Associated Students
California State University Chico

MEETING MINUTES

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
SUSTAINABILITY FUND ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

This meeting is being facilitated both in-person and via an online Zoom format

Thursday, November 13, 2025, **2:00 p.m.** **BMU 205**

Members Present: Akylai Murzakulova, Issac Pena, Nick Nelson, Leyla Mirza, Sarah Lanum, Jon Simmons, Jon Timko, Jillian Leach, Cherie Higgs
Members Absent: Michelle Mussuto, Adrian Ayala
Others Present: Tatum McLanahan, Steven Vue, Andrew Ly, Aaron Schwartz, Nate Farrington, Victoria Tobol, Christina Hammons, Amelia Bullington, Allison Brooks Proper, Mark Stamen, Amber Cochrane, Alma Miranda – Rodriguze, Raquel Lee, Jamile Balli, Ricardo Hernandez- Serrano.

I. **CALL TO ORDER –** Chair Murzakulova called the meeting to order at 9:00am

II. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION STATEMENT-** The meeting was started with a reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement

III. **AGENDA** – Approval of the 11/13/25 Special Meeting Agenda. **Action Requested: Motion to approve the 11/13/25 Special Meeting Agenda (Lanum/Pena) 5-0-0 MSC.**

IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes of the 4/4/25 Sustainability Fund Allocation Committee meeting. **Action Requested: Motion to approve the minutes of the 4/4/25 SFAC meeting, as presented (Nelson/Lanum) 5-0-0 MSC.**

V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS –** No announcements received regarding the agenda items

VI. **PUBLIC OPINION:** Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for the entire topic – Public opinion where Aaron Schwartz thanked the committee and presenters for their participation in allocating $500,000 of student funds.

VII. **BUSINESS**

VIII. **Information Item: Meeting Objectives** – Higgs shared that the meeting objectives for the day involved project presentations and committee voting, with each presenter having three minutes to speak, followed by a three-minute discussion and vote for funding.

A. Action Item: Approval of the Earth Day: Ride or Die Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. Motion **to approve the Earth Day: Ride or Die Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Nelson/Timko) 4-0-1 MSC** The *Earth Day Ride or Die project* was brought forward for approval to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. The motion passed allowing the project to move forward for presentation.

B. Action Item: Approval of the Let's Talk: Women's Health Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Let's Talk: Women's Health Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Lanum/Nelson) 4-1-0 MSC.** The *Let's Talk Women's Health Project* was motioned for approval to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. The motion passed**.**

C. Action Item: Approval of the Wildcat Plant Prowl, an ecological scavenger hunt Project, to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Wildcat Plant Prowl, an ecological scavenger hunt Project, to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Lanum/Nelson) 5-0-0 MSC** The *Wildcat Plant Prowl Project* was presented for approval to proceed to funding allocation deliberation.

D. Action Item: Approval of the Ecological Egg Hunt Event Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Ecological Egg Hunt Event Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Timko/Lanum) 5-0-0 MSC** The *Ecological Ag Hunt Event Project* received a unanimous vote, to proceed to funding allocation deliberation.

E. Action Item: Approval of the Produce Now: On-Campus Food Production for Students in Need Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Produce Now: On-Campus Food Production for Students in Need Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Timko/Nelson) 5-0-0 MSC** The *Produce Now on Campus Food Production for Students in Need Project* was unanimously approved to move forward.

F. Action Item: Approval of the No Man's Land Film Showing - Adventure Outings Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the No Man's Land Film Showing - Adventure Outings Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Timko/Nelson) 4 -1-0 MSC -** The *No Man's Land Film Throwing and Venture Outings Project* generated discussion regarding its nature and budget. Concerns were raised about the $2,000 host fee for Katie and the $1,000 film licensing fee. The committee decided to push it forward for presentation to allow for questions to the presenter. The motion to proceed to presentation.

G. Action Item: Approval of the Waste Audit Signage Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Waste Audit Signage Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Nelson/ Timko) 5-0-0 MSC.** *The Waste Audit Signage Project* initially lacked detailed information for some committee members, prompting a recommendation to allow the presenter to clarify. The project aims to reduce waste contamination through clear signage in three major buildings: BSS, Éstom Jámani Dining Center and the University Utilities Building. The motion to move it forward for presentation passed.

