ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.
California State University, San Bernardino

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OCTOBER 2, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President, Amira Shalabi at 1:07 p.m.

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

Absent: Taslima Mozumder and Dr. Matthew Smith.

Guests: Brandon Trigo Foley (Zoom), Herbert Gonzalez, Marina Stone, Swikar Polkharel, Johan Rosales, Alondra Lopez (Zoom) and ASL Interpreters (2).

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of September 25th were approved.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

M/S Ramirez/Fernandez: To place BD 58-26 through BD 60-26 on a consent calendar. Passed unanimously.

The agenda was adopted as amended.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

President: President Shalabi stated that the ASI visit to CSU San Marcos is scheduled for Monday, October 26th. She met individually with Summer Steele, Dr. Matthew Smith and President Gomez. She attended a CSU Student Success Framework Implementation meeting as well as the Senator Reyes Young Legislators visit.

Executive Vice President: Ms. Coronado attended the meet-and-greet between ASI and Finance, Technology and Operations (FTO). She is scheduling one-on-one meetings with the Board of Directors.

Vice President of Finance: Mr. Fernandez attended the Santos Manuel Student Union (SMSU) Finance and Contracts Committee meeting as well as the meet-and-greet between ASI and FTO.

Vice President of Palm Desert Campus: Mr. Ramirez attended Lunch & Learn and Wicked Nights. He will attend the Coyote Cares Day planning meetings. He joined the Student Success Building Planning Committee and gave a presentation along with Ms. Lopez and a Rancho Mirage Student Center (RMSC) student assistant on the resources PDC provides to students.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Executive Director: Dr. Rister stated that approximately $150,500.00 will be transferred from Grant and Services Programs to the Children's Center. The financial departments are finalizing the current enrollment numbers and the amount of ASI funds that will be transferred. Enrollment appears to be higher this semester which is positive for the budget. The President's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Fall Retreat was held on Tuesday, September 29th. The DEI in Programming subcommittee plans to provide faculty, staff and students with opportunities to share their DEI-related achievements and experiences; a summit will be held during the Spring semester to highlight these efforts. DEI funding will soon be available for programs and events across campus.

ASI COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Programs: Mr. Rosales stated that Tie-Dye Time will be held on October 5th. They are preparing for Wicked Nights and Friendsgiving. The San Bernardino Programs team will visit PDC to assist with Fall events. Ms. Lopez attended the Desert Recreational Foundations Bowling Tournament alongside Mr. Ramirez. She is creating promotional content for upcoming events with the RMSC and PDC students. PDC Wicked Nights was held on October 1st; 35 people attended the event. Ms. Stone stated that a San Bernardino Programs Specialist was hired. Applications will soon be open for the PDC Programs and Marketing Specialist.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Mr. Foley, California State Student Association (CSSA) Vice President of Finance, briefly introduced himself. He briefly discussed CSSA and its operations. The CSSA budget is developed and planned by the CSSA Finance Committee using a zero-based budgeting model. Estimated revenue for 2026–2027 is $1.5 million with estimated budgeted expenditures of $2.199 million. 97% of the annual funding comes from the Student Involvement and Representation (SIRF) fee. This fee is optional; CSU students can opt out each academic year. CSUSB had an 11% opt-out rate for the 2025–2026 academic year. SIRF revenue is allocated to Board initiatives, programs, personnel support and CSSA operations. The budget is divided into eight functional areas: Revenue, Operations, Total Compensation, Reserves, Internal Programs, Advocacy & Government Relations, Systemwide Affairs and Communications & Public Relations. The budget is approved and revised by the CSSA Board of Directors based on recommendations from the Finance Committee. External oversight of the budget includes auditors, state law and CSU policies. Internal oversight includes the Vice President of Finance, the Constitution & Governing Policies, General Accounting Principles and checks & balances for staff and officers.

