



SANTOS MANUEL STUDENT UNION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GENERAL MEETING

November 5, 2025 – 3:30pm
Student Union North, Student Chambers
Zoom: <https://csusb.zoom.us/j/85875529320>

MINUTES

Members Present: Vilayat Del Rossi, Jose Hernandez, Sukhpreet Kaur, Edgar Lopez, Jessica Lu, Jocelyn Paz, Cintiantl Rangel-Canseco, Diego Rendon, Kimberly Rosas, Matthew Smith, Robinpreet Waraich

Members Absent: Anjali, Sophia Garcia

Staff: Monica Baeza, Sasha Baltazar, Jasmine Bustillos, Jasmine Curtis, Jared Fisk, Elizabeth Junker, Sonia Martinez, Maria Elena Najera-Neri, Mario Orellana, Mark Oswood, Jennifer Puccinelli

Guest: Gregory Gondwe, Montgomery Van Wart

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:34 pm.

Roll Call: A verbal roll call for members was conducted. Quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes: M/S Paz/Rendon motion to approve SMSU Board of Directors meeting minutes from October 1, 2025.
Motion passed.

Reports:

Dr. Lorena Marquez gave a brief update on recent events. Marketing finalized and distributed a new social media and marketing handbook to SMSU and RecWell staff and is preparing for the ACUI Region I Conference. Operations announced the emergency hire of Joel Morales as AV and Event Operations Coordinator and is developing a golf cart safety training program. SMSU hosted 45 events in October, including Homecoming and Brick Blast 2025. Recreation and Wellness reported strong attendance in its October adventure programs and positive feedback on the updated fitness floor layout. The Palm Desert EOS partnership saw over 400 memberships and 2,000 visits last month. Vice Chair Paz noted increased student engagement with the Spirit Wall and raised concerns about access to SMSU spaces for campus groups with mixed memberships, suggesting a policy review. Executive Director Del Rossi shared

updates on strategic planning efforts, recognition programs, and upcoming conferences. He also noted the final NASPA review is expected to be shared in December. Student Services reported a successful Fall Fest event at the Palm Desert campus with over 400 attendees and highlighted new assessment-focused formatting in its report. Staff will also attend the NASPA Fall Regional Conference.

Open Forum:

During open forum, Dr. Montgomery Van Wart spoke during Open Forum to raise concerns about transparency surrounding a \$3 million transaction and the lack of formal acknowledgment of a recent housing audit and loan. He encouraged the Board to consider the ethical and public relations implications of their actions and to increase openness in communication. Board representatives responded by confirming that legal counsel is reviewing the matter and that a public discussion is anticipated through the Finance and Contracts Committee in the near future.

Adoption of Agenda: M/S Del Rossi/Paz; motion to amend November 5, 2025 agenda to move up SMSU 23/26 to the first item of business, and the remaining items to follow.
Motion passed.

M/S Rosas/Rangel-Canseco; motion to adopt agenda as amended.
Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

SMSU 23/26 Approval of SMSU South HVAC Upgrades, Budget Impact: \$201,200.00, Chartfield: 660876-RO001-S6110 (Action, Facilities and Sustainability Committee, Paz)

M/S Paz/Waraich; motion to open SMSU 23/26 Approval of SMSU South HVAC Upgrades, Budget Impact: \$201,200.00, Chartfield: 660876-RO001-S6110.

The Board reviewed a proposal to upgrade the aging and inefficient HVAC system in SMSU South as part of a broader refresh project, addressing temperature inconsistencies, high utility costs, and limited operational control. The proposed \$201,200 project, to be funded from reserves previously budgeted for repairs and replacements, includes upgrades to Air Handlers 2 and 6, the makeup air unit, and VAV systems. The work will be completed by the campus HVAC department, which will also maintain the system under an existing MOU. Board members raised questions about long-term accountability, vendor selection, and why bids weren't sought externally. It was noted that campus policies support using on-campus services when feasible, though improvements to bidding policy language are under consideration. After discussion, the item moved forward with a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 7 - In-Favor 1 - Opposed 2 – Abstention
Motion passed.

