



**SANTOS MANUEL STUDENT UNION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GENERAL MEETING**

April 8, 2026 – 2:00pm
Student Union North, Student Chambers
Zoom: <https://csusb.zoom.us/j/85875529320>

MINUTES

- Members Present:** Anjali, Vilayat Del Rossi, Sophia Garcia, Jose Hernandez, Sukhpreet Kaur, Edgar Lopez, Jessica Lu, Jocelyn Paz, Diego Rendon, Kimberly Rosas, Robinpreet Waraich
- Members Absent:** Dr. Matthew Smith
- Staff:** Monica Baeza, Sasha Baltazar, Jasmine Bustillos, Jasmine Curtis, Josie Delgado, Juan Torres, Matthew Jenkins, Elizabeth Junker, Sean Kinnally, Sonia Martinez, Maria Elena Najera-Neri, Mario Orellana, Mark Oswood, Jennifer Puccinelli, Anthony Roberson, Katie Wallen
- Guest:** No guests present.
- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:12pm.
- Roll Call:** A verbal roll call for members was conducted. Quorum was met.
- Approval of Minutes:** M/S Del Rossi/Rendon motion to approve SMSU Board of Directors meeting minutes from March 4th, 2026.
Motion passed.

Reports:

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Vilayat shared updates on JEDI initiatives, highlighting that April is APIDA Heritage Month and Arab American Heritage Month, with multiple events available for students to attend. He also announced upcoming cultural graduation celebrations hosted by SMSU in early May, including

Native, Lavender, and APIDA graduations, with additional cultural grads supported by campus partners.

Operations

Anthony provided an update on the SMSU South HVAC project, currently in Phase 2, with ongoing bi-weekly coordination meetings. He also shared progress on the atrium renovation project in collaboration with Tangram Interiors. Additionally, he clarified bowling availability, highlighting expanded free bowling hours for students and strong participation levels. Finally, he reported that several esports teams have advanced to the NECC playoffs, with potential qualifications for national competitions.

SMSU Executive Director

Vilayat reported progress in strategic planning, with the final committee meeting approaching and upcoming action items expected at the next board meeting. He noted ongoing work by the Audit Committee, upcoming staff performance evaluations, and efforts to improve SMSU's website to enhance accessibility and user experience.

Student Services

Monica reported successful Student Services programming, including a well-attended casino night hosted by Program Board with approximately 160 students, featuring games and a responsible gambling education component. She also highlighted the Evergreen event at Palm Desert Campus, which drew about 250 attendees and included rides, entertainment, and interactive activities. Additionally, she recognized staff members Sasha and Katie for completing the DSA Student Affairs Academy, earning course credit toward their graduate programs.

Open Forum: No public comments.

Adoption of Agenda: M/S Del Rossi/Rosas motion to amend item SMSU 55/26 to read RAMS as #1 and Baker Tilly as #2 with the associated expectations captured in the Audit Committee March 24th meeting minutes (Informational, Audit Committee, Paz)
Motion passed.

M/S Anjali/Waraich motion to adopt agenda as amended.
Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

SMSU 54/26 **Student Recreation & Wellness Center (SRWC) TRX Storage Bay by Opti-Fit, Fiscal Impact Not to Exceed: \$15, 156.27, Chartfield: 660876-RO001-S7140 (Action, Recreation and Wellness Committee, Sanchez)**

M/S Rendon/Waraich; motion to open SMSU 54/26 Student Recreation & Wellness Center (SRWC) TRX Storage Bay by Opti-Fit, Fiscal Impact Not to Exceed: \$15, 156.27, Chartfield: 660876-RO001-S7140.

Sean Kinnally presented a proposal to install a TRX storage bay on the RecWell fitness floor to improve organization, safety, and accessibility by relocating equipment currently stored under the stairs. The three-bay unit was recommended as the best option to meet storage needs, reduce tripping hazards, and enhance visibility and use of equipment, while also supporting future TRX programming. Discussion included clarification on placement, functionality, and vendor selection, with concerns raised about the need for more diverse vendor quotes for transparency. Staff acknowledged this and provided additional pricing context to demonstrate due diligence. Overall, the proposal was supported as a long-term investment to improve facility safety and user experience. With no further discussion the board moved forward with a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote: 9 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 1 - Abstention
Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

SMSU 55/26 Recommend RAMS as #1 and Baker Tilly as #2 with the associated expectations captured in the Audit Committee March 24th meeting minutes (Informational, Audit Committee, Paz)

M/S Del Rossi/Anjali; motion to open SMSU 55/26 Recommend RAMS as #1 and Baker Tilly as #2 with the associated expectations captured in the Audit Committee March 24th meeting minutes.

