

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

**Wednesday, February 25, 2026,**

**1:00 p.m.**

**BMU 205**

**Members Present:** Tia Saunders, Jamie Clyde, Beatrix Teaney, Miguel Sueki, Kureha Takayama, Tracy Butts, Akylai Murzakulova

**Members Absent:** Mahraya Davis(excused), Isaac Brundage

**Others Present:** Jon Simmons, Eliza Miller (recording) Ben Spiess, Thang Ho, Kendra Wright, Leah Mercer, Tom Rider, Katrina Leach, Keith Crawford, Emily Berry, Luke Bagwell, Steve Novo, Windy VanDam, Teresa Clements, Chris Hutton, Christina Jewel, Brooke McCall, Katey VonMosch, Kim Canisso, Joe Dorgali, Kristin Chelotti, Curtis Sicheneder, Parker Pedone

- 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 2/25/26 Regular Meeting Agenda. **Motion to Approve 2/25/26 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented. (Teaney/Murzakulova) 7-0-0 MSC**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approval of the 2/11/26 meeting minutes. **Motion to Approve the 2/11/26 meeting minutes, as presented (Teaney/Sueki) 7-0-0 MSC**
- 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 2/13/26
      - a. Approved the 2/13/26 regular meeting agenda
      - b. Approved Minutes of the 1/30/26 regular meeting, as presented.
      - c. **Approved 2025-26 Associated Students Committee/Council Appointments**
        - Confirmation of appointments to Sustainability Affairs Council:  
-Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Appointment: Adin White
        - Confirmation of appointments to Community Affairs Council:  
-Commissioner of Community Affairs Appointment: Justin Cheung
        - Confirmation of appointments to Legislative Affairs Council:  
-Director of Social Justice & Equity Appointment: Estrella Quevedo
  - B. Associated Students Facilities Committee
    1. ASFC Actions of 2/13/26
      - a. Approved the 2/13/26 regular meeting agenda
      - b. Approved Minutes of the 1/30/26 regular meeting, as presented
  - C. Associated Students Businesses Committee
    1. ASBC Actions of 2/12/26
      - a. Approved the 2/12 regular meeting agenda

Teaney reviewed the actions of the 2/13 GAC meeting and shared that the ASCDL came to present to the GAC.

Murzakulova reviewed the actions of the 2/13 ASFC meeting. She shared that she is also working to fill the final vacancy on her committee, which is coming to GAC for a vote this week.

b. Approved Minutes of the 1/29/26 regular meeting, as presented

Sueki reviewed the actions of the 2/12/26 ASBC meeting. He also reported that the RFP deadline for pouring rights has been extended and shared that they decided to expand the AS-funded regalia to affinity centers. He also reported on the recent UBC meeting. He shared that the next UBC meeting will focus on prep to send the budget to President Perez.

