

Associated Students, Inc.
California Polytechnic State University
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#22-10 ASI Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Zoom ID# 829 3719 8348

Voting Members Present:

Alexander Ameri - College of Architecture and Environmental Design
Anders Bjork - College of Engineering
Samuel Andrews - College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences
Kiara Benavides - College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences
Armando Castaneda - College of Architecture and Environmental Design
Katie Eisenhut - College of Science and Mathematics
Natalie Estilo - Orfalea College of Business
Marirose Evenden - College of Engineering
Bryanna Gay - College of Liberal Arts
Jake Goldman - College of Liberal Arts
Mia Guilfoile - College of Science and Mathematics
Gal Kavalier - Orfalea College of Business
Andrew Hodge - College of Architecture and Environmental Design
Andrew Kim - Vice Chair, College of Liberal Arts
Isaac Lopez - College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences
Jacob Schlottmann-McGonigle - College of Liberal Arts
Jordan Perlas - College of Engineering
Tamy Phung - Orfalea College of Business
William Siegel - College of Science and Mathematics (recognized at 6:08 p.m.)
Thomas Tang - College of Science and Mathematics
William Terlinden - College of Engineering
Marley Timmerman - College of Engineering
Vacant - College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences
Vacant - Orfalea College of Business

Voting Members Absent:

None

Non-Voting Members Present:

Suha Hussain - Chair of the Board
Tess Loarie - ASI President (arrived at 5:27 p.m.)
Cade Creason - Chief of Staff
Michelle Crawford - ASI Interim Executive Director

Lindsey Lee – Board of Directors’ Advisor
Andrea Burns – Cal Poly Corporation Representative
Dr. Joy Pedersen – University President’s Representative
Dr. Thomas Gutierrez – Academic Senate Representative
Tracy Watson - Board of Directors’ Assistant

Non-Voting Members Absent

Alena Robinson – Chair, University Union Advisory Board

Guests:

President Jeffrey D. Armstrong – University President
Dr. Keith Humphrey – Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Steven Rein – Academic Senate Chair
Dr. Denise Isom – Interim Vice President, Diversity & Inclusion
Jennifer Haft - Assistant Vice President, Divisional Operations
Carol Brizendine – ASI Director, Business Services
Robyn Wallman – ASI Director, University Union
Yukie Murphy - Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, Administration and Divisional Operations
Chris Raynes, ASI Executive Cabinet
Carlos Rodriguez Orozco – ASI Executive Cabinet
Richard Bromley
Patrick Perrine – Cal Poly Student

I. Call to Order: Meeting #22-10 was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

- A.** *We acknowledge that the land on which Cal Poly sits carries the heritage and culture of the Indigenous People of San Luis Obispo County, the yak tit'u tit'u yak ti'hini, Northern Chumash tribe. We honor the Indigenous People's connection to these territories and respect the land on which we gather today.*
- B.** Suha stated that due to the nature of real-time captioning the resulting unedited text may contain errors and is not an authoritative record of the meeting.

II. Letters & Roll Call

- A.** Chair Hussain read a letter from Carlos Rodriguez Orozco, ASI Secretary of Basic Needs expressing his opinion about being a better representative for students and to be accessible and open to discussion concerning student needs.
- B.** With 21 members present, quorum was met.

III. Open Forum

- A.** Dr. Steven Rein, Academic Senate Chair, stated that the Academic Senate voted overwhelmingly in support of the College Based Fee increase in their resolution AS-931-22. He stated that the trend among faculty is that the State of California does not provide necessary funding to allow all students to come to Cal Poly. Faculty members felt it would be a great way of increasing economic diversity on campus among our student body and will help provide access to capital education to all students. It would provide access to a Cal Poly education to all Californians, regardless of their family income.
- B.** Dr. Denise Isom, Interim Vice President, Diversity & Inclusion spoke about how faculty and administration have strived towards increasing the diversity at Cal Poly to provide access to first generation students and low-income students. She stated that Cal Poly is more expensive than other institutions, this fee increase would assure the resources are available to those that would not otherwise be able to choose Cal Poly for financial reasons. It will also provide resources that speak to that broader mission to transform our campus, not just in

terms of demographics, but the campus climate, a sense of belonging, a sense of access, and being able to fund those efforts at a level that allows us to reach our potential.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of minutes from meeting #22-09, February 9, 2022

- i. **Motion #1 (Castaneda/Perlas) “Move to approve the minutes from meeting #22-09, February 9, 2022.”**
- ii. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

V. Leaders Reports

A. Chair of the Board – Suha Hussain

- i. Full report submitted.
- ii. Chair Hussain reported that she is serving on the Executive Director search committee and part of the role of the Board of Directors is to approve the appointment of the Executive Director.

