

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.
California State University, San Bernardino

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

OCTOBER 24, 2025

The meeting was called to order by the President, Diego Rendon at 1:01 p.m.

Present: Diego Rendon, Kimberly Rosas, Ayanna McAlister, Alondra Lopez, Jeidi Carrion-Fajardo (Zoom) (late), Beatriz Castellanos (late), Jennifer Cornejo (Zoom), Samantha Coronado, Joseph Gonzales, Melanie Radan (Zoom), Judah Rubin, Heather Sharp (Zoom), MD Yeasin (Zoom), Amira Shalabi, Ashley Smith, Kim Hunsaker (Zoom), Dr. Matthew Smith (late), Dr. Michael Rister and Dr. Paz Oliverez.

Absent: Juan Sibrian and Dr. Haakon Brown.

Guests: Herbert Gonzalez, Marina Stone, Alberto Fernandez, Gwendolyn Watson, Miguel Millan and Swikar Pokharel, Dr. Kevin Grisham, Elias Hernandez, Dr. Edna Martinez and Vilayat Del Rossi.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of October 10th were approved.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The agenda was adopted.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

President: President Rendon attended a Policies and Procedures Committee meeting, the Budget Open Forum, California State Student Association (CSSA) at East Bay and the Graduation Initiative (GI) Symposium which focused on building regional partnerships, student success and economic transformation. He will be tabling for Your Howl Matters and will attend a Space Planning Advisory Committee as well as the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) Student Advisory Council meeting. He will meet with Office of Student Leadership and Engagement (OSLE) representatives, Ms. McAlister, and Dr. Rister regarding the Club Allocation Budget (CAB); will have a 1:1 meeting with Dr. Oliverez and plans to meet with Chief Gutierrez to discuss the San Bernardino Campus Toy Drive.

Executive Vice President: Ms. Rosas attended the following meetings: Executive Committee, Facilities and Sustainability Committee, School Spirit, IT Governance Committee and Accessible Technology Services (ATI) Steering Committee. She also attended Homecoming and the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Fall Retreat on October 14th in place of President Rendon. She met with campus leaders to discuss increasing school spirit. She plans to introduce Howl Squad members to the Chairs of the committees they choose.

Vice President of Finance: Ms. McAlister stated that 460 students have applied to the Student Parking Permit Award. She attended the Black Mentors Matter Luncheon, Homecoming, Greek Night, a Budget Open Forum and a Howl Squad meeting.

Vice President of Palm Desert Campus: Ms. Lopez attended the PDC Graduate School Fair and an Activities Committee meeting. She had a 1:1 meeting with Dr. Martinez and met with Dr. Rodriguez where they discussed promoting the Undocumented Student Success Center to PDC students. Cody's Closet will open next semester. Chick-fil-A will sell food at PDC each week. The 61st Annual Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade will be held this weekend. Mr. Leon stated that they will hold informational webinars on October 30th and November 3rd. She will attend the Hospitality Finance & Technology Professionals (HFTP) Gala next Wednesday along with the Rancho Mirage Student Center (RMSC) staff.

Ms. Carrion-Fajardo joined the meeting.

Dr. Smith joined the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Executive Director: Dr. Rister stated that current expenditures from July 1st to date total just under \$600,000.00, which is consistent with the same period in the previous fiscal year and indicates that spending remains on course. He stated that \$68,500.00 has been transferred to the Office of Student Research (OSR) to support student travel, conference participation, presentations, and laboratory resources. Approximately \$145,000.00 remains in Unallocated, which represents a continuous rollover of unused funds from previous years. The Alliant insurance coverage has remained consistent, however, some costs have increased. He attended an Auxiliary Organizations Association (AOA) Executive Committee meeting, the second session of the Student Success Showcase and the Campus Budget Open Forum. He met with Dr. Gamble, Director of the Office of Black Student Success (OBSS) to explore collaborative opportunities with ASI focused on STAND objectives.

OPEN FORUM:

Mr. Del Rossi stated the EōS Fitness partnership is a success; there are currently 450 memberships and over 2,000 visits per month.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Ms. Castellanos arrived at the meeting.

Dr. Grisham, Faculty Advisor, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Fellows Program briefly introduced himself. He gave a brief presentation on the development and core values of the program, how students can become Fellows and how it benefits students as well as the Coachella Valley. The program's core values are civic engagement, ethical decision-making and bipartisan cooperation; there are currently 27 members. Students must accrue 10 points to become Fellows and maintain a minimum of 7 points each following semester.

Dr. Martinez, Associate Vice President of PDC briefly introduced herself. The Fall 2025 semester is the largest freshman cohort. Compared to Fall 2024, first-time freshmen enrollment has increased nineteen percent and transfer enrollment has increased 30 percent. The Palm Desert Student Success Center broke ground in May. Dr. Brandon Gamble, Director of the Black Student Success Center held an event earlier that day. Thirteen percent of the previous graduating classes are in graduate school; PDC held their first Graduate School Fair yesterday. Eighty-two percent of students at the Palm Desert campus plan to pursue graduate school. The first PDC team will attend the Model United Nations for the Canada delegation. They are working with University Enterprises Corporation (UEC) to resolve issues with the Chick-fil-a services. They met with Jason Espinoza, Executive Director of UEC to discuss affordable merchandise and an increase in the amount of graduation regalia at the PDC Coyote Bookstore. She attended Fall Fest, the Dia de Los Muertos event and the PDC Graduate School Fair. The Cave at PDC now has television monitors and will be receiving new furniture. PDC was included in nine Vital and Expanded Technologies Initiative (VETI) grants in the past year; this is used to increase retention rates among students. PDC is working with community colleges, especially College of the Desert to build trust with students. A research showcase is scheduled for November 20th. PDC has a new livescan machine that is in the process of being installed. They will meet with a local hotel to discuss obtaining more housing for students. The fire station being built should be completed by the end of the year. PDC now has a seat on the IT Governance committee.

