I. Preliminaries
   A. Call to Order – Vice President Richardson (4:31pm)
   B. Roll Call – Office Manager Paauw
   C. Prayer – Senator Medina
   D. Welcome Guests – Paul Ward & Alicia Wilson
   E. Special Orders
      1. Motion to move announcements- President Prieb/DOC Garcia
      2. Motion to add announcement Homecoming booth- Senator Baker/Senator Woodall
      3. Motion to add announcement on diversity- Senator Taleni/Senator Baker

II. Old Business
   A. Approval of Minutes
      1. Speaker Anderson/ Senator Taleni motion to approve minutes
   B. Student Senate Resolution: 09/10: 03 – DOC Garcia, Senator Medina
      1. President Prieb- I want to thank all who have come tonight. Just to let you
         know, we hold open meetings in Ronald at this time every week, and you are
         more than welcome to come to any meetings. A little bit about SGA, we
         represent the student body to administration on issues that come to us. The
         DREAM Act was presented 2 weeks ago, and we have been having a dialogue
         since then.
      2. DOC Garcia- Point of Clarification, this was not presented to SGA by LASA,
         but by students
      3. President Prieb- We identify with a Christian community. Tonight we need to
         have an “I think I know, but I don’t know” mindset
      4. Vice President Richardson- A little about the meeting layout:
         a. 1 to 2 minutes for presentation by DOC Garcia and Senator Medina
         b. Discussion from the opposition
         c. Open discussion
         d. Vote, and at that point, the visitors will be asked to leave
   5. DOC Garcia- Reads resolution
   6. Senator Medina- Reads letter of support
   7. Vice President Richardson- Just a reminder to put your hand out, and I will
      call on you.
   8. Student Alicia Wilson- I am a global studies major, and therefore, I am
      somewhat aware of the global struggles. I’m not here to tell you my personal
      stance, but to petition to have you represent our student body voices.
      Represent the whole body’s opinions, not just a select few.
   9. Student Paul Ward- Thank you SGA for allowing me to speak, and I have 2
      points
a. Should APU make political decisions as a university? I do not think it should. The dream act is very controversial, and it is very much a partisan issue. The point of voting against it is not because it’s liberal, but because it’s a political document. Also, many students are not aware of the DREAM Act, and do not understand it. Voting on this may also affect the future, and how SGA deals with things. I am asking SGA to not set this precedent

b. Also, you as elected representatives accurately represent the student vote, and there are many who oppose this. You need to represent their wishes, and not make your decision according to your political opinion.

10. DOC Garcia- This wouldn’t be the first time SGA supported something political. In 2000, SGA voted to endorse Prop 22, which was a piece of legislature at that time. There was opposition, but the DOC wrote letter to the editor of the clause that it was in the best interest of student body. Also the DREAM Act is a bi-partisan issue; there is different support on both sides.

11. Senator Ramirez-
   1. I did research on the subject of SGA’s sponsorship of Prop 22, and I have a handful of letters to the editor from people that were upset. Some were in support of Prop 22, but were still upset that ASB at that time voted on a political issue.
   2. I also have minutes of the meeting a year later. They say that they don’t want to sets this precedent, because soon after, there was a student that brought up a resolution against a city ordinance about having monkeys in homes. He used the excuse that it is what ABS did for Prop 22; so it could do it for his monkey issue. Willie Hamlet, the advisor at the time said they shouldn’t get involved, and that the actions of the previous ASB supporting Prop 22 should be seen as a warning. Today, we should not repeat the mistakes of the past.

12. Student Paul Ward- I agree, this would set a bad precedent, and I’m arguing against that. Also, this is not a bi-partisan issue, and to say that would be a misrepresentation.

13. Senator Taleni- There has been lots of democrat/republican talk. We need to remember our motto is God 1st. We need to ask the question, how to we speak for the marginalized? What is our responsibility for those students who cannot afford it, and how can we make them feel comfortable? We need to make this decision not as citizens, but as Christ followers.

14. Vice President Richardson- I want to direct this conversation to addressing the merits of the DREAM Act, and not that it is a political document. I also want to open two seats, one for the opposing side, and one for the “for” students to speak. I also want to keep this open for SGA to be the primary speakers.