B. ASI President –Tess Loarie

- i. President Loarie reported that she and Vice Chair Kim will serve on the Ad Hoc Semester Conversion Committee.
- ii. She announced the launch of the Student Government assessment survey on February 28. She stated that the goal is to show areas of improvement to help shape the future of Student Government.

C. ASI Chief of Staff – Cade Creason

- i. No report.

D. Chair of UUAB – Alena Robinson

- i. No report – Absent.

VI. Executive Directors’ Report –Michelle Crawford

- i. Full report submitted.
- ii. Michelle reported that budget planning is finalizing and will be brought to the ASI Business & Finance Committee for review and then to the Board.

VII. Representatives’ Report

A. University President’s Representative – Dr. Joy Pedersen

- i. Full report submitted.
- ii. Dr. Pedersen encouraged members to nominate faculty members for the annual Outstanding Faculty Award, deadline is February 28.
- iii. She reported that 10 projects were selected for the Cal Poly Research Competition.
- iv. She announced that the Panetta Institute is accepting applications for the program.

B. Academic Senate Representative – Dr. Thomas Gutierrez

- i. Full report submitted.
- ii. Dr. Gutierrez reported that the Academic Senate passed a resolution in support of the College Based Fee increase.
- iii. A resolution on Updating Retention of Exam and Gradebook Policy passed.

- iv. A resolution passed indicating the desire for the CSU and Board of Trustees to conduct an independent investigation of the circumstances around Chancellor Castro's resignation.
- v. He stated that the Ad Hoc Semester Conversion Committee is meeting.

C. Cal Poly Corporation Representative – Andrea Burns

- i. Full report submitted.

VIII. Old Business

A. Action Item: Resolution #22-02: ASI Board of Directors Stance on Proposed College Based Fee Increase

- i. **Motion #2 (Kim/Bjork) “Move to Approve Resolution #22-02: ASI Board of Directors Stance on Proposed College Based Fee Increase.”**
- ii. Vice Chair Kim stated that through discussion at workshop and additional research obtained, the resolution was returned to the Internal Review Committee and then back to the authors where revisions and additions were made. The President's Office extended the educational period and student comments were reviewed to assist in the revisions. Revisions included:
 - a) Removing clauses that included lack of time for educational period.
 - b) Resolved clauses were added with feedback to address whether fees are implemented, including annual review, review of the success of the implementation of fee increase, review of the utilization of funds by each college, in addition to providing recommendations to the Campus Fee Advisory Committee.
- iii. Director Timmerman stated that the Internal Review Committee reviewed in detail and the main concerns were whether proper citation was made and found no risk to the organization.
- iv. Director Bjork felt conflicted on this issue and the way that Cal Poly is going to change structurally and bring a more diverse student body on campus. He felt strongly that this is a good idea and thought that all members have this common goal, however, fundamentally, it felt like this is a case where the student voice is not being represented with the current plan. The feedback was clear that students overall are unaware, disengaged, or don't support the fee increase. He reiterated the importance that the State of California should be providing the funding and not burdening students with additional fees.
- v. Some members agreed on the principle of the resolution but stated that it would also provide opportunities for accessibility to underrepresented students and create a more diverse Cal Poly.
- vi. Concern was raised that the student voice is not being heard if the stance that the Board takes is in favor of increased fees. The resolution clearly states student opinion and clear expectations if fees are implemented.
- vii. Director Siegel was recognized at 6:08 p.m.
- viii. President Loarie encouraged members to be specific with their comments as the Campus Fee Advisory Committee will take all comments into consideration before submitting their vote. The committee has the ability to vote in favor or vote in opposition, but also vote in favor with very specific contingencies and requests. She stated that, as the student representatives, it is helpful to give comments during discussion that are more specific.
- ix. Members spoke to some of the clauses about out of state students. They recognize the purpose of the fee is to improve accessibility and diversity but believed that by excluding out of state students from the support provided by it, that would be detrimental to out of state students and should not be excluded.
- x. Director Goldman stated that the President can move forward regardless of whether the ASI Board of Directors support it. He asked what we could do to make some edits to the plan for the college based fee increase, perhaps having a timeline, quota, or a goal for advances and increases or changes in the student body. Director Bjork stated that that

was the deciding factor for taking a negative stance; we felt like it would give future boards and future student government something to reference in terms of how students felt about this initiative and what they were concerned with. They could reference that, when they were addressing how the fee would be implemented, basically giving a “toolkit” as a reference of where students are right now, relative to the initiative.

