



**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.**  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS  
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Minutes

Board of Directors

Friday, January 31, 2025, 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Loker Student Union (LSU) 326 & 327

- I. Called to order at 12:08 p.m. by Efrain Contreras, Chairperson.
- II. Roll Call  
**Voting Members Present:** Edgar Mejia-Alezano, Krysten Tyler, Jhanella Martinez, Marcelo Cowo, Efrain Contreras, Gyanan Kolasani, Janet Alvarez, Michelle Gonzalez, Elliot Gonzalez, Treaunna Campbell, Madrid Ruiz, and Scarlet Grave  
**Voting Members Absent:** Rohan Sonawane and Alexandra Huitzacua  
**Advisors Present:** Michellena Lakey, Elaine Estrada, Kevin Truong, Raven Emmert, Rasheedah Shakoor, and Christopher Ashley  
**Advisors Absent:** Candace Manansala  
**Non-Voting Members Present:** Sheela Powar, Gilbert Hernandez, Koatzin Kamil Cruz, and Matthew Smith  
**Visitors:** Imari Taylor, Anthony Thompson, and Shamshad Elimu
- III. Approval of Agenda – Action Item  
\*M/Grave, S/Gonzalez to approve the agenda as submitted.  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**
- IV. Approval of Minutes (November 15, 2024) – Action Item  
\*M/Kolasani, S/Alvarez to approve the minutes of November 15, 2024 as submitted.  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**
- V. Reports  
**ASI President** – Mejia-Alezano met with the Provost to discuss the availability of courses in the CBAPP college. They discovered that the influx of new students interested in this major has resulted in insufficient time to recruit staff members. Mejia-Alezano and Graves attended the CSSA meeting, where they discussed the concerns of evening students and the lack of available resources for them. Met with the Athletic Department and did classroom presentations. He also met with the former ASI President to discuss ASI status. Mejia-Alezano continues working with the university President and VP of Student Affairs on the dining surveys.  
**Executive Vice President** – Cowo emailed Board members with updates on various university committees they serve. He is working with Elimu on finding the Chairs for each meeting. They will receive a follow-up email with the names and contact

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information of the chairs for those upcoming meetings. In December, he met with the Executive Director to evaluate the proposals from Pepsi and Coke.

**Vice President of Finance** – Martinez invited Board members to the Finance Commission meeting starting to work on the budget for the next fiscal year.

**Director of Legislative Affairs** – Grave is preparing for CHESS and asked all attending to schedule attending the Leg meeting next Friday.

**Alumni Liaison** – Hernandez stated that they are continuously reaching out to alumni through their platform and hope that more students will utilize it.

**College of Health & Human Services Rep** – Alvarez met with Emmert to discuss collaborating with the Immigrant Justice Center (IJC) to provide students with more information regarding safety on campus. They also discussed student concerns with the financial aid office. They were able to send an email to Financial Aid on this awaiting a response.

**College of Arts & Humanities Rep** – Gonzalez is preparing for the Labor and Social Justice event on campus. They submitted a proposal for a Black Revolutionary Speaker Series during Black History Month.

**College of Education Rep** – Campbell has been collaborating with her college dean to enhance student engagement. March 1<sup>st</sup>, 12:00 to 3:00 PM, there will be a family engagement event, and they are offering a scholarship.

**College of Business & Public Policy Rep** – Ruiz noted CBAPP is having a workshop called CBAPP belonging to critical thinking. CBAPP is scheduled to review their Mission Statement.

**Academic Senate Liaison** – Powar notes that Sonoma State has raised many concerns and issues in recent weeks. CSUDH has laid off 35 staff members.

**University President Designee** – Smith encouraged Board members to be around during the welcome week next week and hopes to see high student engagement.

**Multicultural Affairs Liaison** – Cruz mentioned that the IJC has several concerns related to immigration services and campus safety; however, since it is managed by just one person, they have been somewhat overwhelmed. They are currently working on establishing protocols to ensure that students know where to go for support.

