Associated Students Inc.



Governance Committee

Thu Mar 23, 2023 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM PDT

1. Call to Order

Diaz called the meeting to order at 2:32 pm.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Diaz, Furtado, Ruelas, Vences Members Absent: Butorac Liaisons Present: Awadalla, Galvan, Nettles Liaisons Absent: None

According to the ASI Policy Concerning Board of Directors Operations, attendance is defined as being present prior to the announcement of Unfinished Business and remaining until the scheduled end of the meeting.

* Indicates that the member was in attendance prior to the start of Unfinished Business, but left before the scheduled ending of the meeting.

** Indicates that the member was in attendance for a portion of the meeting, but not in attendance prior to the announcement of Unfinished Business.

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes

(Furtado-m/Vences-s) The February 23, 2023 minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

a. 02/23/2023 Meeting Minutes

5. Public Speakers

Members of the public may address Governance Committee members on any item appearing on this posted agenda or matters impacting students.

*Maya Ady: President for Student for Justice of Palestine spoke to the Committee regarding supporting the resolution and ultimate goal of divestment of funds approved from the companies that the university contributes it's investments to.

*Dahlia Sukaik: ICC for Student for Justice of Palestine gave testimony and advocated for human rights and the approval of the resolution of divestment.

*Reema Jeleati: Shared they are a part of Students for Justice of Palestine and they are advocating for Palestine and the approval of the resolution.

*Israa Yousef: Spoke to the Committee regarding supporting Students for Justice for Palestine and advocating to approve the resolution. Gave testimony with her experience in Palestine. *Brisa Nino: Advocating for the resolution to support Palestinian Students at CSUF

6. Reports

- **a.** Chair Morgan Diaz, Chair, did not have a written report.
- **b.** Director, Student Government Asha Nettles, Director of Student Government did not have a written report.
- 7. Unfinished Business
 - a. None.
- 8. New Business

a. Action: Resolution in Support of Palestinian Students at CSUF

GOV 009 22/23 (Vences-m/Ruelas-s) A motion was made and seconded to approve a Resolution in Support of Palestinian Students at CSUF.

Diaz yielded the floor to Nettles to review the resolution.

Diaz opened the floor to questions. There were no questions.

Diaz asked if there were any points of discussion. There were no points of discussion. Awadalla made a statement that its about human rights and being able to live in Palestine. Gave a list of philanthropic entities that support the Israeli government who has taken over Palestine and denying them there human rights.

Nettles shared that we have a fund manager who oversees the investments for ASI and that we don't have control over which companies are included in the investment pools, like the S&P 500.

Maya Ady stated that this is a human rights issue.

Ruelas asked if there any other CSU's that are doing divestment from funds. Awadalla explained there are other CSU's who have.

Furtado paid homage for the speakers who shared there experience and gave a brief testimony of his background in the military.

Galvan let everyone know how impactful this resolution is and asked for support to make the campus equal.

Ruelas thanked the speakers for sharing and stated that the student awareness regarding student rights it's a big deal.

Awadalla thanked everyone for the support and encouraged everyone to vote yes on the resolution. Gave context on how long her and Maya have been working to get the resolution before the committee. Further encouraged Members to focus on the human rights aspect of the issue.

Vences thanked everyone for the work they have contributed.

Diaz asked if there were any objections to moving to a roll call vote. There were no objections.

GOV 009 22/23 (Vences-m/Ruelas-s) Roll Call Vote: 4-0-0 The Resolution in support of Palestinian Students at CSUF has been adopted.

- 9. Announcements/Member's Privilege
 Furtado announced that SCAR is showcasing CSUF research.
 Ruelas share information on upcoming video series.
- 10. Adjournment

Morgan Diaz, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Morgan Diaz, Governance Committee Chair

Susan Collins, Recording Secretary

Roll Call 2021-2022

03/23/2023 Governance Committee Roll Call

Attendance		Board	Board Members		
			Present	Absent	
CBE	BUTORAC	MICHAEL		1	
CHAIR/VICE CHAIR/ARTS	DIAZ	MORGAN	1		
NSM	FURTADO	NICHOLAS	1		
сомм	RUELAS	ALAN	1		
HHD	VENCES	BERNICE	1		
			Present	Absent	
			4	1	

