ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.
California State University, San Bernardino

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES NOVEMBER 6, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President, Amira Shalabi at 1:01 p.m.

Present: Amira Shalabi, Samantha Coronado, AJ Fernandez, Dante Ramirez, Taslima Mozumder, Seth Whiting (Zoom), Alanna 'Milo' Meza, Kennedi Jones (Zoom), Jason Hicks, Melanie Radan, Heather Sharp, Dhruvil Kumbani, Dr. Haakon Brown and Dr. Michael Rister.

Absent: Kim Hunsaker, Dr. Matthew Smith and Dr. Blanca Martinez-Navarro.

Guests: Dr. Tiffany Jones (Zoom), Tiina Mittler, Ginger Thomas, Celeste Meza, Adrian Gonzalez, Abraham Carbajal (Zoom), Matthew Robertson, Jasmine Bustillos, Herbert Gonzalez, Marina Stone, Johan Rosales, Swikar Polkharel, Gwendolyn Watson, Emily Peraza, Allison Correnti, Imani Norris and ASL Interpreters (2).

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

M/S Hicks/Meza: To strike *"President Shalabi stated that a campus visit to San Diego State University is scheduled for November 19th."* from the Announcements section and replace it with *"President Shalabi stated that a campus visit to San Diego State University is scheduled for November 18th."*

The minutes of October 30th were approved as amended.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The agenda was adopted.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

President: President Shalabi attended the following: the Campus Fee Advisory Committee (CFAC) meeting on November 2nd, Cody Cup at PDC and Donuts with The Dean at the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. She spoke at the CSUSB Student Success Convening. She is planning additional CSU Campus visits; a visit to San Diego State University will be held on November 18th.

Executive Vice President: Ms. Coronado attended the CFAC meeting. She met one-on-one with Ms. Mozumder, Ms. Wymer-Lucero from the CSUSB Philanthropic Foundation and a potential candidate for the Graduate Student representative position.

Vice President of Finance: Mr. Fernandez attended the following: Cosmic Coyote, the Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) Committee meeting, the CFAC as well as Philanthropic

Foundation Investment and Finance Committee meetings. He held a training with the members of the Finance Committee.

Vice President of Palm Desert Campus: Mr. Ramirez assisted Ms. Lopez with Cody Cup on November 3rd. He tabled for Grad Days on November 5th. The Rancho Mirage Student Center (RSMC) held a Día de los Muertos event on November 2nd. The PDC Advisory Committee met on November 3rd; they discussed upcoming student involvement opportunities and engagement with the Athletics department.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Executive Director: Dr. Rister stated that he is focused on the CSU strategic plan and student-focused initiatives. These initiatives were discussed at an earlier event to ensure the campus strategic plan aligns with the CSU's expectations. ASI's efforts are being recognized across campus and are helping move initiatives in the right direction. He deferred to Mr. H. Gonzalez who stated that the application for the Spring 2027 Parking Pass Award is officially live and was posted on Instagram. The application was shortened and revised to make it easier for students to complete; it will remain open until December 11th. Efforts are being made to improve communication with both selected and non-selected applicants with all students expected to be notified by January 11th. He encouraged anyone with questions to contact him or Dr. Rister.

ASI COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Programs: Ms. Stone stated that applications are closed for the ASI Creator Collective Program. Her team is preparing to record an ASI Podcast; they received all the equipment needed to film and post. The Graphics team will attend the Adobe Max conference from November 8th to November 12th. They are currently finalizing the artist lineup for Peak. Ms. Rosales stated that 580 students attended Cosmic Coyote. He is preparing for Friendsgiving and Peak. The first Activities Committee meeting will soon be held. Ms. Lopez stated that she is in contact with Cinemark to reserve theaters for the Avengers Doomsday movie night. 35 students attended Cody Cup. She assisted the RMSC with a bracelet-making event for Grad Days. She will table and give a welcome presentation during orientation.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Dr. Tiffany Jones, CSUSB California Faculty Association (CFA) President briefly introduced herself. She reported on the CSU faculty strike and the current working conditions. CFA bargained with the CSU Chancellor's office for 18 consecutive months regarding the wages received by CSU faculty members. The following steps are included in the bargaining process: Bargaining, Impasse, Mediation, Fact-finding and a Strike. They are currently at step four, Fact-finding; a fact-finding panel consists of a neutral third party and one representative from each side who will hold and attend hearings to make recommendations for a settlement. Faculty are asking for manageable workloads, reasonably sized classes, job security, fair pay to stay ahead of inflation and stricter AI regulation on CSU campuses. These issues affect students as they may get put in overcrowded classes, have fewer courses offered to them, take a longer time to graduate and lose professors that could give students mentorship.

Ms. A. Meza inquired into how long the strike could last. Dr. Jones stated the strike vote ends on November 19th; once the decision is made the length will be decided.

Mr. Hicks asked for clarification on the approach CFA is taking against AI. Dr. Jones clarified that faculty are emphasizing the ethical use of AI and regulating it so it becomes a safe and helpful tool in the classroom.

Mr. Ramirez deferred to Ms. Lopez who inquired into how CFA will prevent this from negatively affecting students. Dr. Jones stated that the faculty is actively trying to avoid a strike so students are not negatively affected by the movement. Dr. Brown stated that faculty are looking into concerns about the timeline in which a strike would take place; they are actively trying to prevent a strike from being held during important times in the semester like finals week.

Ms. A. Meza inquired into whether there is a protection plan in place for students in the case of a strike. Dr. Jones stated that there will be a discussion about a protection plan for students.