Vilayat Del Rossi reported on the multi-auxiliary RFP process to select a new audit firm, noting that the Audit Committee reviewed proposals from four firms and identified RAMS and Baker Tilly as the top two candidates. While RAMS was the committee's preferred choice due to its local presence and overall value, Baker Tilly, a larger, national firm with extensive CSU experience, was ultimately selected at the campus level. The committee established expectations for the selected firm, including consistent communication, inclusion of auxiliary leadership in audit processes, and negotiation of lower fees. Del Rossi added that SMSU will monitor the firm's performance during the first year and reserves the right to reassess the engagement if expectations are not met.

SMSU 56/26 Review and Approval of 2nd Reading of the Santos Manuel Student Union and Recreation and Wellness Center for 26-27 Fiscal Year Budget with Corrections Identified at March 25th Board Meeting (Action, Finance and Contracts Committee, Garcia)

M/S Garcia/Kaur; motion to open SMSU 56/26 Review and Approval of 2nd Reading of the Santos Manuel Student Union and Recreation and Wellness Center for 26-27 Fiscal Year Budget with Corrections Identified at March 25th Board Meeting.

Sophia Garcia presented the second reading of the FY 2026–27 SMSU and RecWell budget for final approval, noting that feedback from the first reading had been incorporated. Vilayat Del Rossi highlighted that changes were largely minor and non-material, including adjustments that resulted in a flat budget year-over-year rather than a slight decrease. He provided additional context on a significant increase in fee waivers due to growth in high school dual enrollment, adjustments to the debt service coverage ratio to increase available operating funds, and the addition of new personnel support including an esports graduate assistant and a shared services support position. The updated budget also now includes a schedule of university-held reserves for greater transparency. With no further discussion, the board proceeded to a roll call vote for approval.

Roll Call Vote: 9 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 1 - Abstention
Motion passed.

SMSU 57/26 1st Reading of SMSU Bylaws Amendments Proposal (Discussion, Policies and Procedures Committee, Anjali)

M/S Anjali/Kaur; motion to open SMSU 57/26 1st Reading of SMSU Bylaws Amendments Proposal.

Anjali presented the first phase of proposed bylaw amendments, explaining that the review focuses on compliance updates and operational clarity, since the bylaws were last revised in 2021. Vilayat Del Rossi added that the draft incorporates both legal/compliance requirements and some board-requested changes, while reserving more substantive structural revisions for a second phase in the fall. Key proposed updates include removing the Executive Director as a voting member, designating a Palm Desert Campus student representative, clarifying Executive Committee authority and limitations, allowing board meetings at Palm Desert Campus, updating open meeting and remote participation language, strengthening audit committee independence, and improving overall formatting and readability. Board members raised questions and suggestions regarding tie votes with an even number of voting members, clearer language around the leadership scholarship, written notice for resignations due to absences, more explicit voting procedures, page numbers, committee membership requirements, vacancy processes, and stronger attendance expectations. Interim Executive Director Del Rossi agreed to revise the draft based on this feedback, obtain legal review, and bring the bylaws back at the next meeting for second reading and possible action.

SMSU 58/26 Review and Approval of Bidding Policy Revisions (Action, Policies and Procedures Committee, Anjali)

M/S Anjali/Rendon; motion to open SMSU 58/26 Review and Approval of Bidding Policy Revisions.

Vilayat Del Rossi presented proposed revisions to the SMSU bidding policy as part of a broader effort to separate and update financial policies, particularly those involving higher operational and compliance risk. He explained that the revisions align SMSU more closely with updated CSU procurement thresholds and clarify how bidding requirements apply when campus procurement processes are used. Edgar Lopez raised concerns about lowering documentation standards for purchases under \$10,000 and requested clearer definitions for terms such as informal competitive solicitation, formal competitive solicitation, and document selection. Del Rossi agreed that additional clarification would strengthen the policy and suggested tabling the item so revisions could be made and brought back alongside the related procurement and contracting policy for a more complete review.

M/S Rendon/Anjali; motion to table item SMSU 58/26 Review and Approval of Bidding Policy Revisions
Motion passed.

Announcements

- Ms. Junker will likely reschedule the upcoming Board of Directors meeting from April 22nd to April 29th due to 6 board members attending HACU Capitol Forum in Washington.

M/S Anjali/Kaur; motion to adjourn meeting at 4:03pm.

Respectfully reviewed & submitted by

Anjali, Secretary

Date