15. DOC Garcia- I want to continue the conversation. Also addressing the monkey issue, no, that is not a political issue, it’s a student issue. I also want
to read something else; this is a letter from Steven Rada, an undocumented member of this campus. He is in Evita. (Reads Letter)

16. President Prieb-Point to Clarification, we are not planning to send letter to congress, we are sending it to the administration.

17. Student Tyler Endres- We are not here to talk about opinion, here to talk about me being a student. I am a Christ follower, but I have political views, everyone does. We need to care about all the students. There are many in my situation that had no idea this was going on. I want to propose that this be prolonged in order to set up a student wide poll. I believe everyone’s voice should be heard.

18. Senator Salcido- Your voice is heard when you elect us. You acknowledge that because we were elected. Student body can have a vote, but that’s a different issue. We are students too, and we don’t live in a vacuum, we have all types of feedback 24/7

19. President Prieb- Because of the structure of SGA, it is impossible to poll 4,000 students on every issue. We have a representative sample on every issue every week. Each senator and house member has their own student council. We can’t poll, but we have an accurate example of the student body.

20. Senator Taleni- We are mandated to represent students. Students have a responsibility to speak up to us and for them to tell us how they feel. We have that responsibility to give that statistical information.

21. Student Tyler Endres- You (SGA) are in your positions because of statistics of this campus. Why couldn’t you make a simple poll for this matter, as you have done for something as insignificant as Homecoming? I guess I just don’t understand?

22. Senator Baker- I understand and somewhat agree, but when we are elected, there isn’t a huge turnout of votes. You probably get mass e-mails, but not most don’t respond, even when it’s as simple as a couple clicks of the mouse. E-mails are just not effective.

23. Vice President Richardson- I want to again say that this portion of the discussion is for the merits of DREAM Act

24. Representative O’Donnell- We live in a great beautiful country. We are representatives of students and representatives of Christ. (Reads a quote from LASA president) Should not see this as citizens, but brothers and sisters. We should give them freedom and this opportunity. (Reads Isaiah 58:6-8)

25. Commissioner Hurst- I enjoy every one and their passion- I want to bring up that any stance on any political issue by a university should not happen. People should not have their opinions spoken for as a collective group on political or human rights issue.

26. Senator Salcido- We go to a school that makes positional statements, and says that they are representing God First. Like Jason said, we are talking about merits of the DREAM Act right now.
27. Controller Karim- The DREAM ACT is voted on by congress, therefore it is a political issue. Does it have bi-partisan support? Does it matter? SGA should not take a stance on this political issue, because not everyone is in support. Congress, not find a majority on this campus?
   1. People are given the opportunity, not burdened by the obligation to come to this country
   2. How is this different from any other issue, like an election, or healthcare?
   3. Again, we need to see immigration as an opportunity not an obligation.
28. Senator Baker- We spent last week discussing the merits, and I think it’s safe to move on.
29. Vice President Richardson- Does anyone want to say anything more about the merits of it?
30. Senator Taleni- One of the biggest fears might be that this bill might tell students to immigrate illegally. This takes care of people who are already here. Only those who fit the requirements are able to benefit. This is not a get out of jail free.
31. Student Amanda Weaver- I know this is off topic, but there has been an emphasis on “Christ followers.” At APU we are able to have freedom to express that, but it’s important not to exclude brothers and sisters on this.
32. Vice President Richardson- Move on to SGA voting for or not
33. Senator Moran- I talked to a lot of people. The conversations were mostly not about whether they agreed or disagreed with the issue, but should the university take a stand. Or will this just open up a gateway for other political bills.
34. Student Rod Lopez- (Reads Matthew 2:13-15) Jesus was a child immigrant, and it’s not a stretch to say he and his family were undocumented in Egypt. Jesus is cornerstone, and it would not make you a Christian student organization if you voted against this. Speak up.
35. Senator Ramirez- It is not fair to frame this as a human rights/Christian issue. This is a political issue. It is legislation in congress, and therefore it became a legal/political issue. It is not fair to continue to frame it this way. Where I live, our community has had major pumps turned off pumps to protect the Delta Smelt, which has left fields barren and thousands of farmers without work, and my Representative has presented legislation to stop this. I could argue this is a human rights issue that affects APU, and the many students from the Central Valley that attend here. We need to focus on what the implications would be for university. It might even affect our tax exempt status— tax exempt status 501(c)3
36. Vice President Richardson- clarify tax exempt status
37. Senator Ramirez- We have 501(c)3, “public charity” status, because we are a religious educational institution. Making political statements might put us at
risk of an audit by private organizations and watchdog groups. APU in the past lost its status once.