NEW BUSINESS:

BD 75-26 Appointment of Celeste Meza as the College of Education representative to the ASI Board of Directors.

Passed (12/0/1).

Ms. C. Meza took a seat at the table.

BD 76-26 Appointment of Adrian Gonzalez as the San Bernardino campus student-at-large representative to the ASI Board of Directors.

Passed (12/0/1).

Mr. A. Gonzalez took a seat at the table.

BD 77-26 Appointment of Abraham Carbajal as the Palm Desert campus student-at-large representative to the ASI Board of Directors.

Passed (12/0/1).

BD 78-26 Permission to transfer $50,000.00 from Unallocated Reserves to Grant & Service Programs - ASI Donations (660723 RN001 A4700) to sponsor comedy night in the new Performing Arts Center.

M/S A. Meza/Ramirez: To take a five-minute recess. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Fernandez deferred to Ms. Mittler who briefly presented alongside Ms. Thomas. They discussed the new Performing Arts Center (PAC) and the proposed comedy night. The comedy

night would be sponsored by ASI, allow ASI to conduct outreach with students and colleagues and allow the new PAC to be used. The goal for comedy night is to provide students with a mental health break, drive massive student attendance to an event and receive positive sentiment for a shared experience. ASI would decide if the event would be one night or multiple nights. At the event there would be tabling, food trucks and events before entering PAC.

Ms. Mozumder left the meeting.

President Shalabi inquired into how the $50,000.00 request was calculated. Ms. Mittler explained that it was determined as the overall budget after reviewing the items that would go into the event.

Ms. Thomas stated that the PAC rental fee would be waived for ASI.

Dr. Brown mentioned that the Sports and Entertainment Marketing Program hosts an annual Fall Comedy Fest. He stated that there may be a potential conflict if there is no collaboration between the PAC and the Department of Marketing as the Fall Comedy Fest is completely run by students.

Mr. Ramirez inquired into how the event would include students at PDC and how the event would benefit students campus-wide in the long run. Ms. Mittler stated that they would potentially stream the show live for students who could not attend, however, tickets would be offered to students at PDC. Mr. Ramirez asked for clarification on whether students would be charged for the event if it is ticketed. Ms. Mittler stated that it would be ASI's decision, however, they have discussed a nominal charge for students.

Mr. Ramirez inquired into the projected quotas for the event. Ms. Thomas stated that the funds would be used for the comedians' booking fee and additional costs.

Ms. Coronado inquired into the typical cost to book a comedian. Ms. Mittler explained it could range from $10,000.00 to the full $50,000.00.

Ms. Coronado inquired into whether students have expressed interest in the event and the estimated number of students who may attend. Ms. Mittler stated there is currently no data from the student body, however, she noted that on social media there is increasing interest in comedy shows.

Mr. Kumbhani inquired into how the mental well-being and positive sentiment of students would be assessed. Ms. Mittler stated they could potentially do follow-up surveys after the event.

Mr. Kumbhani inquired into why the funds were being requested before decisions such as the selection of a comedian were made. Ms. Thomas stated that the funds were being requested to allow ASI to collaborate on the decision-making process. Ms. Mittler added that collaborating with ASI would provide additional options for developing the event.

President Shalabi deferred to Ms. Lopez who stated that she would not support the event as a student since there was no breakdown of how the funds would be spent. She added that comedians do not typically perform well on college campuses.

Ms. C. Meza inquired into how the interests of students across different demographics would be considered to ensure the event appeals to a diverse student population. Ms. Mittler stated that they would use the partnership with ASI to try to reach students.

Ms. C. Meza stated that the event should be free for students if there is going to be a large budget; there should be a breakdown of how the funds would be spent for the event to be considered.

Mr. A. Gonzalez stated that comedy is a subjective art form and it would be hard to choose a comedian that would fit all demographics. He expressed concern that the PAC would not be able to fit a high number of students.

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:
In Favor: None.
Opposed: Shalabi, Coronado, Ramirez, Fernandez, C. Meza, A. Gonzalez, A. Meza, Jones, Whiting, Hicks, Radan and Carbajal.
Abstentions: Sharp, Dr. Rister and Dr. Brown.
Failed (0/12/3)

REPORTS:

External Affairs: Mr. Kumbhani tabled during mid-term elections on November 3rd. He is interviewing applicants for Lobby Corp.

College of Education: Ms. C. Meza stated that the 4th annual Dual Immersion Symposium will be held on Saturday, November 7th.

College of Natural Sciences: Mr. Whiting is finalizing preparations for his event next semester.

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences: Ms. A. Meza assisted the Programs team with Cosmic Coyote and attended the Vacancy Committee meetings.

Clubs and Organizations: Ms. Radan is planning an event for the beginning of the Spring semester.

Students with Disabilities: Mr. Hicks stated that he is in contact with the Services to Students with Disabilities (SSD) regarding their use of an AI-generated photo to represent disabilities. He encouraged them to use photos of actual students with disabilities and invited SSD to attend the Board meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dr. Brown stated that Coyote Comedy Fest hosted by the Sports and Entertainment Marketing Department will be held on December 4th.

Ms. Stone stated the volunteer list is now available for the Peak subcommittees; she encouraged the Board to sign up. There are six different committees.

Ms. Bustillos stated that a campus-wide survey to provide feedback on the Santos Manuel Student Union and Recreation & Wellness will be available on November 9th.

Mr. Ramirez stated that the Student Success Center at PDC will have its grand opening on March 13th.

President Shalabi stated that a campus visit to CSU Long Beach is scheduled for November 10th. The CCAA Cross Country Championships will be held on November 7th.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Samantha Coronado
Executive Vice President