

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.
California State University, San Bernardino

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

OCTOBER 18, 2024

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

Present: Carson Fajardo, Diego Rendon, Autumn Hudson, Megha Babu, Aden Benson (Zoom), Valeria Bueno (Zoom), James Chalk, Jeidi Carrion-Fajardo (Zoom), Brianna Lozano (Zoom), Alaina O'Connell, Melis Yurdakul (Zoom), Ashley Smith, Dr. Haakon Brown (Zoom), Dr. Michael Rister and Dr. Paz Oliverez (Zoom).

Absent: Alondra Lopez, Pedro Gonzalez, Tendulkar Mahadevan, Juan Sibrian and Kim Hunsaker.

Guests: Herbert Gonzalez, Marina Stone, Juan Padilla, Allie Hunter, Dr. Bradford Owen, Dr. Cary Barber and Kathleen Hayes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

President Fajardo mentioned there are no minutes to approve this week. Last week's minutes will be approved at next week's meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The agenda was adopted.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

President: President Fajardo attended the following meetings: Campus Fee Advisory Committee, IT Governance Executive Committee and PDC Advisory Committee. He had a meeting with members of the Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) Committee and met with Mrs. Bueno, Dr. Rister and Services to Students with Disabilities (SSD) to discuss the possibility of an SSD awareness event. He also met with Rebecca Lubas, Dean of the Library. He will be attending the CSSA Plenary in Monterey Bay this weekend. He attended the soccer game at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

Executive Vice President: Mr. Rendon met with Ms. Babu, Mr. Mahadevan and Ms. Yurdakul. He worked with Mr. H. Gonzalez to finalize the agenda for the upcoming Howl Squad meeting on October 28th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Vacancy Committee will meet on October 25th. A College of Arts and Letters interview will be held today. He attended the soccer game at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

Vice President of Finance: Ms. Hudson stated that around 80 clubs are enrolled in the CAB Canvas course. She is holding a Finance Committee meeting today.

Vice President of Palm Desert Campus: Mr. Rendon reported on behalf of Ms. Lopez. Ms. Lopez attended the Campus Fee Advisory Committee meeting and the Alternative Transportation Committee meeting this week. She attended an event for La Ultima Y Nos Vamos on October 15th from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. She held a Palm Desert Campus (PDC) Advisory Committee meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Executive Director: Dr. Rister stated that Faculty and Staff were informed via email by Parking and Transportation Services that digital parking passes will be implemented starting January 1st. Transfer Orientations and First Year Orientations will be held soon. He met with Mrs. Bueno, President Fajardo and Services to Students with Disabilities (SSD) to discuss the possibility of an SSD awareness event. He has a meeting with the IRA Board on October 25th. Trash Talk and Walk as well as Wicked Nights were held this week.

OPEN FORUM:

Ms. Hunter attended the Trash Talk and Walk event on October 15th. She has an interview today for the College of Arts and Letters position. The Theatre Arts department is confused about what ASI does and how it serves the students.

NEW BUSINESS:

BD 85-24 M/S Yurdakul/Hudson: Discussion on hosting a Board meeting at the Palm Desert Campus on Friday, November 8th.

M/S Rendon/Hudson: To table BD 85-24 until next week's meeting. Passed unanimously.

President Fajardo passed the gavel to Mr. Rendon.

BD 86-24 M/S Fajardo/Brown: Appointment of Alaina O'Connell as a Board of Director representative to the ASI Ad-Hoc Student Referendum Committee.

President Fajardo spoke in favor of Ms. O'Connell.

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:

In Favor: Babu, Benson, Brown, Bueno, Chalk, Carrion-Fajardo, Hudson, Lozano, Rendon, Rister and Yurdakul.

Opposed: None.

Abstentions: Fajardo.

Passed (11/0/1).

Dr. Oliverez arrived at the meeting.

Ms. O'Connell arrived at the meeting.

BD 87-24 M/S Rister/Yurdakul: Approval for ASI to support the extension of Coyote Day One Textbook Access (CDOTA) pilot program for Spring 2025.

Dr. Rister deferred to Dr. Owen who stated that this request is based on the data from students who participated in CDOTA. According to the survey, over two-thirds of participants had a positive experience with the program. Kathleen Hayes, Follet Senior Vice President for Access Programs, was asked to address the numerous issues and delays caused to students and faculty during the rollout.