38. Student Rod Lopez- You can’t claim under no circumstances, that the university would not take a political stance

39. DOC Garcia- Dick from Illinois has a bill to make college textbooks cheaper. I hope you would vote yes on this. Even if the majority does not support this issue, we need to talk about it. SGA supports every student on this campus. Also, SGA took that on Prop 22, and I don’t know if it affected our status. Harvard might have this, and I don’t know that it affected theirs.

40. Senator Ramirez- I’m not saying we will lose our status, but it would probably lead to a private organization to audit us

41. President Prieb- It is clear that the administration has no obligation to our decision, but it is up to us to continue this conversation.

42. Student Paul Ward- In regards to a poll, it is the goal of SGA to be more democratic and even if not many people vote in the poll, 10% is better than none. We voted for you to represent us, but no one voted for you to take a political stance for us. This is what you’re doing if you vote yes on this. Also, referring back to the textbook comment, I think this is a bad idea. Someone else should not have to pay for my books with their money.

43. (Some guests laugh)

44. Vice President Richardson- I just want to again ask the crowd to be respectful to those voicing their opinion.

45. Senator Taleni- Consider the voices for those who come to us. We did not go seeking this as a political bill to vote on. We are voting on this because it was presented to us. The textbook thing is irrelevant. To frame it, where is our obligation to those who presented it? How do we make them feel? Will this invalidate them, and their opinion?

46. Senator Medina- Why do we fear to take a political stance? What is APU’s political standing, if we have none? Yes it is a political issue, but it’s what you make it. The biggest fear is that it gives it a face. It gives it a face as it is and as it stands, we need to get away from that.

47. Senator Salcido- Both have legit sides, and the supporters are addressing this as a human issue.

48. Commissioner Atwell- Point of Clarification, this discussion is a continuation from last year’s SGA.

49. Controller Karim- Yes, we did vote on this last year, and did not pass. Senator Medina said we should not put a face on this, but why have some put the face on this as a kingdom of God principal. People look at this in different ways so therefore; don’t put a Christian face on it.

50. Representative Clark- We need to be conscious of this, but it is our job to represent the majority, and in this case is it the minority that is being most vocal? This doesn’t represent the large population of the students that are unknowing about this issue. Only some are very passionate about this. SGA
needs to represent the voice of the student body, not just those that brought the issue up.

51. Senator Salcido- The problem here is addressing the kingdom principal issue. People come here with all different ideas of what God First looks like. When people disagree, one or both will be wrong. It’s a bold statement. You can’t come here and have issues and think they are God First, and encounter someone else with completely different issues, and them be God First as well, and be part of same community.

52. Student Paul Ward- Does anyone have a guess of how many actual students are in support of this act?

53. Vice President Richardson- There were about 30ish supporting this last week.

54. DOC Garcia- Yes, that many as well as some more here supporting it this week.

55. Student Paul Ward- Is there a facebook group about this issue? Was it ever posted on the door of discussion?

56. Vice President Richardson- There is not a facebook group, and there was something on the door of discussion, but it was not put up by SGA.

57. Student Paul Ward- My closing remark is that you have to vote with certainty that you are accurately representing the Student Body.

58. Student Matt Gonzales- I want to make sure that SGA does not lie. You called us to speak up, we took you up. What about the minority that does speak up? Your job is to not always side with the majority of students. Remember the Nazis in Germany? They were the majority, would you side with them? Some have no one to represent them. Will they not be heard? Keep up on your promise. We showed up, you can’t ignore those who speak up. This is the precedent that SGA should not set

59. Vice President Richardson- We are now going into a closed session.

60. Senator Baker- I disagree, I think that was poorly handled. There was a lot of slander, and I apologize for what happened. I’m sure it was hard especially for one side as well as disheartening.

   a. Motion to make it a secret vote- Senator Baker

61. President Prieb- Our team has a DNA- We are a very diverse group. We each see the world a certain way. The DNA of our team crosses those divisions and differences, but your world view is valid. This is the best most fun team have been on in my entire life. We are capable of handling this. You have a bunch of things to think about. You have to consider the majority opinion. Is majority right? What is right and true accordingly? This is not a clear cut case
of right and wrong. This is an issue that encompasses it all. We have to factor everything in. I’m proud of you, but we have work to do. Our team has to exist for the rest of this year. Please approach this table with the utmost humility of a servant. We are leaders that are called to a higher responsibility. Cast vote on student representation, what is right and what is true. At the end of the day, we need to see the vote is complicated, and we are going to have an open vote. We are mature and strong enough to vote and be okay with the outcome. To vote no does not mean no to immigrants. A vote yes is not about politics. I might be wrong, and I won’t know why you voted why you did, but I trust you. I want you to vote how you would vote, and not worry about tomorrow.

