

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.
California State University, San Bernardino

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

JANUARY 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order by the President, Carson Fajardo at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Carson Fajardo, Diego Rendon, Autumn Hudson (Zoom), Alondra Lopez (Zoom), Megha Babu, Jeidi Carrion-Fajardo (Zoom), Tendulkar Mahadevan (Zoom), Alaina O'Connell (Zoom), Amanda Reigle (Zoom), Ayanna McAlister, Ashley Smith, Kim Hunsaker, Dr. Michael Rister and Dr. Paz Oliverez (Zoom).

Absent: Juan Sibrian, Melis Yurdakul and Dr. Haakon Brown.

Guests: Herbert Gonzalez, Marina Stone, Jiselle Villegas, Juan Padilla, Joseph Morales, Pedro Gonzalez, Jeidi Carillo and Juan Torres.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of December 6th were approved.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The agenda was adopted.

Ms. Lopez arrived at the meeting.

Dr. Oliverez arrived at the meeting.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

President: President Fajardo announced that Valeria Bueno submitted her resignation and will no longer serve as the Students with Disabilities representative. There are currently six positions vacant on the Board; he encouraged the Board to promote these positions. The hiring process for the Elections Chair is ongoing with the goal of having them appointed by the end of the month. CSSA will be holding an in-person plenary meeting at San Francisco State University next week, therefore, there will be no Board meeting held on January 24th. He attended a Solidarity and Equal Partnership Task Force meeting. The Executive Officers met on January 16th to review the final designs for the new ASI logo; these designs will be presented to the Board for approval on January 31st. He asked Board members to let him know if they are interested in assisting with the creation of the online suggestion box.

Executive Vice President: Mr. Rendon attended a Lobby Corps meeting this week. He met with Ms. Stone to discuss the Sundaes with Student Government event to be held on February 4th; he encouraged Board members to attend. Donuts with Diego will be held on February 25th. He congratulated Ms. McAlister on her new role as the Director of Internal Affairs at ASI.

Vice President of Finance: Ms. Hudson stated that today is the deadline for clubs to complete the CAB Canvas Course assignments.

Vice President of Palm Desert Campus: Ms. Lopez stated that the Board and Brunch Initiative was postponed to February 5th.

Dr. Oliverez left the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Executive Director: Dr. Rister stated that as of January 1st, the mileage reimbursement rate has increased from 67 cents to 70 cents per mile. The referendum letter has been submitted to the Chancellor's office. The spring semester budget is better than expected due to higher than anticipated enrollment numbers. At the Auxiliary Organizations Association (AOA) Conference, he attended the Voluntary Employees Benefits Association (VEBA) Board meeting and a session on the CSU Time, Place, Manner Policy.

OPEN FORUM:

Mr. P. Gonzalez expressed his appreciation for the opportunities provided by ASI and extended his well wishes to everyone. He will help promote the vacant College of Natural Sciences representative position to his peers.

OLD BUSINESS:

BD 107-24 M/S Rister/Hunsaker: Revision of the ASI Reimbursement Policy. (Second Reading)

President Fajardo deferred to Mr. H. Gonzalez who briefly reviewed the Reimbursement Policy.

Ms. Smith inquired if requiring documentation from students and staff to explain their absence from an ASI engagement had been discussed. Mr. H. Gonzalez replied that documentation was not addressed and is not a requirement in the policy.

Dr. Rister agreed with the idea of requesting documentation, however, he cautioned against specifying certain documents to avoid potential legal issues. He suggested consulting with a legal consultant or HR if such a requirement were to be added to the policy. He explained that a student with any accommodations from Services to Student Disabilities (SSD) may not be able to give documentation which would limit their involvement.

M/S Rister/Lopez: To amend the ASI Reimbursement Policy to state "documentation may be asked for human resources or legal purposes" under Subsection D. Passed unanimously.

Ms. Reigel stated that the policy lacks clear guidance on how to properly cancel before an event. Dr. Rister suggested that the policy specify a contact person to notify and outline an acceptable time frame for cancellations before an event.

M/S Rister/Rendon: To table BD 107-24 until the next Board meeting. Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

BD 01-25 M/S Rendon/Hunsaker: Appointment of Ayanna McAlister as Chair of the ASI Policy Committee.

Mr. Rendon deferred his time to Mr. H. Gonzalez who spoke in favor of Ms. McAlister.

Passed unanimously.

