

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This meeting was facilitated both in-person and via an online Zoom format.

Wednesday, January 28, 2026,

1:00 p.m.,

BMU 205

Members Present: Tia Saunders, Jamie Clyde, Beatrix Teaney, Akylai Murzakulova, Miguel Sueki, Kureha Takayama, Isaac Brundage

Members Absent: Tracy Butts(excused), Mahraya Davis(excused)

Others Present: Jon Simmons, Hugh Hammond, Thang Ho, Eliza Miller (recording), Kendra Wright, Leah Mercer, Tom Rider, Katrina Leach, Keith Crawford, Steve Novo, Katey Von Mosch, Luke Bagwell, Windy VanDam, Teresa Clements, Chris Hutton, Brooke McCall, Emily Berry, Sarah Wilson, Charile Arroway, Kim Canisso, Christin Chelotti, Cristina Jewell

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Saunders, called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.
- II. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION** - The meeting started with reading the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement.
- III. **AGENDA** – Approval of the 1/28/26 Regular Meeting Agenda. **Motion to Approve 1/28/26 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented. (Teaney/Sueki) 7-0-0 MSC This vote was taken by roll call: Saunders: Yea, Takayama: Yea, Clyde: Yea, Teaney: Yea, Brundage: Yea, Murzakulova: Yea, Sueki: Yea.**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approval of the 12/3/25 meeting minutes. **Motion to Approve the 12/3/25 meeting minutes, as presented (Sueki/Murzakulova) 7-0-0 MSC This vote was taken by roll call Saunders: Yea, Takayama: Yea, Clyde: Yea, Teaney: Yea, Brundage: Yea, Murzakulova: Yea, Sueki: Yea.**
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None.
- VI. **PUBLIC OPINION** - None
- VII. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Action Items forwarded to the Board of Directors from the standing committees stand approved unless overturned by a 2/3 + 1 Board action.
 - A. Government Affairs Committee
 1. GAC Actions of 12/5/25
 - a. Approved the 12/5/25 regular meeting agenda
 - b. Approved Minutes of the 11/14/25 regular meeting, as presented
 - c. Approved Consent Agenda:
2025-2026 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments

Confirmation of appointments to Legislative Affairs Council
-Commissioner of Legislative Affairs Appointment: Wendy Taliaferro

Confirmation of appointment to Sustainability Affairs Council
-Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointment: Alex Thomas-Rochin
 - B. Associated Students Facilities Committee
 1. No Meetings Held
Murzakulova reported that they have not met this semester yet, but did have some member turnover over the break due to scheduling. She shared that a new member will be joining at the first meeting on Friday.
 - C. Associated Students Businesses Committee
 1. No Meetings Held

Sueki reported that ASBC's first spring meeting is on Thursday and that, like ASFC, a member has also departed for the spring semester due to scheduling.

VIII. BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Approval of Revised Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Board of Directors Meetings for Academic Year 2025-26. **Action Requested: Motion to approve Revised Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Board of Directors Meetings for Academic Year 2025-26, as presented (Takayama/Teaney) 6-0-1 MSC This vote was taken by roll call Saunders: Yea, Takayama: Yea, Clyde: Yea, Teaney: Yea, Brundage: Yea, Murzakulova: Abstain, Sueki: Yea.**
- B. Discussion Item: Revision of HR Policy 486 Executive Director: AS HR Director Leah Mercer shared that this HR policy required a substantial overhaul in preparation to launch recruitment efforts for the Executive Director position. She reviewed the proposed changes with the Board, noting that the most significant change involves converting the Executive Director role from a contract to an at-will position. She also shared that the previous policy was very specific on the recruitment process but did not account for more recent changes in technology, such as Zoom, for use in the interview process. Mercer noted that the committee membership will remain as outlined in the original policy. Clyde shared additional context on the change from contract to at-will, explaining that, at one time, a contracted executive director was common, but that has changed on many campuses, and the at-will arrangement better aligns with other AS Executive Directors in the CSU system. Teaney asked if any other executives on campus were under a contract. Clyde shared that the AS Executive Director was the only one at this time. Mercer elaborated that, upon terminating the contract, in some situations, there could have been payment to the terminated employee, provided the early termination wasn't for cause. The at-will arrangement does not offer a payout upon termination.
- C. Director of Academic Affairs Report - Takayama shared that the first spring Student Academic Senate meeting will be in BMU 205 on Friday, January 30th. She shared that they have decided to extend the meeting to 90 minutes because the SAS frequently ran out of time last semester. She shared that they will be reviewing senator duties this semester and providing next year's team with feedback on how the duties might be best adjusted.
- D. Director of Social Justice and Equity Report—Davis was absent
- E. University Vice Presidents' Reports— VP Brundage welcomed everyone back. He shared that Interfraternity Council recruitment for the Spring semester has been canceled due to a number of concerns, including hazing allegations. They are actively working with national organizations and local chapters to implement new membership intake processes. He clarified that this does not affect any College Panhellenic Council sororities or any Multicultural Greek Council organizations.
VP Clyde shared updates on the budget process, including that the current expected state allocation is more positive than it has been in the last couple of years, and that at this time the Governor intends to honor the planned 5% budget increase and the 6% increase to CSU tuition. This and other cost-saving efforts suggest a positive change in the university's financial position going into next year. She also shared that they are reviewing the 5-year capital outlay plan, which lays out future infrastructure plans, for example, the Human ID lab, which is in progress. She concluded her report by sharing her appreciation for President Saunders's excellent speech at a recent presentation celebrating Martin Luther King Jr.
- F. Faculty Representative Report – Dr. Butts was absent
- G. Executive Director's Report – Simmons welcomed everyone back. He shared that as we have hit the halfway point in the budget, revisions will be coming soon. He expressed that the outlook is good. He discussed the upcoming self-assessment for the chancellor's office and shared that the report would come to BOD before being submitted. He also discussed the recent AS all-staff meeting, ENCORE. He expressed appreciation to AS IT director Thang Ho for developing a live translation app used at ENCORE and the recent AOA conference. He shared that the AO trip schedule for spring is out, and encouraged all to sign up for a trip. Murzakulova asked for more information about the translation app. Simmons clarified that this is a live audio translation application that folks can use from their personal device, developed internally by ASIT.

H. President's Report – Saunders shared that CHESS is coming up in March. She shared that CHESS involves advocacy on behalf of the CSU System at the state capital, and a small group of students will attend, in addition to the AS President and AS Commissioner of Legislative Affairs.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Murzakulova expressed her appreciation for the recent move of the AS Government team portraits from the second floor to the atrium near the building entrance. Simmons shared that ASFC is meeting this Friday at 8 am and is an excellent avenue for folks to express desired changes in the building, such as moving the portraits. He also reminded folks that “Loud AS” is tonight, featuring student performers.

V. PUBLIC OPINION— None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Saunders, adjourned the meeting at 1:37.