62. Vice President Richardson- Point of clarification, this will be a open vote
63. Motion to remove the previous motion- DOC Garcia/Senator Taleni
64. Commissioner Hurst- I can trust and love, but before we vote, can we all pray and set ourselves before God to see our values in the eyes of God.
   1. Motion that there will be a prayer before the vote- Commissioner Hurst/President Prieb
65. Vice President Richardson- Lets discuss this
66. Commissioner Tiede- I don’t have a student council, but when I did talk to people I never heard once from anyone what the concerns were.
67. DOC Garcia- I want to hear what each student council decided now
68. Vice President Richardson- No, this is not what this time is about, but if it comes up in the discussion that’s okay
69. Controller Karim- These are the concerns I have heard
   1. It is unfair because others cannot bring their own agenda to the table.
   2. We would be setting the precedent that anyone could bring their own political issues up to SGA
   3. I also disagree with the way this entire process was brought about?
   4. This got turned down last year, so it begs the question will we see it every year, semester till it gets passed?
   5. I am also offended by some of the rhetoric used. One comment was made about immigrants not being able to afford APU. But I’m a minority and I have struggled with affording school also.
70. Senator Taleni- I structured my council to discuss the cons because the pros are apparent. The biggest worry is that if it gets passed, people will still be in fear of being deported within 6 yrs. Their citizenship process is sped up, but they can still wait up to ten years. This is the same if they don’t have this act. It doesn’t matter about the minority/majority. The things we face are still the same. It is hard to speak against this. I didn’t mean to say you are not a brother/sister in Christ, and I apologize if I hadn’t validated you.
71. President Prieb- Primary argument against this is that it is a political issue
72. Senator Moran- When I perused this position last year, I did not sign up to vote on bills. This has caused a lot of people trouble and pain. It is our job to
listen and speak up. I strongly agree with this, but the university should not to take political statements. Congress votes on national bills, and that is not our direct job

73. DOC Garcia- Remember my letter from Steven? Are you going to say that he shouldn’t benefit from his education after he graduates? These students need to be heard. I am affected by this. It’s personal for me. At end of the day, this is about those who are here. Steven is not asking for charity, he is asking to use his education. These students need to be heard. Our theme was “Speak Up” and people did, and we also listened to those who oppose it, but at end of day will those who oppose this not be able to sleep at night? Paul is very passionate, and he is against it, and I’m okay with that, but come back to Steven and think of him and others.

74. Representative Nuñez- Has there ever been an issue in that past where the Student Government polled all the students?

75. Vice President Richardson- No I don’t think so

76. Senator Salcido- Cody, This is not a vote on a political view, and we didn’t speak up, but we were addressed by students and student concerns. Based on who is affected by it, my concern is about those who are marginalized by this decision. Those who are against it, who will it affect?

77. Office Manger Paauw- DOC Garcia, when you said that Steven couldn’t benefit from his education, it sounded like the DREAM Act was his only hope of achieving this, but aren’t there other ways to start the naturalization process, proper channels that are already in place, in which the DREAM Act isn’t needed?

78. DOC Garcia- Once he graduates, he can’t because of his low social security status, and the documentation process is very hard. Steven needs to graduate and start working like anyone that graduates from college can.

79. Representative O’Donnell- I want to point out that the words political and politics have been used as dirty words, and seem negative here. I don’t think that we should see it as such a dirty thing. Yes, they have gotten bad. It is seen as very political, but this is not about the movement or bills, but the idea behind it. If this was just people, would we support it? Mad props for those who stood against it. I want to apologize to them, but the question is do we support people and this motion?