Dr. Rister inquired where further support is needed and how ASI could assist. Dr. Martinez stated that ASI can continue showing support by being present and advocating for PDC.

Dr. Martinez stated that PDC now has a seat on the IT Governance committee.

Mr. Hernandez, who has worked with College Corps for three years, briefly introduced himself and the program. He is requesting support to spread information about the program to PDC students. The program provides professional development opportunities and various resources, however, it requires a commitment of 10 to 15 hours a week. Students who participate may receive up to \$10,000.00 in living allowances and a possible \$3,000.00 educational award. They are working with the Coachella Valley, Desert Sands and Palm Springs Unified school districts.

President Rendon passed the gavel to Ms. Rosas.

NEW BUSINESS:

BD 98-25 M/S Rendon/Coronado: Discussion on STAND Development: Campus Wellness Initiative.

President Rendon met with Mr. Del Rossi, Ms. Sorenson and Ms. Smith who provided estimates regarding changes to the exterior campus. Each outdoor bench may cost either \$2,850.00 or \$3,250.00. The two tennis courts constructed in 2023 cost \$104,000.00. There is a total of 12 courts on campus and two have been abandoned. It will cost \$43,000.00 for a new volleyball sand court.

Dr. Rister stated that abiding by union labor laws as well as the majority of the items being commercial grade dramatically increases the prices. The campus does not have many locations designated for outdoor activities; investing in them may revitalize them.

Ms. Lopez inquired whether ASI would partner with other departments. President Rendon replied that the goal is to have campus partners. Before reaching out to other departments, he plans to meet with Ms. Sorenson for further information and confirm whether the Board agrees with this initiative.

President Rendon stated that there are little to no lights on the courts, therefore, a memorandum would need to be issued in order to have new lights installed since they would be state property.

Ms. Smith expressed concern regarding the areas not being used after investing in them and suggested that ASI focus on the reopenings to encourage their usage. Dr. Rister explained that there was a similar concern when the Recreation and Wellness Center was constructed, however, students began accommodating their paths to visit the center. He emphasized that students will likely participate if they are properly informed.

Ms. Lopez suggested creating a survey, holding a fundraiser or tabling to gauge student interest. President Rendon stated replied that he and other Recreation and Wellness Committee members made a survey regarding the topic. Approximately 60 students responded and expressed interest in more activities. Data will be collected, however, he wants to confirm interest from the Board before conducting surveys. He was advised by Dr. Oliverez to reach out to Mr. Raymond Watts regarding Giving Tuesday.

Dr. Rister deferred to Mr. Del Rossi who stated that the Santos Manuel Student Union (SMSU) is willing to partner in this initiative. It is important to consider the popularity of sports. There are six abandoned racquetball courts that were installed forty years ago due to its popularity. It is important to consider what students would like to re-purpose and modify the courts accordingly.

Ms. Castellanos inquired into the total cost and how much of the budget would be used. Dr. Rister replied that ASI would only help fund the process, however, it would be the responsibility of the state-side to complete the bidding process. This is similar to when ASI helped fund the leadership ropes course, clock tower and eSports area. The Board could decide whether it is a one-time funding or an ongoing donation.

Mr. Rubin inquired into the cost of adding lights. President Rendon will obtain that information.

Dr. Oliverez stated that once the Facilities Planning & Management department provides an estimate for the entire project, priorities could be established.

President Rendon stated that this may not be completed soon, however, it is important to initiate the process.

Discussion closed.

BD 99-25 M/S Coronado/Rubin: California State Student Association (CSSA) October report and updates.

President Rendon stated that all students currently pay a \$2.00 Student Involvement & Representation Fee (SIRF). The CSSA Finance Committee discussed how to receive additional funding due to the 40% increase in inflation since SIRF was introduced.

Ms. Cornejo left the meeting.

Ms. Smith stated it was discussed how they could better connect with their legislators during such a crucial time. Since they're currently not in Sacramento but in their actual districts, it provides opportunities for us to interact with them, whether it's our congressman, senator or assembly member. She has reached out to multiple legislators to set up meetings where she will discuss how CSSA and CSUSB students can be given more of a presence instead of just during Lobby Day each year. The CSSA Legislative Affairs Committee discussed the ethics, financial implications, and student perspectives on the use of AI. There is still confusion regarding the \$18,000,000.00 contract with OpenAI. The 2025-2026 Policy Agenda was approved by the CSSA Board of Directors; she briefly reviewed the priorities listed on the agenda.

Dr. Oliverez left the meeting.

M/S Rister/Rendon: To extend the meeting by 15 minutes. Passed unanimously.


Dr. Oliverez returned to the meeting.

Discussion closed.

Ms. Rosas passed the gavel back to President Rendon.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Rosas". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Kimberly Rosas
Executive Vice President