SMSU 20/26 CSUSB Recreation & Wellness: Inspection and Repair of Climbing Wall by EP Climbing, Budget Impact: \$5,108.75, Chartfield: 660876-RO001-S7100 (Action, Recreation and Wellness Committee, Rangel-Canseco)

M/S Rangel-Canseco/Rosas; motion to open SMSU 20/26 CSUSB Recreation & Wellness: Inspection and Repair of Climbing Wall by EP Climbing, Budget Impact: \$5,108.75, Chartfield: 660876-RO001-S7100.

The Board reviewed a proposal to approve a \$5,108.75 expenditure for EP Climbing (formerly Entre-Prises), the original manufacturer of the SRWC climbing wall, to conduct a full inspection, make necessary repairs, and provide recommendations for future modernization. While the wall was last inspected in August 2024 by Challenge Works, the vendor lacked specialized expertise in the wall's design. The current request includes inspecting and repairing damaged t-nuts, evaluating the wall's structural integrity, and providing a report with recommendations. Questions were raised about the necessity of using the original vendor, timing of the work (planned for January due to lower facility usage), and whether additional bids should be obtained. It was clarified that modernization is not currently planned but may be explored in the future based on cost and condition. The inspection would include equipment such as ropes and harnesses, and a certificate and report would be issued upon completion. The proposal was discussed in full, and the board prepared to move to a vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 2 – Abstention
Motion passed.

SMSU 21/26 Proposal to Create a Permanent Mind and Body Instructor Role at the Retreat, Budget Impact: \$5k annually. Increase budget line: 601303-RO001-S7187 (Action, Recreation and Wellness Committee, Rangel-Canseco)

M/S Rangel-Canseco/Waraich; motion to open motion to open SMSU 21/26 Proposal to Create a Permanent Mind and Body Instructor Role at the Retreat, Budget Impact: \$5k annually. Increase budget line: 601303-RO001-S7187.

M/S Rosas/Paz; motion to extend meeting time by 10 additional minutes, adjourning at 5:12pm.
Motion passed.

The Board reviewed a proposal to establish a student assistant position titled “Mind and Body Instructor” at the Retreat. The role would focus on facilitating wellness programming such as meditation, sound baths, and related services aimed at improving holistic student well-being. The position is intended to enhance in-house capacity, reduce reliance on outside contractors, and support inclusive, low-barrier wellness opportunities for students who may not use traditional fitness spaces. Discussion emphasized the importance of wellness services, cost-effectiveness, and the need to evaluate program impact. The position will be funded through the remainder of the current academic year (through May 2026) and for the upcoming academic year (August 2026 – May 2027), with an evaluation of effectiveness to be conducted during Fall 2026.

M/S Del Rossi/Rosas; motion to amend item SMSU 21/26 to read Proposal to Create a Temporary Mind and Body Instructor Role at the Retreat, for the remainder of this fiscal year and into next full academic year, approximately 19 months, through May 2027, Budget Impact: \$5k annually. Increase budget line: 601303-RO001-S7187.

Motion passed.

Vice Chair Paz asked clarifying question regarding the verbiage and expectations of review period.

M/S Del Rossi/Waraich; motion to amend the amended item SMSU 21/26 to read Proposal to Create a Temporary Mind and Body Instructor Role at the Retreat. The position will be funded through approximately 19 months which would be through end of May 2027, with an evaluation of effectiveness to be conducted during Fall 2026. Budget Impact: \$5k annually. Increase budget line: 601303-RO001-S7187.

Motion passed.

With no further discussion the item moved forward with a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 1 – Abstension

Motion passed.

M/S Rosas/Waraich; motion to table items SMSU 22/26 – SMSU 27/26 to the next meeting.

Motion passed.

Announcements

- Ms. Rosas invited board members to attend the Undocumented Student Success Center's 10th Anniversary event and silent auction at the Alumni Center.
- The SMSU Winter Gathering for paraprofessional staff will be held on December 2 from 11:00am to 1:00pm, featuring food, games, and giveaways.
- A retirement celebration for Tamara Holder will take place on November 21 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm in the Pub Garden.
- Some members of the board will attend upcoming conferences including ACUI Region I Conference and the Student Leadership Conference at CSU Los Angeles.
- Vice Chair Paz is participating in a panel for Latinas Rising Conference organized by Student Affairs. She requested attendees to please bring back materials and insights from the conference to share with the board.

M/S Paz/Kaur; motion to adjourn meeting at 5:11pm.

Respectfully reviewed & submitted by

Anjali, Secretary

Date