Attendance		Liaison	s	
			Present	Absent
CIDO	AWADALLA	MAYSEM	1	
CHAIR (HHD)	GALVAN	ISABELLA	1	
DIR STU GOVT	NETTLES	ASHA	1	
			Present	Absent
			3	0

*Recording Secretary: Susan Collins

Roll Call Votes			009 - Re	009 - Resolution Palestinian Students		
			Yes	No	Abstain	
CBE	BUTORAC	MICHAEL	Absent			
NSM	FURTADO	NICHOLAS	1		Q	
СОММ	RUELAS	ALAN	1			
HHD	VENCES	BERNICE	1			
CHAIR/VICE CHAIR/ARTS	DIAZ	MORGAN	1			
			Yes	No	Abstain	
			4	0	0	



A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN STUDENTS AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON Sponsors: Morgan Diaz and Maysem Awadalla

Co-Sponsors: Maya Ady

WHEREAS, The Associated Students Inc., CSUF (ASI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that operates as an auxiliary organization of California State University, Fullerton; and

WHEREAS, ASI is governed by ASI Board of Directors, sets policy for the organization, approves all funding allocations to programs and services, and advocates on behalf of student interests on committees and boards; and

WHEREAS, Palestine is located in the Southwest Asian North African (SWANA) region and has been occupied by the Apartheid State of Israel since 1967¹; and

WHEREAS, Israel has been recognized by international law since 1967 as an occupying power in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and Gaza², hereafter referred to as the Occupied Palestinian Territories; and

WHEREAS, international organizations such as Human Rights Watch and the United Nations have documented incidents that amount to war crimes committed by Israel³; and

WHEREAS, UN General Assembly Resolution 70/89 (2015) condemned Israel's occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem as a violation of international law and denounced Israel's separation wall as "unlawful construction"⁴; and

WHEREAS, UN General Assembly Resolution 71/96 (2013) reaffirmed that Palestinian civilians were entitled to the protection of civilians during armed conflict under the Geneva Convention⁵; and

WHEREAS, the Israeli government contracts with private entities to implement policies and actions that contravene international law; and

WHEREAS, international humanitarian law recognizes the right of all people, including Palestinians, to life and security, and of all peoples to political and economic self-determination⁶ ⁷and

WHEREAS, the Cal State Fullerton Philanthropic Foundation (CSFPF) contains a clause within

¹ https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2017/06/israel-occupation-50-years-of-dispossession/

² Israel, Palestine and the Occupied Territories

³ https://www.hrw.org/report/2009/03/25/rain-fire/israels-unlawful-use-white-phosphorus-gaza

⁴ https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/815577?ln=en

⁵ https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N16/428/24/PDF/N1642824.pdf?OpenElement

⁶ https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights

⁷ https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b3aa0.html

their investment policy that encourages socially responsible investments⁸, which is the consideration of all relevant facts and circumstances in making investment decisions, including the risks and opportunities of environmental, social and corporate governance features of the companies in which it invests; and

WHEREAS, ASI is committed to being a responsible investor and that responsible management includes consideration of environmental, social and governance issues⁹; and

WHEREAS, ASI recognizes that our peers at CSU Long Beach, CSU East Bay, CSU San Francisco, and CSU San Jose along with over 30 student governments across the United States have passed similar resolutions in support of Human Rights; and

WHEREAS, CSFPF currently invests 3% of philanthropic investments into funds that include private companies that provide support for the Apartheid state of Israel; ¹⁰

WHEREAS, the CSFPF's investment portfolio contains funds with companies AXA, HPE, Puma, Soda Stream, AHAVA, Sabra Hummus, Google, Amazon, and Boeing; and

WHEREAS, AXA is an insurance company that directly finances war and environmental crimes and owns shares of \$6.2 million in two Israeli banks involved in war crimes¹¹; and

WHEREAS, HPE provides services to the Israeli police and prison services. HP Inc has been involved in providing computers to Israeli occupation forces¹²; and

WHEREAS, Puma is the international sponsor of the Israel Football Association (IFA). The IFA includes football clubs based in illegal Israeli settlements in Palestinian territories¹³; and

WHEREAS, Soda Stream is an at-home carbonation machine. Soda Stream complies with Israel's grave violations of Palestinian human rights. Soda Stream also mistreats and discriminates against Palestinian workers¹⁴; and