**Executive Director** – Shakoor mentioned that the CDC has installed a new panic gate in their play yard, along with new sod on the infant and toddler side. During the virtual Board of Trustees meeting, there was a discussion about the need for advocacy to the legislature to secure funding for the CSUs on their campuses. Additionally, we are entering the annual performance review for the CCAMPIS grant. Starting in 2025-2026, there will be an CPI increase in ASI fees. **Associate Director** – Lakey mentioned that they are working on the succession plan. She attended the AOA conference with

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Shakoor, where much of the information covered was related to legal updates and HR topics.

**Accounting Clerk** – Ashley mentioned that there will be a return of funds for inactive clubs on campus. Finance starts working on the Budget next week. He is also working on CHESS travel for the Board members.

**Graduate Assistant** – Estrada notes that the advocacy team consists of four members, two of whom are on committees. Marketing has started for the student-at-large internship.

**Event Coordinator** – Truong working on the Spring Fling collaborating with the campus departments for additional support. We will have a table at the involvement fair, and the sign-up genius link will be sent out. Commuter outreach is scheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup>, and we've started Toro Tuesday.

**Marketing & Public Relations Coordinator** – Emmert announced that ASI annual report is distributed to the administrative and staff around campus. She is currently working on a survey for evening commuter students in collaboration with the Office of Student Affairs. KDHR is accepting podcast host applications on a rolling basis. KDHR open house is on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. We received 61 Election Applications submissions in person and online.

**Vice President of Academic Affairs** – Contreas is collaborating with the provost's office to ensure students are enrolling in their classes. The Academic Senate meets next Wednesday, and he will report back to the Board of Directors afterward.

VI. Open Forum – Agenda Items Only

Time for members of the audience to address the Board on specific agenda items only.

Shakoor asked if the Financial Aid Office had responded. Emmert will follow up with them, for an update. Alvarez shared that she had to go in person to receive a response. Hernandez announced that three Alumni will be hosting a dinner with the students, which will be available on Torolink for all the students to sign up to attend.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Board of Directors/Student-at-Large Appointment – Action Item

The Board will discuss and consider appointments for the Board of Directors and Student-at-Large Interns and Liaisons

\*M/Cowo, S/Martinez to appoint Anthony Thompson as the ASI Loker Student Union Liaison. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

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VIII. New Business

A. ASI Listening Tour Findings – Discussion Item

ASI Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator (Raven Emmert) will present and discuss key insights and themes from the ASI Listening Tour, highlighting student feedback and recommendations to guide future organizational priorities and initiatives. Emmert mentioned that the purpose of this presentation is to share with the board the feedback gathered from students during the ASI Listening Tour. Lakey explained that they initially embarked on this tour to understand students' perceptions of ASI after hearing their broader concerns about the university. The main themes that emerged from the discussions included campus safety and security, access to resources and support, financial concerns and affordability, and inclusivity and campus engagement. In terms of campus safety and security, proposed action steps include advocacy and partnership awareness campaigns, as well as student-led safety initiatives. To improve access to resources and support, an action step involves creating a centralized resource hub to enhance the visibility of ASI. Regarding financial concerns and affordability, suggested action steps include advocacy for parking and housing, implementing financial relief programs, and offering discounts for student workers. Finally, to promote inclusivity and campus engagement, action steps include providing inclusive programming, improving communication, and fostering community building.

Alvarez mentioned that there are 15 students interested in a self-defense class. They reached out to campus police but received no response. Alvarez is considering contacting their professor about possibly offering the class for extra credit and perhaps organizing a dedicated event for students. Cruz noted that there will be a "Know Your Rights" event this Thursday from 12 PM to 1 PM in La Casita. This event will help students become more familiar with the red cards and provide an opportunity to get their questions answered. Additionally, Cruz liked the idea of holding a town hall to directly address students' concerns. Lakey mentioned that for campus safety, we are considering organizing a town hall and launching an awareness campaign.

IX. Open Forum – Discussion Item

Time for members of the audience to address the Board. None

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.