### VIII. BUSINESS

- A. Information Item: CalFresh Delay Report – Sueki shared a report on the impacts of the delay in CalFresh benefits during the fall semester. Updates from the report included results from an impact survey distributed to students, and Campus's response supporting students during the delay. The Campus response included emergency financial aid, dining hall meal support, and extra support to students from the Hungry Wildcat Food Pantry. Takayama asked whether the dining hall meal support was open to all students or only to CalFresh students. Sueki clarified that it was for students receiving CalFresh benefits.
- B. Information Item: Immediate Access - Pilot Program Update- Tom Rider and Curtis Sicheneder presented on the four-semester Immediate Access pilot program. They shared that Immediate Access is a program that provides discounted digital course materials before the start of the semester. To date, the program has involved 6,462 students across 82 courses and 111 sections. Rider and Sicheneder discussed the future of the Immediate Access program. Sicheneder encouraged the students in the room to discuss the option with their professors if they see it as beneficial, as growth in this program will likely come from the bottom up. Rider shared that based on the pilot, larger adoption of immediate access could be a positive for the AS contract with Follett. Murzakulova asked about the ratio of STEM courses that have been part of this pilot. Rider and Sicheneder did not have that data readily available. Takayama asked how to connect professors to the Immediate Access program. Rider shared that Follett would be the direct contact. Sueki raised concerns about the Professor's misunderstanding of Immediate Access and asked about training for instructors who are opting in. Sueki also asked whether course packets assembled by instructors could be included in the Immediate Access offerings. Steve Novo, Follet Wildcat Store manager, clarified that at this time, immediate access is digital-only, so traditional physical course packets cannot be offered through Immediate Access. Teaney inquired about the methodology behind instructor outreach for Immediate Access. Sicheneder shared that the current approach is measured and directed towards specific faculty "champions," and shared that a top-down mandate is unlikely. Sueki reiterated his concerns about training participating faculty and shared an experience in which his course was Immediate Access, but the instructor told students to buy the book independently, which was confusing because the students had already paid for the materials through Immediate Access. Saunders expressed that she would like to see it easier for students to opt out of the program.
- C. Information Item: Review of Investments – Quarter ending 12/31/25  
1. Local Agency Investment Fund and Money Market – Leach reviewed investment earnings from October to December 2025. Overall, the Local Agency fund generated \$279,001 in interest by the end of December, with a balance of \$26,081,081, with an annualized return on investment of 4.2%. The Money Market account earned \$17,492 in interest over the quarter ending in December, with a balance of \$1,017,000 and an annual yield of 3.99%. Leach clarified that only Auxiliary Business funds are invested in the Money Market account.  
2. Board Designated Fund – Leach reviewed the balance of the Board Designated Fund account and the outstanding projects that were approved out of the fund last year. She shared that of the \$178,000 approved for projects in the previous fiscal year, \$90,000 has already been spent, but no funds were expended during the quarter from October to December 2025.  
**Clyde left the meeting at 1:43.**
- D. Information Item: Activity Fee, Student Union, Auxiliary Activities, and Corporate Services Fund Capital Expenditure Reports for quarter ending 12/31/25 – Leach reviewed the planned capital expenditures by fund area. There were no expenditures from the Activity Fee or Auxiliary Business areas. From the Union Fund, Facilities expended \$18,014 of the \$30,000 approved for custodial equipment, and the WREC expended \$8,764 on AO vans, which was a portion of \$150,000 approved for vans in March 2025. For Corporate Services, Leach shared that \$10,000 was budgeted for an IT virtual machine server, but it has not been expensed due to a substantial cost increase.
- E. Information Item: Quarter ending 12/31/25 Combined Student Union and WREC/AO Summary Income and Expense Statement - Murzakulova reviewed the quarterly report for the union financials covering October to December 2025. **Clyde re-entered the meeting at 1:46.** Total income at the end of the quarter was \$4,927,774, which is 50.85% of the budget. Overall expense at the end of the quarter was \$5,171,620, 45.25% of the

budget. Sueki inquired about the large purchase under small equipment, putting that line item at 189% of the budget. Simmons shared that a few purchases, including auditorium chairs and AV equipment, were expensed rather than capitalized.

