRO)- Past faculty at PSU. This resolution is important in this historical movement. Urges to take a stand for justice and support this resolution.

R. Jenka (PRO)- Israel should be held to the human rights standards all other countries are held to. Seen bulldozers destroy homes and to see families grieve over lost love ones. Support this bill.

S. Dana (Pro)- Grad student at PSU. Supports this resolution as it supports the student movement and the history ASPSU took against apartheid in South Africa. Two years ago PSU divested from fossil fuels, last year we divested from private prisons. We understand we need to take a stand against companies that support the human rights violations. This is a global connection, we need to stand in solidarity.

g. Board Discussion

PS: Instrumental in the resolution. Far more historically correct than before. Stands for resolution. This apartheid was predicted in 1940's. This conflict is current. Opposing Israeli actions and supporting Palestinian struggle is to fight anti semitism. This resolution is ethical and just, all struggles are so interrelated, to not do this would mean none of us would be free.

EK: Is the two minute speaking limit for board members too?

BF: No

MA made a motion to approve the Resolution in its current form and (FW) seconded Discussion:

MA: Has heard from both sides of students, the research proves this resolution stands for justice. This student body stands for people's rights.

FW: Grandparents removed from their homes. Urges everyone to vote yes and that it is sad we have to pass a paper to approve human rights

MS: We have worked on this resolution for a long time and has faced the opposition's tactics. To not vote would stand against human rights.

Vote (Yea 22 /Nay 2 /Abstain 1):

[Motion Passed]

[5:10] The next item on the agenda was Get Out The Vote (Presentation for OSA)

Devon- Registered 4000 people to vote, which helps build our political capitol. GOTV is the next step: phone banking to follow up with registered voters to actually vote. Lastly, calls for volunteers and passes out sign up sheet for phone banking.

(A. Member) made a motion and (B. Member) seconded to

Discussion:

Vote (Yea/Nay/Abstain):

[Motion Passed] [Motion Failed]

6:31

BF: VRC open house Nov 8th, 11-1pm

Adjournment: Andy moves to motion. 6:32

Signature of the recorder:

Shannon M Warner

Attach the agenda for this meeting BELOW (copy and paste):

Associated Students of Portland State University

ASPSU SENATE MEETING

Date: October 24th, 2016

Location: SMSU 328/9

Time: 5-8pm

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Agenda
- b. Approval of Minutes from 09/26/16
- c. Approval of Minutes from 10/10/2016

IV. SPECIAL ORDERS

- a. Appointments

V. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Divestment Resolution

- i. Ground Rules
- ii. Second Reading
- iii. Public Comment
- iv. Discussion

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Get Out The Vote (Presentation by OSA)

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Announcements and Upcoming Events

VIII. ADJOURNMENT