Dr. Rister inquired into whether the 11% opt-out rate for CSUSB reflects students who manually opt out through their campus portal. Mr. Foley clarified that the percentage comes from 2,200 students; 2,000 are administrative opt-outs and 200 are students manually opting out.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Shalabi passed the gavel to Ms. Coronado.

BD 57-26 Discussion on STAND Initiative: Classroom Outreach.

President Shalabi stated the Board will be discussing implementation, outreach strategies and expectations for college representatives to begin scheduling classroom presentations within their respective colleges. She encouraged every member of the Board to participate as the discussion reflects the STAND Initiatives.

Ms. Meza stated that she has conducted classroom outreach with freshmen in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Presentations have not been a successful outreach method, as most students do not participate or appear interested.

Ms. Sharp stated that during her classroom visits, students within the College of Arts & Letters often ask for her contact information, therefore, she created a QR code which takes them to the ASI website.

Dr. Rister suggested creating a permanent ASI QR code that directs students to the ASI website and simultaneously enters them into a drawing for a chance to win a gift to encourage participation.

Mr. Kumbhani has conducted six classroom presentations and has fifteen more scheduled. He is encouraging students to join Lobby Corps and apply for jobs that ASI offers. He suggested offering snacks to students during classroom presentations to encourage participation.

Mr. Whiting stated he is working with the Office of Academic Success and Undergraduate Advising (ASUA) to plan his classroom visits.

Ms. Jones suggested tabling at Homecoming to provide information about ASI to more students.

Dr. Brown suggested coordinating classroom visits with the college Deans so they could reach out to faculty members and facilitate additional presentations. He stated that Board members should connect with faculty to visit their classrooms.

Ms. Sharp suggested contacting the faculty advisors for clubs and giving presentations in their classes.

Mr. Fernandez stated that he obtained applications for the Finance Committee by emailing the Dean of Jack H. Brown College and a Student Success Center Coordinator who distributed the application to students. He presented the Finance Committee as a resume-building opportunity when speaking with students to encourage them to apply.

Discussion closed.

Ms. Coronado passed the gavel to President Shalabi.

BD 58-26 Appointment of Roberto Ramos as a student-at-large representative to the ASI Palm Desert Advisory Committee.

BD 59-26 Appointment of Abraham Carbajal as a student-at-large representative to the ASI Palm Desert Advisory Committee.

BD 60-26 Appointment of Sebastian Bautista as a student-at-large representative to the ASI Palm Desert Advisory Committee.

The consent calendar was approved.

BD 61-26 Appointment of Kennedi Jones as a Board of Director representative to the ASI Finance Committee.

Passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

External Affairs: Mr. Kumbhani met with Maral Hernandez and Marrisa Yeager. He is working with the Legislative Affairs team to coordinate classroom visits. He plans to appoint representatives to the Policy Committee.

College of Arts and Letters: Ms. Sharp will speak at Direct Admissions Days on October 6th and October 20th.

College of Natural Sciences: Mr. Whiting attended the ASI and FTO meet-and-greet. He is working with clubs in the College of Natural Sciences to provide them with any resources they may need.

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences: Ms. Meza met with the Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences to share upcoming ASI events. The Bachelor of Arts in Social Work application will open on October 5th.

Staff Council Representative: Ms. Hunsaker gave a presentation on the history of Staff Council during the Staff Council meet-and-greet on September 30th**.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Coronado stated that it is National Custodian Day.

Mr. Whiting stated that Mosaic will be held on October 15th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Ms. Jones stated that a volleyball game will be held on October 3rd. There will be a banner unveiling for the team that won the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) tournament championship.

Mr. Ramirez stated that the RMSC will be holding Fall Fest on October 8th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Kumbhani stated that Vote and Vibe 2.0 will be held on October 15th on Coyote Walk from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Meza stated the Social and Behavioral Sciences Mixer will be held on October 22nd.

President Shalabi stated that Homecoming Spirit Week will be held next week. There will potentially be a visit to San Diego State University on October 19th. The Board meetings scheduled at Palm Desert will be held on October 30th and December 4th.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Samantha Coronado
Executive Vice President