WHEREAS, AHAVA is a cosmetics company based in illegal Israeli settlements in Palestinian territories. AHAVA also uses mud from the shores of the Dead Sea in Palestine, using Palestinian natural resources without permission and supporting Israel in barring Palestinians from visiting the shores of the dead sea¹⁵; and

WHEREAS, Sabra Hummus is owned by the Strauss Group, which directly supports the Israeli Defense Force financially¹⁶; and

¹² https://bdsmovement.net/BDS-Pressure-Works-HP-

⁸ <u>https://foundation.fullerton.edu/ resources/pdfs/CSFPF%20Investment%20Policy%20Draft%20-%20Final%20Approved%209.16.21.pdf</u>

⁹ https://asi.fullerton.edu/wp-content/uploads/ASI-Policy-Concerning-Investments-and-Reserves-1.pdf

¹⁰ Disclosed during meeting with Vice President of Advancement

¹¹ <u>https://bdsmovement.net/news/demand-axa-stop-financing-war-and-environmental-crimes</u>

Update#:~:text=HPE%20provides%20services%20to%20the,computers%20to%20Israeli%20occupation %20forces

¹³ https://bdsmovement.net/boycott-puma

¹⁴ https://bdsmovement.net/news/%E2%80%9Csodastream-still-subject-boycott%E2%80%9D

¹⁵ https://bdsmovement.net/news/boycott-ahava-dead-sea-products-makes-impact

¹⁶ https://www.ethicalconsumer.org/ethicalcampaigns/boycotts/bds-israel-boycott

WHEREAS, Google recently signed a \$1.2 billion dollar agreement with Israel for a cloud computing system that provides the Israeli military with face detection, automated image categorization, object tracking, and sentiment analysis¹⁷; and

WHEREAS, Amazon collaborated with Google and signed a \$1.2 billion dollar contract with the Israeli government. The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) will be the main user of the "Project Nimbus" deal's cloud services "environment," which will be made available to the Israeli public sector¹⁸; and

WHEREAS, Boeing has provided Israel with weapons of mass destruction used against Palestinian Territories. Some of these weapons include AH-64 Apache helicopters, F-15 fighter jets, Hellfire missiles (produced with Lockheed Martin), MK-84 2000-lb bombs, MK-82 500-lb bombs, Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) kits that turn bombs into "smart" GPS-equipped guided bombs. Boeing's Harpoon sea-to-sea missile system is installed on the upgraded 4.5 Sa'ar missile ships of the Israeli Navy. Boeing sold Small Diameter Bombs (SDBs) to Israel at least six times from 2008 to 2018, including a January 2018 contract for almost \$200M in SDB production¹⁹; and

WHEREAS, ASI recognizes the complexity in the structure of an investment fund and aim to support Palestinian students in their efforts to call for more ethical investments by the CSFPF; and

WHEREAS, a review of ASI investments indicated that ASI does not invest in funds that have Israeli-owned companies; and

WHEREAS, CSU Fullerton's investment in these companies shows implicit support for Israel's violations of human rights; therefore let be it

RESOLVED, that ASI recognizes that invested funds goes to support violations of international law committed by the apartheid state of Israel; and let it be further

RESOLVED, that ASI supports the continuous divestment from funds that include the listed companies that the university contributes its investments to; and let it be further

RESOLVED, that ASI calls upon Cal State Fullerton Philanthropic Foundation to adhere to their listed investment policy pertaining to socially responsible investments in the efforts to support the basic human rights of the Palestinian people worldwide; and let it be finally

RESOLVED, that ASI will continue to adhere to its socially responsible investment considerations as required by policy²⁰.

¹⁷ <u>https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/why-google-s-new-contract-with-israel-is-unethical-and-worrisome-60486</u>

¹⁸ https://www.thenation.com/article/economy/amazon-prime-day-israel/

¹⁹ https://investigate.afsc.org/company/boeing

²⁰ https://asi.fullerton.edu/wp-content/uploads/ASI-Policy-Concerning-Investments-and-Reserves-1.pdf

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Associated Students Inc., California State University, Fullerton on the fourth day of April in the year two thousand and twenty-three.

Isabella Galvan Chair, Board of Directors Ramón Aquino Secretary, Board of Directors