BD 02-25 M/S Rendon/Hunsaker: Appointment of Amanda Reigle as a Board of Director representative to the ASI Vacancy Committee.

Mr. Rendon spoke in favor of Ms. Reigle.

Passed unanimously.

BD 03-25 M/S Rendon/Lopez: Discussion on the Fall 2024 Semester Reflection and Goals for the Spring 2025 Semester.

Mr. Rendon encouraged the Board to reflect on the Fall 2024 semester and set goals for the Spring 2025 semester. President Fajardo emphasized the importance of aligning these goals with the STAND objectives.

Ms. Smith expressed her enthusiasm for continuing partnerships with local community colleges to strengthen connections, aligning with the Networking pillar of the STAND objectives. Mr. Rendon plans to meet with a student from the University of Redlands to explore potential collaboration opportunities.

Dr. Rister suggested reviewing completed STAND objectives and discussing how to address the remaining ones in a future meeting. He commended the initiative with the College of The Desert and recommended reaching out to local high school governments to start building connections.

Ms. Reigle would like to create a pilot feedback initiative for College of Arts and Letters students this semester.

Mr. Rendon offered to contact Dr. Velasquez, Student Government Advisor at La Quinta High School. He encouraged the Board to contact Ms. Stone if they would like to host events similar to Donuts with Diego.

Ms. Smith proposed creating a task force for each STAND goal and suggested increasing social media posts related to CSSA since students are unaware of the legislative actions taking place.

Ms. Babu stated that she is planning a tabling event with John Binkley, Associate Vice Provost and Dean of the College of Extended and Global Education to inform students about available resources.

Ms. Lopez mentioned her goal to interact more with students, particularly on social media. The Palm Desert Advisory Committee is currently working on a student survey and she plans to meet with the Career Center and Dr. Avi Rodriguez, Executive Director of Student Engagement and Completion to discuss the next steps based on the survey results.

Ms. Carrion-Fajardo observed a disconnect between clubs at both the San Bernardino and Palm Desert campuses. She met with the Patient Nursing Club to address this issue, aiming to apply similar solutions to other clubs.

Ms. O'Connell mentioned that she is working on encouraging athletes to connect with other on-campus entities.

Discussion closed.

Ms. Hunsaker left the meeting.

REPORTS:

Athletics: Ms. O'Connell is meeting with the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) to discuss selecting an ASI representative and finding a replacement for her role. She is organizing events in preparation for the Fall 2025 semester in order to help the new director transition smoothly. She asked the Board to let her know if they are interested in planning an event with Athletics.

Clubs and Organizations: Ms. Carrion-Fajardo emphasized her goal of strengthening the connection between the San Bernardino and Palm Desert campus clubs. Students have raised concerns about the sorority joining process, therefore, she aims to clarify that information for students. She congratulated Ms. McAlister on joining ASI.

External Affairs: Ms. Smith stated that Lobby Corps held its first informal meeting on January 15th. She will be attending the CSSA Plenary with President Fajardo next week. She attended the College of The Desert networking event. The College of The Desert is organizing a trip to Los Angeles on January 19th to support nonprofit organizations who are helping those impacted by the Los Angeles fires; anyone is welcome to join. She plans to continue networking with other community colleges.

Internal Affairs: Ms. McAlister has been collaborating with Howl Squad members. The first Howl Squad luncheon will be held next week; she encouraged Board members to attend. She is working with Mr. Rendon to plan a team bonding event for Howl Squad members at a basketball game. She would like to work with Ms. Carrion-Fajardo to promote the clubs on campus. She

spoke with Ms. Lorena Marquez, Director of Student Diversity & Belonging to discuss meeting and collaborating with the Affinity Centers.

Productions Manager: Mr. Padilla stated that PDC Hockey Night will be held on January 29th. They have been working with Ms. Lopez and Mr. Millan to plan the Board and Brunch event at PDC and are in the process of organizing events for the upcoming ASI Elections. Mr. Padilla has been collaborating with Mr. Rendon to plan the Sundaes with Student Government and Donuts with Diego events.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Stone stated that she and Mr. H. Gonzalez had a successful presentation at the AOA Conference in San Diego.

Mr. H. Gonzalez stated that he and Ms. Stone presented at the AOA Conference. He introduced Ms. McAlister and Ms. Villegas as the new Director of Internal Affairs and Sustainability Coordinator.

Mr. Rendon encouraged the Board to promote the vacant Board positions to students.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.



Diego Rendon
Executive Vice President