

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.**  
**California State University, San Bernardino**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MINUTES**

**MARCH 7, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Carson Fajardo at 10:27 a.m.

Present: Carson Fajardo, Diego Rendon, Autumn Hudson, Alondra Lopez, Megha Babu (Zoom), Dominic Bertolo, Jesus Ramirez-Castillo, Jeidi Carrion-Fajardo, Niamh Murphy-Gonzalez, Christian Gordo, Alaina O'Connell, Juan Sibrian (Zoom), Melis Yurdakul (Zoom), Ayanna McAlister, Ashley Smith, Kim Hunsaker and Dr. Michael Rister.

Absent: Amanda Reigle, Dr. Haakon Brown and Dr. Paz Oliverrez.

Guests: Marina Stone and Melissa Saldana.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The minutes of February 28<sup>th</sup> were approved.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

The agenda was adopted.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:**

*President:* President Fajardo attended the following meetings: Campus Dining Advisory Committee, Faculty Senate and the Chat GPT Steering Committee with Mr. Bertolo and Mr. Sibrian. He met with President Morales to talk about student activism and resources for undocumented students. He attended Instant Admit Day on March 6<sup>th</sup> with Mr. Rendon, Mr. Morales and Mr. Padilla.

*Executive Vice President:* Mr. Rendon reminded the Board to submit their monthly reports. He visited Alpha Phi and Kappa Sigma with Ms. Hudson, Ms. McAlister, Ms. Smith and President Fajardo to discuss how they can collaborate. He filmed a video for the CSUSB Virtual Tour. He met with Mr. Gonzalez and Ms. McAlister to plan the next steps for Howl Squad. He attended the SMSU Board of Directors meeting, the Lobby Corps meeting and Instant Admit Day with Mr. Rendon, Mr. Morales and Mr. Padilla. He will be attending CHESS in Sacramento this weekend.

*Vice President of Finance:* Ms. Hudson held a CAB Funding Workshop at the Palm Desert Campus (PDC) and at the San Bernardino Campus. She had a meeting with Pamela Moses, Organizational Change Facilitator and Kandy Liu, Executive Director of Audit & Advisory Services to discuss the CAB process as well as the feedback received. The Finance Committee has a meeting today at 1:00 p.m.

*Vice President of Palm Desert Campus:* Ms. Lopez was a panelist at the Instant Admit Day event at PDC. She had a meeting with PDC club officers to gather feedback on the CAB Canvas Course. A Wicked Movie Night was held at PDC.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

*Executive Director:* Dr. Rister stated that he and Ms. Hudson have completed their portion of the budget; they are now waiting for the cost allocation from the university to finalize the percentage breakdown. The referendum information has been posted on the website; marketing efforts will soon be posted on social media to further promote it. A meeting with Information Technology Services is scheduled to review how the referendum will appear on the electronic ballot.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **BD 21-25 M/S Lopez/Rendon: Discussion on dates for hosting a Board meeting at the Palm Desert Campus.**

Ms. Lopez discussed hosting another Board meeting at PDC on March 27<sup>th</sup> which will align with the Evergreen event. She acknowledged that the meeting would be held on a Thursday and that some members may have classes but encouraged attendance via Zoom if necessary. She sought further input to finalize whether the meeting could take place that day.

Mr. Bertolo asked if the meeting on Thursday would replace the usual meeting on Friday or if it would be in addition to it.

President Fajardo confirmed that the Thursday meeting would replace the Friday meeting. Additionally, he noted that this meeting would not count toward attendance absences but quorum would still need to be met.

Ms. Yurdakul shared her preference for holding the meeting on Friday since it aligns with the usual schedule and would allow her to attend. If the meeting was held on Thursday, she wouldn't be able to join the meeting or the event. She suggested that the meeting be held on Friday since everyone is already set for the usual meeting time.

Ms. Smith suggested using the suburban to transport those who can attend the event while still holding the usual Board meeting on Friday. She emphasized that people have already set aside time for Friday which would make it a potentially easier solution.

Mr. Rendon stated that he could attend all three potential meeting times but preferred Thursday. He emphasized the importance of attending the Evergreen event since he considers it one of the biggest events at PDC. He believes it would be a great opportunity for involvement within the PDC community.

After conducting an informal poll to determine who could attend either meeting time on March 27<sup>th</sup>, President Fajardo decided to keep the Friday meeting time as originally scheduled. He clarified that since this remains a regularly scheduled meeting it will still count as an absence for

anyone who cannot attend. He would arrange for Suburban transportation to the Evergreen event as well as drive his own vehicle; he asked the Board to let him know if they need a ride to the event.

Discussion closed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BD 22-25 M/S Rendon/Carrion-Fajardo: Discussion on establishing a College Club Council within each academic college in collaboration with the Board.**

Mr. Rendon discussed the STAND objective of establishing a College Club Council within each academic college. He encouraged Board members to share ideas and wanted to get further recommendations on how executive officers could assist.

President Fajardo provided additional context about the College Club Council initiative, emphasizing that it was a strategic objective developed the previous year. The goal is for Board members to connect more with clubs and student groups in their respective colleges while playing a facilitator role in campus life and student leadership. He encouraged the Board to share experiences, challenges and ideas on how to improve the collaboration between Board members and their college clubs.

Ms. Yurdakul stated that she successfully secured a meeting time with student leaders from the College of Business & Public Administration. She contacted the Student Engagement Coordinator, Amber Vargas and obtained the emails of club presidents and vice presidents to arrange the meeting. She received possible meeting dates from the Dean and confirmed that a meeting will take place in March. The meeting will focus on discussions where student leaders could network, provide feedback and voice concerns. She also mentioned that President Fajardo and Mr. Rendon plan to attend and encouraged other Board members to connect with students.