Ms. Hayes expressed regret on behalf of Follet for the mistakes made when implementing the program. To address these issues, Follet intends to discontinue the new technology that caused problems and revert to providing course materials through direct integrations. In addition to refunding affected students, Follet also plans to reduce the credit hour fee from \$21.50 to \$20.50 for all students, effective for the spring semester. Follet also aims to remove the Willow technology from the learning management system and return to traditional course pairings using the Red Shelf app. The goal is to relaunch the program and improve communication regarding the opt-out process as well as to inform students and faculty about the discounted price.

Dr. Brown expressed his opposition to the continuation of the pilot test program for several reasons; the survey data showed that faculty overwhelmingly opposed the program. He emphasized the need for more concrete data. The Marketing 3050 course had been successfully running for years under the inclusive access program with a negotiated fee of \$60 per semester with McGraw Hill. However, the CDOTA fee of \$21.50 per unit increased the cost for students. He was disappointed by the lack of information on the consequences of opting out of the CDOTA program. Students who opted out had to renegotiate with McGraw Hill and the price increased to \$160 for the semester. Although McGraw Hill eventually lowered the price, they were limited by the CDOTA price. Students enrolled in CDOTA paid more than the initial cost under the inclusive access program, while those who chose to opt out paid a higher cost at \$70 per semester. In both cases, students paid more than they would have under the inclusive access program. He emphasized the need for data on course material fees for the 2023-2024 academic year and how those fees compared to this semester with the CDOTA program implemented.

Dr. Rister stated that the focus on CDOTA is to reduce the cost for CSUSB students, however, it's unclear how much students were paying before the program started. All the information provided was general and came from other campuses.

Dr. Owen responded to Dr. Brown and Dr. Rister stating that data was included in every presentation when the program was proposed. The cost of course materials, including textbooks, was approximately \$1,100 per year for CSUSB students. The program could potentially save money for 75% of students.

Ms. Hayes stated that Follet visited CSUSB and requested the adoption and enrollment data for the past two years. They inputted this data into a spreadsheet in collaboration with an actuary firm. This data was then evaluated to identify the lowest possible cost. Subsequently, they approached the publishers with this price and inquired whether they would consider a reduction

if CSUSB were to provide 100% student participation in every course. Inclusive access pricing was also used as a basis for negotiations with publishers.

Ms. Hudson has been informed by several students that they were unable to access their textbooks due to professors having issues with the textbook request process. She inquired how communication with professors will be resolved. Ms. Hayes replied that the issue was related to the new technology and that it will be addressed. She agreed that consistent communication with professors is necessary. Follet needs to confirm that every faculty member has included the link to course materials at least three weeks before classes begin.

President Fajardo inquired about the specifics of the contract between the University Enterprises Corporation (UEC) and the amendment made to facilitate the implementation of this program. Dr. Owen explained that according to the draft amendment to the contract, UEC receives \$1.50 out of the CDOTA fee of \$21.50 per unit.

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:

In Favor: Benson and Bueno.

Opposed: Babu, Brown, Chalk, Carrion-Fajardo, Fajardo, Hudson, Lozano, O'Connell, Rendon and Yurdakul.

Abstentions: Oliverez and Rister.

Failed (2/10/2).

Mr. Rendon passed the gavel back to President Fajardo.

REPORTS:

College of Business & Public Administration: Ms. Yurdakul stated that she met with Mr. Rendon. She is working with Ms. Stone and Ms. Carrion-Fajardo to organize a toy drive for this month.

Housing: Ms. Lozano stated that the Culture of Thriving Committee will start meeting next month.

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences: Mr. Chalk met with Dean Hassija to discuss holding an SBS Career Fair as well as a Club Mixer.

Productions Manager: Mr. Padilla stated that Wicked Nights was held on October 17th; the ASI Instagram gained 125 new followers due to the event. Tie Dye Time will be held on October 22nd from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Rendon stated that he plans to send the Board details about a themed Board meeting scheduled for next week. Howl at the Moon will be held today at 7:30 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.



Diego Rendon
Executive Vice President