H. Action Item: Approval of the A Living Legacy: Chico State Graduation Tree project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the A Living Legacy: Chico State Graduation Tree project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Pena/Nelson) 5-0-0 MSC.** The *Living Legacy Chico State Graduation Tree Project* was unanimously approved, to proceed.

I. Action Item: Approval of the Sustainable Period Equity: Reusable Menstrual Products for Student Wellness Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Sustainable Period Equity: Reusable Menstrual Products for Student Wellness Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Timko/Nelson) 5-0-0 MSC** The *Sustainable Period Equity: Reusable Menstrual Products for Student Wellness Project* also received unanimous approval to move forward.

J. Action Item: Approval of the Safe Sips Promoting Student Safety and Social Sustainability through Drink Spike. Motion Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Safe Sips Promoting Student Safety and Social Sustainability through Drink Spike Testing Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Nelson/Lanum) 5-0-0 MSC.** The Safe SIPs Promoting Student Safety and Social Sustainability Through Drink Spike Testing project sparked discussion regarding its alignment with sustainability guidelines. Concerns were raised about the plastic waste generated by 2000 test strips and whether it fit the environmental sustainability criteria. Despite the concerns, the motion to proceed to presentation passed.

K. Action Item: Approval of the Wellness Selfcare Corner: Sustainable Clothing for All Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Wellness Selfcare Corner: Sustainable Clothing for All Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Nelson/Pena) 5-0-0 MSC.** The *Wellness Self-Care Corner / Sustainable Clothing for All Project* generated discussion about its long-term sustainability and potential overlap with other initiatives. Discussion focused on whether to purchase clothes or seek donations and the project's ongoing viability. The motion to proceed to presentation passed.

L. Action Item: Approval of the Increasing Biodiversity and Sustainability by Clarifying the Creek Spring 2025 Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation. **Motion to approve the Increasing Biodiversity and Sustainability by Clarifying the Creek Spring 2025 Project to proceed to funding allocation deliberation (Timko/Nelson) 5-0-0 MSC.** The *Increasing Biodiversity and Sustainability by Clarifying the Creek Project* was presented with a unique history, as it was a project mistakenly overlooked in the previous semester. Jon explained that the project had already been funded through Cherie's sustainability budget due to an administrative error The project had an adjusted requested amount of $1,400. The motion to approve the project effectively reimbursing budget.

I. COMMITTEE FUNDING DELIBERATION

A. Action Item: Approval to fund the Earth Day: Ride or Die Project in the amount of $ 4,950.00 **Motion to approve funding the Earth Day: Ride or Die Project in the amount of $4,950.00 (Nelson/Lanum) 5-0-0 MSC.** Ricardo presented the *Earth Day Ride or Die project*, aiming to promote alternative transportation on April 22, the project seeks to educate students on methods like bikes, e-scooters, and skateboards, especially for students from car-centric cities like Southern California. Questions were raised about attracting students who don't already own alternative transportation, suggesting raffles or giveaways, which would require a higher budget.

Lanum proposed amendment to reduce the budget to $1,800, excluding supplies, decor, live music, and marketing, was discussed. The amendment to reduce the budget to $1,800 was put to a vote and **failed 4-0-1** (four against, zero in favor, one abstention). **Pena** motion to approve the original funding amount of **$4,950** was proposed and **passed 5-0-0**.

B. Action Item: Approval to fund the Let's Talk: Women's Health Project in the amount of $4,999.00 **Motion to approve funding the Let's Talk: Women's Health Project in the amount of $4,999.00 (Nelson/ Lamun) 5-0-0 MSC** Alma presented *Let's Talk Women's Health project*, a three-day series with CCLC and the Wildcat Health Center, focusing on periods, sexual health, and menopause. The project aims to educate students, drawing from the presenter's personal experience with hormonal IUDs and the lack of information. The project plans to purchase sustainable products like Diva Cups, period panties, and gift cards from brands like August, which are known for their sustainability and zero plastic initiatives. Discussion clarified that all brands are sustainable, with August being zero-plastic certified and its products decomposing in one month. The project was **motioned** for approval with the original funding amount **of $4,999 and passed 5-0-0.**