80. Senator Ramirez- We are not voting on an idea, we are voting on a political document. Come back down to reality. You think that APU’s decision would influence this so much? No, whatever happens in congress happens. Unfortunately, this will not affect anything they do. We need to focus on what APU and SGA can do to make a difference on this issue, and this is not it. Also are people in the future going to look back at this issue, this year and see it as something that others needs to be warned about, like Willie used that ASB’s position on Prop 22? We don’t want people to look at this in the future and say “don’t do that again.”
81. DOC Garcia-Point of clarification addressed to Shino: This conversation has been going on for awhile, but I don’t know how this went in administration side of things. Would this have been shut down awhile ago if it would have been up to them? Would the status actually have been affected? And in regards to seeing this as a warning, have we seen that happen? And if that was something to be warned about, we would have known.

82. Advisor Simons- It has been started, and just because you bring it up here, and it doesn’t happen, it doesn’t mean you didn’t listen. This is the same in the President’s office, but it does not mean it wasn’t heard. I don’t know how this will all play out. But what you do here, won’t impact that, but the university as a whole will.

83. Senator Medina- Your vote is valuable, and you should have no fear whatsoever. This has gotten ugly, and when we brought it forward we did not think it would be this bad. It’s that people haven’t been educated about this. Again, your vote is valuable, have no fear, I speak on behalf of LASA and others

84. President Prieb- We are going to vote, and I want to make sure that everyone is clear on what that means
   1. A Yes vote approves sending this letter to the office of the president
   2. A No vote means we are not going to send this letter for whatever reason
   3. An Abstain is if you don’t have enough information to make an informed decision, but this is more info than we have ever had.
   4. This is not a battle, and we are moving towards the real world. There are no winners or losers. People should not be disheartened in any way. We need to not shy away from difficult discussions

C. Motion to vote on Student Senate Resolution: 09/10: 03- President Prieb/DOC Garcia
   1. Advisor Simons- There have been a lot of different conversations, but whatever you decide, think about the other party. You are all Christ followers and do not doubt anyone else’s faith. That is not healthy. In regards to the people outside, it is important for them to know you have each other’s backs. Please don’t throw people under the bus. I was talking to Terry Franson about how there is division. If you don’t have each other’s backs, you will make this place fall. At the end of the day make sure you have each other’s back. Don’t fall apart, I have seen it. I don’t think you will fall apart, I have faith in you. You are in a hard spot, and I’m glad I wasn’t elected to have to make this decision. Also, be empathetic towards the other side. This is personal for a lot of you.
   2. Prayer- Board Member Peggy
   3. Voting
      1. House Vote
         a. In Favor- 3
         b. Opposed- 5
c. Abstain-0

2. Senate Vote-
   a. In Favor- 8
   b. Opposed- 9
   c. Abstain- 0

3. Total Vote- For-8 Opposed-

4. Student Senate Resolution: 09/10: 03 has not passed through the Senate

D. Motion to adjourn the meeting- DOC Garcia

E. Objection- Senator Ramirez- What about the rest of the agenda

F. Vice President Richardson- Can we move the agenda to next week’s meeting, and do the announcements while we are eating?

G. Senator Taleni- My announcement is short

H. Senator Baker- Mine is as well

I. Vice President Richardson- Okay, moving on to announcements

III. New Business
   A. None

IV. Announcements
   A. Global Vision Week – Senator Lee
      1. For Global Vision Week, we are going to have good speakers, and I’m really excited. There will be prayer for the nation Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. OWM wants SGA to pass out postcards on Monday on East and West during chapel. I am going to say the Lord’s Prayer in my language and Tyler on Wednesday is going to pray a blessing for APU.
      2. Senator Ramirez- We were also asked to pass out donuts on Friday

B. President Prieb- Project Team Leaders, we are going to have a meeting soon so look for an e-mail

C. Senator Baker- If you have not responded to my UGLY couch e-mail, get back to me somehow!

D. Senator Taleni- I have surveys to be given out and turned back in to me for the DREAM Act as well as concerns about hours for the weight room and citation in library. Get people to fill out survey

V. Meeting Adjourned (6:18pm)
   A. Motion to adjourn the meeting- DOC Garcia/President Prieb
   B. Closing Prayer – Representative O’Donnell

*The above is a generalized account of the Student Government Association’s Business Meeting on Wednesday, October 21, 2009. No peoples should be directly quoted as some comments are based on summarizations of statements and are not verbatim. Some comments may be missing sections and points due to the quick paced nature of Business Meetings. The content of these minutes may not be copied, reproduced, distributed, republished, displayed, posted or transmitted in any form or by any means without prior written permission of the Student Government Association’s Office Manager, Ms. Paauw.