SANTOS MANUEL STUDENT UNION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING
May 6, 2026 – 1:00pm
Student Union North, Student Chambers
Zoom: https://csusb.zoom.us/j/85875529320

MINUTES

Members Present: Anjali, Vilayat Del Rossi, , Sukhpreet Kaur, Edgar Lopez, Jessica Lu, Jocelyn Paz, Dr. Matthew Smith, Robinpreet Waraich

Robinpreet Waraich arrived at 1:15 p.m.

Members Absent: Sophia Garcia, Jose Hernandez, Diego Rendon, Kimberly Rosas

Staff: Monica Baeza, Sasha Baltazar, Kesha Bates, Jasmine Bustillos, Jasmine Curtis, Jared Fisk, Matthew Jenkins, Elizabeth Junker, Sean Kinnally, Lorena Marquez, Joel Morales, Maria Elena Najera-Neri, Jennifer Puccinelli, Anthony Roberson, Katie Wallen.

Guest: Dr. Montgomery VanWart

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:09pm.

Roll Call: A verbal roll call for members was conducted. Quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes: No meetings minutes to approve.

Open Forum: Dr. Montgomery Van Wart commented on the proposed leadership scholarship policy and expressed concerns regarding the use of mandatory student fees, perceptions of equity and access to SMSU-funded programs and services, and the timing of the policy's consideration near the end of the academic year. He encouraged the Board to carefully consider how its decisions may be perceived by students, faculty, and staff and cautioned that the proposed policy could raise concerns about fairness and transparency.

Adoption of Agenda: M/S Kaur/Lu; motion to adopt May 6th agenda as presented.
Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

SMSU 60/26 **Review and Approval of New Leadership Scholarship Policy(Action, Policies and Procedures Committee, Anjali)**

M/S Anjali/Kaur; motion to open SMSU 60/26 Review and Approval of New Leadership Scholarship Policy.

The Board reviewed the updated new Leadership Scholarship Policy, which had been tabled at the previous meeting for further refinement. The revised policy establishes a formal governance framework aligned with the amended SMSU bylaws, CSU auxiliary standards, financial aid requirements, and conflict-of-interest provisions, while clarifying that adoption of the policy does not create an automatic funding commitment. The Board would approve only the total annual allocation for the scholarship program, while individual award amounts would be administered by the Executive Director or designee in coordination with the Financial Aid Office and within the Board-approved funding level. Discussion also clarified that the scholarship formalizes an existing practice, provides additional oversight and financial guardrails, distinguishes Board service from student employment, and may improve accessibility for international and undocumented student leaders. Following these clarifications, the public commenter who had previously raised concerns regarding the scholarship withdrew his specific concern about the policy.

Roll Call Vote: 6 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 0 - Abstention
Motion passed.

SMSU 65/26 **Approval of Organizational Vision (Action, Strategic Planning Committee, Paz)**

M/S Kaur/Anjali; motion to open SMSU 65/26 Approval of Organizational Vision.

The Board reviewed the proposed SMSU vision statement, which was developed through the year-long strategic planning process with input from full-time staff, student staff, and the Strategic Planning Committee. The recommended statement focused on holistic, equity-centered student experiences, life-ready leadership, and engaged and empowered staff, and was presented as the final component of the organization's updated mission, vision, and values framework. Discussion noted the intent to balance student development with organizational capacity and staff support, and clarified that the term "life-ready" was retained as the best current description of the desired student outcome. It was also emphasized that the vision statement will be revisited periodically as part of the organization's ongoing strategic planning and assessment process.

Roll Call Vote: 6 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 0 - Abstention
Motion passed.

SMSU 66/26 Approval of Accounting and Budget Assistant Position (Action, Personnel Committee, Paz)

M/S Kaur/Lopez; motion to open SMSU 66/26 Approval of Accounting and Budget Assistant Position.

The Board reviewed the proposed Accounting and Budget Technician position, which would result from restructuring the existing Corporate Services Processor role into two specialized full time positions: one focused on Human Resources and Payroll and the other on Accounting and Budget. Staff explained that the change is intended to address organizational growth, increasing workload, evolving CSU and campus systems, and the need for greater subject-matter expertise and timely support in both functional areas. Discussion clarified that the current Corporate Services Processor position would be eliminated, the existing employee would transition into one of the two new positions, and the remaining position would be recruited separately at the same classification and salary level. Members also discussed the impact of current workload demands on timely payments, billing, hiring, and other administrative functions, and emphasized that the additional capacity would improve operational effectiveness and service to internal and external partners.

Roll Call Vote: 6 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 0 - Abstention
Motion passed.

SMSU 67/26 Approval of Human Resources and Payroll Assistant Position (Action, Personnel Committee, Paz)

M/S Kaur/Lopez; motion to open SMSU 67/26 Approval of Human Resources and Payroll Assistant Position.

The Board reviewed the proposed Human Resources and Payroll Technician position, the second of two specialized full-time positions created through restructuring the existing Corporate Services Processor role. Staff clarified that the change would result in a net increase of one full time employee and is intended to address the organization's growth, increased workload, and the need for dedicated expertise in human resources, payroll, recruitment, compliance, training, and employee onboarding. Discussion also addressed whether the work could be performed by student employees; staff explained that the position requires access to sensitive information and systems that students are not permitted to access, as well as continuity and specialized training that make a full-time professional position more appropriate. Staff further noted that the additional position had been planned within the budget, would not reduce student programs or services, and would strengthen shared administrative support across SMSU and RecWell.

Roll Call Vote: 5 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 0 - Abstention
Motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. SMSU 68/26 Approval of Revised Personnel Records Policy (Action, Personnel Committee, Paz)
2. SMSU 69/26 Approval of Revised Relocation Policy (Action, Personnel Committee, Paz)
3. SMSU 70/26 Approval of Revised Paid Leaves of Absence Policy (Action, Personnel Committee, Paz)
4. SMSU 71/26 Approval of Revised Unpaid Leaves of Absence Policy (Action, Personnel Committee, Paz)

Roll Call Vote: 5 - In-Favor 0 - Opposed 0 - Abstention
Motion passed.

M/S Kaur/Lu; motion to table items SMSU 72/26 – 75/26 to next meeting.
Motion passed.

Announcements

- No announcements provided.

M/S Kaur/Lopez; motion to adjourn meeting at 2:04p.m.

Respectfully reviewed & submitted by

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Secretary, SMSU Board of Directors Date