- xi. Vice Chair Kim stated that the most important part of the resolution is the fact that it stays in the record and people can always refer to a certain point of time to see what opinions were during that time.
- xii. Director Perlas yielded her time to Secretary of Basic Needs, Carlos Rodriguez Orozco.
- xiii. Carlos stated that one of the big things that he has seen is that the increase is supposed to lead to a more diverse Cal Poly and although we have been given a lot of data that tell us we should get more information, doing this will impact Cal Poly in a positive way. This is a big increase that will affect a lot of people, so we need to slow down the process and make sure that everything that we do is based on the facts.
- xiv. Director Goldman stated that current and future students would benefit from an increase in diversity on the campus; and, although out of state students could be burdened by a fee increase more than in state students, he didn't think that really stopped the campus from having a diverse out of state student body population. Goldman felt we'd be better off holding off on a resolution until we can, in effect, support the version of the CBF increase that is going to be a reality, whether we like it or not.
- xv. The authors agreed that they recognize the value of an increase in the CBF, in theory, but that the current state method by which it would be done isn't an acceptable status, and for that reason, still intend to support the document, although they see the potential value of amending it. For example, the Cal Poly Opportunity Fee, has already disproportionately affected students with no benefit to them and now looking at another fee increase that once again negatively affects students without any benefit, is not acceptable.
- xvi. Some members believed that they agreed with most of the content but could not vote in favor in the full language of the document. Consideration of an amendment was discussed, and the authors reminded members that an amendment could potentially change the overall stance of the resolution. They discussed clarification of supporting the ideals but not supporting the implementation.
- xvii. **Motion #3 (Kavaler/Castaneda) “Move to amend the resolution by striking “do not support” in the first; therefore, be it resolved and inserting “support with reservations.”**
- xviii. Members argued that the amendment does not serve the voice of the students and gives administration power and sets a precedent of the student voice being undermined by power.
- xix. The authors did not support the amendment. This type of amendment that changes the intent of the authors' reasoning would undermine the consideration during administrative review and Internal Review Committee review.
- xx. **Motion #4 (Lopez/Kim) “Move previous question.”**
- xxi. The Chair explained that the motion was non-debatable and non-amendable and requires 2/3 vote.
- xxii. **With 16 in the negative, amendment failed by majority roll call vote.**
- xxiii. **With 17 in the affirmative, main motion passed by majority roll call vote.**
- xxiv. Chair Hussain called a 10-minute recess at 7:40 p.m.
- xxv. Meeting was reconvened at 7:50 p.m. and with 18 members present, quorum was made.
- xxvi. Director Timmerman was recognized at 7:55 p.m.

IX. New Business

- A. **Action Item: Approval of the Annual New Projects and Initiatives Policy Threshold Amount of \$6,000**