- F. Information Item: Quarter ending 12/31/25 Activity Fee Fund Budget vs. Actual - Teaney reported the quarterly Financials for the Activity Fee ending December 2025. Total revenue for the fund was \$1,161,716, or 51.93% of the budget. Total expenses came in at \$830,219, representing 37.11% of the year's budget.
- G. Information Item: Quarter ending 12/31/25 Dining Services Financials – Sueki reviewed the quarter two financials for AS Dining. **Murzakulova left the meeting at 1:53 pm.** YTD operating income at the end of the quarter was \$4,817,104, 50.07% to budget. Cost of Sales ended the quarter at \$1,585,354, 53.7% to budget. Total operating expenses ended at \$3,334,480, 47.71% of the budget. Net income at quarter's end was \$78,489.
- H. Information Item: 11/30/25, 12/31/25 Follett Wildcat Store Financials – Sueki reviewed the financials for the Follett Wildcat Store for November and December of 2025. As of the close of December 2025, YTD course materials income was \$518,533, down about 7% from last year. General Merchandise ended at \$930,899, down about 5.5% over last year. Overall sales were \$1,449,432, down 6.2% over last year.
- I. Director of Academic Affairs Report – Takayama reported that at the last SAS meeting, they discussed a student proposal to unlock all course material in asynchronous classes at the start of the semester. She shared that the proposal points out that current limitations hinder student success by preventing motivated students from working ahead. Takayama reported that senators raised concerns about potential AI use and the faculty's intent to pace courses for optimal learning. Takayama concluded her report by sharing that SAS will meet again on Friday, February 27, where they will receive a presentation from the major advising team on degree plans and maps.
- J. Director of Social Justice and Equity Report—Davis was absent
- K. University Vice Presidents' Reports— VP Brundage was absent
- VP Clyde reported on the March 30<sup>th</sup> UBC meeting, where recommendations will be made for UBC to vote on. She shared updates on the teamsters' strike that took place last week. Operational challenges during the strike were minimal. She clarified that all negotiations take place at the chancellor's office, not with campus administration. She reported that she has been working with AS HR Director Leah Mercer on the AS Executive Director recruitment. She shared that the audit cycle is beginning with identifying potential problems across various departments. The Chief Administrative Business Offices (CABO) will meet in Chico for the first time on March 25. She concluded her report by stating that, as a member of the CSE Exec Board, she has recommended to CSE that one of the CSE Board positions be filled by the AS President or a designee to increase student voice.
- L. Faculty Representative Report – Dr. Butts reported that the campus is entering into award season for students and faculty. Applications for the outstanding staff awards are now open. She reminded the Board that Giving Day is next week, and additionally, the University will be honoring distinguished alums on Friday, March 6.
- M. Executive Director's Report – Simmons reported that the Moonlit Safety Stroll took place last week and went well. He reminded everyone that the deadline to apply to run for office in the AS Election is next week. He shared that he and President Saunders have been working on the Board Designated Fund Scholarship and are looking to wrap that up this semester. He reported that the budget process is coming and that the next Board will be set up, as the previous Board did for the current Board. He asked the students to provide feedback on current AS events and anything they'd like to see that we aren't already doing, and stressed the importance of the student voice. He shared that Grad Fest is ongoing today and will continue tomorrow. He thanked Sueki and ASBC for their funding of commencement regalia for AS employees, interns, and affinity center students. He concluded his report by saying that the new ASP director will start next week.
- N. President's Report – Saunders shared that the Champions in Unity double-header basketball game is tomorrow and encouraged all to go support. She updated on topics discussed at CSSA this past weekend. The primary topic was a discussion around changes to executive compensation and AB 5052, which CSSA is concerned might impact academic freedom. She shared that CSSA also passed a white paper addressing AI and discussed

SB98. Saunders shared that Chico State is part of a new Title IX pilot program under the Chancellor's Office. Clyde shared that this Title IX pilot aims to provide a shared investigator pool to help resolve cases more quickly across campuses.

- IV. CLOSED SESSION- Pursuant to Education Code 89307(c)(1) – Personnel matter-** The Board entered closed session at 2:19 pm and came out of closed session at 2:30 pm. Saunders announced that no action was taken during the closed session.
- V. ANNOUNCEMENTS –** Takayama announced she has the QR code to share feedback on the student proposal for the changes to asynchronous online classes, and encouraged anyone interested to give their input. Teaney shared that Valene Smith is hosting an opening reception today for a new student-curated exhibition about People's History, Latin America, and the art of protest. She also announced the GSEC Drag Show on March 12. She concluded her announcement by sharing some concerns about the process for SLL reimbursements for club activities that she will bring to GAC.
- VI. PUBLIC OPINION—** Parker Pedone shared feedback about the pricing of items in the Wildcat Store, and requested that some effort be made to offer options under \$50 so students can more easily afford professional Chico State branded attire.
- IX. ADJOURNMENT –** The Chair, Saunders, adjourned the meeting at 2:38

: