

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 11, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Carson Fajardo at 10:03 a.m.

Present: Carson Fajardo, Diego Rendon, Alondra Lopez (Zoom), Aden Benson (Zoom), Valeria Bueno (Zoom), James Chalk, Jeidi Carrion-Fajardo, Pedro Gonzalez, Brianna Lozano, Tendulkar Mahadevan, Juan Sibrian (Zoom), Melis Yurdakul (Zoom), Kim Hunsaker, Dr. Michael Rister and Dr. Paz Oliverrez (Zoom).

Absent: Megha Babu, Autumn Hudson, Alaina O'Connell, Dr. Haakon Brown and Ashley Smith.

Guests: Marina Stone, Juan Padilla, Marco Antonio Jimenez, Miguel Millan, Ayanna McAllister, Allie Hunter, Dr. Cary Barber, Dr. Rafik Mohamed and Dr. Bradford Owen.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The minutes of October 4<sup>th</sup> were approved.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

The agenda was adopted.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:**

*President:* President Fajardo attended a Juneteenth Symposium on October 4<sup>th</sup>. He attended a women's volleyball practice to film an informational video. He attended the Campus Dining Advisory Committee meeting, the 2024 California College Civic and Voter Empowerment Summit and the Palm Desert Campus (PDC) Fall Fest.

*Executive Vice President:* Mr. Rendon met 1:1 with Mr. Chalk, Mr. P. Gonzalez and Dr. Powell. He plans to meet with Mr. H. Gonzalez to discuss holding monthly meetings with Howl Squad members. He attended the Sustainability Committee meeting, the Division of Student Affairs Town Hall and the PDC Fall Fest this week.

*Vice President of Palm Desert Campus:* Ms. Lopez met with Dr. Rister, Mrs. Bueno and Mr. Sibrian to discuss holding a meet and greet event for the Board at PDC. She is finalizing the agenda for the PDC Advisory Committee. She helped the Career Center film a video for the upcoming Coyote Closet event. She attended PDC Fall Fest on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Oliverrez arrived at the meeting.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

*Executive Director:* Dr. Rister attended the Division of Student Affairs Town Hall. ASI was granted \$863,960 for the fall semester enrollment and has currently spent \$367,710.

**OPEN FORUM:**

Ms. Hunter attended the ITS Tech Talks Conference that was held on October 9<sup>th</sup>. During the event, a student mentioned that they were unaware of the technology resources available at CSUSB such as the option to borrow a laptop or iPad.

Mr. Mahadevan arrived at the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

President Fajardo passed the gavel to Mr. Rendon.

**BD 81-24 M/S Rister/Chalk: Discussion on the extension of Coyote Day One Textbook Access (CDOTA) pilot program for Spring 2025.**

Dr. Rister deferred to Dr. Mohamed who stated that the main goal of the program is to support students by providing affordable and timely access to instructional materials. He emphasized that CSUSB does not benefit financially from the program which is designed solely to enhance student success and reduce costs.

Dr. Barber and Dr. Owen gave a presentation on the feedback and results they have received regarding the program.

Mrs. Bueno stated that she personally chose not to participate in the program because she preferred physical textbooks, however, this option was not available. She was informed by the bookstore that there were no physical copies being ordered due to the program.

Mr. Sibrian is concerned that many students may not be aware of the charges deducted from their fees which could result in financial losses without any benefit. He suggested shifting to an opt-in system rather than an opt-out since this would allow students who genuinely benefit from the program to choose participation.

Ms. Lopez stated that students faced difficulties launching the program and professors reported issues, including a disconnect between exams, homework, and course materials which negatively affected student performance. She recommends switching to an opt-in system as students have expressed a preference for that approach.

Ms. Lozano stated that the program would be more beneficial if students could opt in or out of specific textbooks rather than having an all-or-nothing approach. She argued against continuing the program in its current form for another semester since it has caused unnecessary confusion and stress for the majority of students.

President Fajardo stated that he would like to see evidence showing that students who remained in the program achieved better grades. He suggested having the program placed on the ASI election ballot in 2025 for a yes or no vote.

Dr. Owen stated that the initial request for only a Fall pilot was a mistake as more information is needed to assess the program's effectiveness. He recommends extending the pilot to a full year to gather comprehensive data. He mentioned that participation rates at other campuses with similar programs tend to improve over time.

Dr. Rister stated that a significant number of students seem opposed to the program despite the conflicting data provided. He recommended placing a question about the program on the ASI election ballot to collect feedback that will provide valuable insights for deciding the program's future.

Dr. Owen stated that by looking at the grade data they will see if there are correlations around participation in the program that may support academic success.

M/S Fajardo/Chalk: To close discussion. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Rendon passed the gavel back to President Fajardo.

Ms. Carrion-Fajardo left the meeting.

**BD 82-24 M/S Chalk/Sibrian: Discussion on creating an online portal for CSUSB students to submit their recommendations and concerns. This portal will serve as a platform for students to voice their feedback on various aspects of university life, including campus services, academic resources, events, and student government action.**

Mr. Sibrian stated that a student at large representative for the PDC Advisory Committee, Ms. Morales mentioned that there was an online suggestion box where students could submit their ideas at any time. He inquired about the feasibility of implementing a similar idea for the Board and whether it should be posted on the ASI website or through the student portal.

Ms. Lopez believes that allowing students from both campuses to anonymously submit their concerns for review by the Board would be a great idea, as it would prevent them from feeling intimidated. She suggested that this be implemented through the ASI website.

Mr. Chalk suggested also implementing a physical drop box at the ASI office.

Mrs. Bueno stated that having both a virtual and physical drop box, along with possibly introducing a QR code, is a great idea. She proposed providing students with the choice to either include or exclude their information if they wish to be contacted regarding their submission.

Mr. Rendon recommended having students include their Coyote ID to ensure the concerns are from students.

President Fajardo mentioned that ASI at San Diego State has a similar initiative called "Your Voice Matters" which involves a Google form where students can share their concerns along with their email for follow-up, if they choose.

Ms. Lopez recommended having the Coyote ID be optional since some students might feel intimidated or hesitant to share their genuine concerns.

Dr. Rister mentioned the possibility of collaborating with IT to ensure that students are still required to verify their status in order to access the form while also allowing them to stay anonymous if they prefer.

Mr. Gonzalez suggested including a reference to the Coyote Chat Box on the form to help students locate a resource for more general questions.

Mr. Chalk recommended including how often the forms will be checked.

M/S Chalk/Hunsaker: To close discussion. Passed unanimously.

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

**BD 83-24 M/S Rister/Hunsaker: Permission to transfer \$4,670.00 from Palm Desert Campus – Programs and Publicity (660901 RN001 A6000) to Palm Desert Campus – Development (660835 RN001 A6000) for a student staff to attend the Adobe Max conference in Miami Beach from October 14th – 16th.**

Dr. Rister deferred to Ms. Stone who stated that the conference is about graphic design and social media marketing.

Mr. Millan gave a presentation explaining how the conference would be beneficial for ASI student employees.

Ms. Stone clarified that the presentation for the current item also applies to the next agenda item. She stated that the Finance Committee suggested that students attending the conference should create a presentation on the skills and knowledge gained for future student staff.

Mrs. Bueno inquired whether the conference would be impacted by the hurricane and if this conference would exceed the budget. Ms. Stone replied that she has been monitoring the storm and if they depart from LAX instead of Ontario and make a few other adjustments, they will be within budget.

Mrs. Bueno asked when they would be leaving for the conference and whether they would be able to attend the entire duration of the conference. Ms. Stone replied that the departure time for their flight is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on October 13<sup>th</sup> with an anticipated arrival in Miami around 5:30 p.m. Upon arrival, they will attend the conference starting at 8:00 a.m. on October 14<sup>th</sup> and will be present for the entire duration of the conference. The return flight is scheduled

around 5:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. on October 16<sup>th</sup> with an anticipated arrival in California around 10:00 p.m.

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:

In Favor: Benson, Bueno, Chalk, Fajardo, Gonzalez, Hunsaker, Lopez, Lozano, Mahadevan, Oliverez, Rendon, Sibrian and Yurdakul.

Opposed: None.

Abstentions: Rister.

Passed (13/0/1).

**BD 84-24 M/S Rister/Hunsaker: Permission to transfer \$4,670.00 from Activities Committee – Special Events (660900 RN001 A5100) to Graphic Design – Development (660835 RN001 A4140) for a student staff to attend the Adobe Max conference in Miami Beach from October 14th – 16th.**

Dr. Rister stated that the previous discussion applies to this agenda item as well; they were not combined since they are different accounts.

Mr. Benson left the meeting.

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:

In Favor: Bueno, Chalk, Fajardo, Gonzalez, Hunsaker, Lopez, Lozano, Mahadevan, Oliverez, Rendon, Sibrian and Yurdakul.

Opposed: None.

Abstentions: Rister.

Passed (12/0/1).

## **REPORTS:**

*College of Business & Public Administration:* Ms. Yurdakul attended the Graduate Council meeting. She was chosen to be a Master of Business Administration Student Ambassador. She is planning an event with Ms. Carrion-Fajardo.

*Housing:* Ms. Lozano met with the affinity centers on campus to discuss the possibility of collaboration.

*College of Natural Sciences:* Mr. Gonzalez attended the ITS Tech Talks Conference as well as the Karaoke con Mariachi event.

*Student-at-Large:* Mr. Sibrian attended the PDC Soccer Club meeting. He met with Ms. Lopez, Mrs. Bueno and Dr. Rister to discuss the Board and Brunch Initiative event. He attended the Coachella Valley Trailblazers event. He met with Dr. Oliverez and President Fajardo to discuss the possibility of transportation for PDC students to attend the soccer games at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

*Students with Disabilities:* Mrs. Bueno stated that she's collaborating with Dr. Lori Palmerton and Ms. Lozano to create a video about accommodations on campus.

*President's Representative:* Dr. Oliverez stated that she will be working with Mr. Sibrian to arrange transportation for PDC students interested in attending the soccer games at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

M/S Lopez/Hunsaker: To extend the meeting by five minutes. Passed unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Stone stated that Wicked Nights will be held on October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Hunsaker stated that the Student Health Center is holding the following events: Flu Clinic on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at SMSU South, Halloween Health Clinic on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Alumni Center and Flu Clinic on October 30<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Coyote Village Multi-Purpose Room.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.



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Diego Rendon  
Executive Vice President