- i. **Motion #3 (Perlas/Kim) “Move to approve the annual New Projects and Initiatives Policy threshold amount of \$6,000.”**
 - ii. Director Kim stated that the Business & Finance Committee reviewed the policy and agreed the threshold amount of \$6,000 seemed reasonable to maintain the same amount.
 - iii. **Motion passed by unanimous rollcall vote.**
- B. Action Item: Closed Session Pursuant to Education Code section 89307, discussion with ASI legal counsel and vote regarding the approval of a settlement and pending litigation.**
- i. Chair Hussain stated that at this point in the Board of Directors meeting, we will be moving into closed session per New Business Action Item B on the Board of Directors meeting agenda. The Board will be moving into closed session based on advice of legal counsel and to vote on the approval of a settlement and pending litigation. Discussion of these matters in open session would prejudice the position of the Associated Students in litigation.
 - ii. No representatives will be in attendance at closed session, only voting members of the ASI Board of Directors, the ASI Interim Executive Director, Director – ASI Business Services, ASI Officers, and ASI legal counsel. The voting members of the ASI Board of Directors, ASI Interim Executive Director, Director – ASI Business Services, ASI Officers, and ASI legal counsel will be moved into a break-out room and all other attendees will be asked to stay in the main zoom room until the closed session is completed.
 - iii. We will move into a closed session by voting via roll call vote to move into closed session. The main motion to move into closed session would sound like “I move to enter into closed session.” I will now entertain a motion to move into closed session.
 - iv. **Motion #4 (Kim/Castaneda) “Move to enter into closed session.”**
 - v. **Motion passed unanimous roll call vote.**
 - vi. Chair Hussain stated that now that the main motion has been approved to go into closed session, I will move the Board of Directors and selected representatives into a break-out room.
 - vii. Returned at 8:40 p.m.
 - viii. Suha thanked everyone for being patient and welcoming the board back from closed session. Per section 5.3.5.6 of the ASI Bylaws, she reported back on the action that took place during the closed session.
 - ix. **Motion #5 (Andrews/Kim) A motion was made by Director Andrews and seconded by Vice Chair Kim to approve the settlement from Levine v. Associated Students, Incorporated of California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo, et al. San Luis Obispo County Superior Court Case Nos. 20CV-0664 and 20CV-0672 in the amount of \$1,350,000 from ASI General Reserves.**
 - x. Roll call vote was taken
 - a) Director Ameri – Aye
 - b) Director Andrews – Aye
 - c) Director Bjork – Aye
 - d) Director Castaneda – Aye
 - e) Director Eisenhut – Aye
 - f) Director Estilo – Aye
 - g) Director Evenden – Aye
 - h) Director Gay – Aye
 - i) Director Goldman – Aye
 - j) Director Guifoile – Aye
 - k) Director Hodge – Aye

- l) Director Kavalier - Aye
 - m) Director Kim - Aye
 - n) Director Lopez - Aye
 - o) Director Perlas - Aye
 - p) Director Phung - Aye
 - q) Director Schlottmann-McGonigle - Aye
 - r) Director Tang - Aye
 - s) Director Terlinden - Aye
 - t) Director Timmerman - Aye
 - u) **With 20 members in the affirmative, motion passed by unanimous roll-call vote.**
- xi. **Motion #6 (Lopez/Kim) There was also a motion made to close the closed session. A motion was made by Director Lopez and seconded by Vice Chair Kim to close the closed session.**
- xii. Roll call vote was taken
- a) Director Ameri - Aye
 - b) Director Andrews - Aye
 - c) Director Bjork - Aye
 - d) Director Castaneda - Aye
 - e) Director Eisenhut - Aye
 - f) Director Estilo - Aye
 - g) Director Evenden - Aye
 - h) Director Gay - Aye
 - i) Director Goldman - Aye
 - j) Director Guifoile - Aye
 - k) Director Hodge - Aye
 - l) Director Kavalier - Aye
 - m) Director Kim - Aye
 - n) Director Lopez - Aye
 - o) Director Perlas - Aye
 - p) Director Phung - Aye
 - q) Director Schlottmann-McGonigle - Aye
 - r) Director Tang - Aye
 - s) Director Terlinden - Aye
- xiii. Director Timmerman - Aye
- xiv. **With 20 in the affirmation, motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

X. Committee Reports

- A.** ASI Business and Finance - Andrew Kim
 - i. No report.
- B.** ASI Diversity and Inclusion - Natalie Estilo
 - i. Report submitted.

ii. Director Estilo added and encouraged members to attend the State of Blackness and the Intersecting Identities and Disability Dialogue events.

C. ASI External Affairs - Anders Bjork

i. Report submitted.

D. ASI/UU Internal Review - Marley Timmerman

i. No Report.

E. ASI Recruitment and Elections - Jordan Perlas

i. Report submitted.

ii. Director Perlas thanked members that attended the Board Open House and encouraged members to talk to constituents about filing for candidacy.

F. Club Funding Liaison - Armando Castaneda and Marirose Evenden

i. No report.

XI. Announcements

A. Announcements were made.

XII. Adjournment

A. Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

CERTIFIED As the true and correct copy, in witness thereof, I have set my hand and seal of the Associated Students, Inc. this 24 day of February 2022.

ASI Secretary

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors by Unanimous vote on February 23, 2022.

ASI Secretary