Ms. Carrion-Fajardo stated that she met with Dean Pantula from the College of Natural Sciences who tried to organize a similar initiative a few years ago but was faced with difficulties. She emphasized that STEM students often struggle with availability due to demanding lab schedules. Despite this, she noted that if students see value in the meetings they could make the necessary adjustments to prioritize them.

Mr. Rendon suggested that Ms. Yurdakul share the email she sent to the College of Business & Public Administration students with Board members to give them a clear idea of how to communicate and approach their own initiatives. He stated that fostering collaboration between clubs would allow them to work together, share ideas and strengthen their connections. He believes this would ultimately help students both personally and professionally by encouraging teamwork and collaboration.

Ms. Smith suggested that knowing when students are most present on campus could help in planning meetings and events. She mentioned that there are statistics regarding how many students are in various buildings at different times which could be useful for determining optimal

meeting times. She offered to find the link to this information and send it to the Board.

Mr. Gordo asked if there was a list available of all the clubs under the College of Natural Sciences.

Ms. Carrion-Fajardo recommended using Coyote Connection to find a list of clubs as it allows you to filter by categories such as academic, athletic or religious.

Ms. Hudson mentioned that while some clubs on Coyote Connection may be inactive she can provide a list of active clubs.

President Fajardo stated that Amber Vargas is another great resource as she oversees clubs in OSLE. Ms. Vargas has previously provided him with a detailed list of clubs within each academic college including their names and direct contact emails.

Discussion closed.

**BD 23-25 M/S Rendon/Lopez: Appointment of Melissa Saldana as a student-at-large representative to the ASI Board of Directors.**

Mr. Rendon spoke in favor of Ms. Saldana.

President Fajardo deferred to Ms. Saldana who shared why she believes she will be a good fit for the position.

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:

In Favor: Babu, Bertolo, Ramirez-Castillo, Carrion-Fajardo, Fajardo, Murphy-Gonzalez, Gordo, Hunsaker, Lopez, O'Connell, Rendon, Rister, Sibrian and Yurdakul.

Opposed: None.

Abstentions: Hudson.

Passed (14/0/1).

**REPORTS:**

*Athletics:* Ms. O'Connell stated that Sonoma State University recently cut its athletics program and San Francisco State University announced the elimination of three of its athletics programs. In response, an Ad-Hoc Committee has been established to address these issues; there is a sense of camaraderie among the schools despite the competition.

*College of Business & Public Administration:* Ms. Yurdakul attended the Riverside County Office of Education's "Leading with Competitive Edge" event. She scheduled a meeting with student leaders and Dean Tomas Gomez-Arias which will take place next week.

*College of Natural Sciences:* Mr. Gordo has organized a workshop that will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup> for PDC students who are interested in volunteering at Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs. He attended the You Go Girl event as well as Wicked Movie Night.

*Student-at-Large:* Mr. Sibrian attended the Chat GPT Steering Committee meeting, the renaming of the iHub which is now the Entrepreneurship Resource Center and the You Go Girl event. During the You Go Girl event he had an impromptu meeting with Ms. Lopez about promoting scholarships on campus. He met with students competing in the International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition to offer advice based on his own experience in the competition.

*External Affairs:* Ms. Smith will be attending CSSA and CHESS in Sacramento this weekend. One key issue they will be discussing at CHESS is the proposed 8% budget cuts to higher education funding. She will then return to Sacramento the following week to lobby alongside President Morales.

*Internal Affairs:* Ms. McAlister met with Mr. Gonzalez and Mr. Rendon to plan a scavenger hunt for Howl Squad members that will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup>. She has been meeting with students interested in joining Howl Squad for the Fall semester. She is currently gathering feedback on how to improve campus life from students at various Affinity Centers and on Coyote Walk. She attended the following: Women's History Month Mixer and Educational Poster Exhibit, Pioneer Breakfast and a Natural Hair Day event. She met with a new club called "Coyotes on Rotation". She visited UC Riverside (UCR) with Ms. Smith where they met with UCR's Director of External Affairs and attended their town hall.

*Programs:* Ms. Stone stated that a Wicked Movie Night was held at both San Bernardino and PDC campuses. They attended the Riverside County State of Education Address as well as the Pioneer Breakfast where ASI filmed scholarship recipients. They are now holding weekly or bi-weekly meetings to discuss referendum marketing strategies. The GLO Mini Golf Sponsorship is going well. The DSA Roadshow will be held on March 11<sup>th</sup> at PDC. The ASI Safety Walk will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup>. They're planning an ASI Bring a Friend movie night and will send out a poll to decide on the date and movie to be shown.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Hunsaker stated that the PDC Optometry Clinic was a success with 13 attendees; another clinic date will be scheduled soon. The next Optometry Clinic at the San Bernardino campus will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup> which is already fully booked, however, the following clinic will take place on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Hudson stated that the Pan-African Student Success Center will be hosting a leadership conference on March 15<sup>th</sup> featuring a keynote speaker and workshops. The Black Student Union will be hosting a Black Bazaar event on April 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. featuring off-campus Black vendors selling products along with performances and DJ sets.

Ms. Saldana stated that the Child Development Club will be holding a card making workshop on March 13<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The workshop will involve creating affirmation cards for hospitalized children which will be sent out nationwide.

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.



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Diego Rendon  
Executive Vice President