C. Action Item: Approval to fund the Ecological Egg Hunt Event in the amount of $ 637.22. **Motion to approve funding the Ecological Egg Hunt Event in the amount of $637.22 (Timko/ Lamun) 5 - 0-0 MSC** A presenter discussed the *Ecological Ag Hunt Event*, a revival of a past event, aiming to engage student parents and their children. The event, in collaboration with Basic Needs, will feature kid activities, stewardship, sustainability education, and native plant awareness. The requested funding was for **$637. Discussion** focused on strategies to target non-traditional student parents beyond Basic Needs, including advertisements in the Child Development Lab, preschool, virtual promotions, and posters in the BMU. The presenter confirmed that there was no specific contingency in the budget but expressed confidence in managing within the allocated funds. The motion to approve funding for **$637 passed 5-0-0**.

D. Action Item: Approval to fund the Wildcat Plant Prowl, an ecological scavenger hunt Project in the amount of $726.00. **Motion to approve funding the Wildcat Plant Prowl, an ecological scavenger hunt project in the amount of $726.00 (Lamum /Nelson). 5-0-0 MSC** Amber from Green Campus presented the *Wildcat Plant Prowl project*, a scavenger hunt along the creek to teach sustainability and biodiversity. Participants will learn facts and be rewarded with plants from the university farm and other goodies. The projects also aim to highlight the *Clarifying the Creek 2025 SFAC project* and promote SFAC. The initial funding request was for **$726**. **Discussion** questioned if the amount was sufficient, and Amber suggested a potential increase for more plants, noting that the university farm allows returns without charge for unused plants. **Lanum/Nelson** motion to amend the funding to **$800** was made and **passed 5-0-0**. A subsequent motion to approve the funding for the *Wildcat Plant Parole* at **$800** also **passed 5-0-0**.

E. Action Item: Approval to fund the Produce Now: On-Campus Food Production for Students in Need Project in the amount of $4,999.00. **Motion to approve funding the Produce Now: On-Campus Food Production for Students in Need Project in the amount of $4,999.00 (Lanum/ Timko) 5-0-0 MSC** Aaron presented the *Produce Now on Campus Food Production project*, aiming to grow food for food-insecure students. The project targets the **50%** of Chico State students who need food assistance, addressing the Basic Needs Pantry's struggle to provide fresh produce. The plan involves utilizing two 8x8x11 inch beds in the A.S. Compost Garden and two planters outside the library. The project is a collaboration with A.S. Sustainability, Basic Needs Pantry, CAVE, and Green Campus, with A.S. Facilities and Operations also involved for summer and winter upkeep. The requested amount was **$4,999**. **Discussion** confirmed that some listed products might already be available on campus, and the presenter clarified that specific amendments are needed for the new planting areas. The motion to approve the funding for **$4,999 passed 5-0-0**

F. Action Item: Approval to fund the No Man's Land Film Showing - Adventure Outings Project in the amount of $4,999.00. **<u>Motion to approve funding the No Man's Land Film Showing - Adventure Outings Project in the amount of $4,999.00 (Nelson / Lanum) 4-1-0 MSC</u> Tori Tobol** presented the *No Man's Land Film Festival*, featuring women and gender-diverse people in outdoor sports, with Kathy Carlo as a keynote speaker. The project emphasizes social justice, equity, and diversity in outdoor communities, aligning with the social pillar of sustainability. The budget included $1,000 for licensing, $2,000 for Kathy Carlo's speaking fee, $800 for marketing, and $1,199 for catering, totaling **$4,999**. **Discussion** confirmed the speaker and screening fees were accurate and justified the speaker's role in advocating for equity and stewardship of lands. Strategies to target BIPOC and underrepresented students were discussed, including reaching out through backpacking classes and adventure outings marketing. The motion to approve the funding for **$4,999 passed 4-1-0**

G. Action Item: Approval to fund the Waste Audit Signage Project in the amount of $4,999.00 **<u>Motion to approve funding the Waste Audit Signage Project in the amount of $4,999.00 (Nelson/Lanum) 4-1-0 MSC).</u>** Jade from Green Campus presented the *Waste Audit Signage project*, addressing waste issues and recycling contamination on campus. The project proposes clear waste sorting signage in key locations identified with high waste, specifically BSS, USB, and Estomi residence halls. The initial proposal had a miscalculated budget, and Jade clarified the new proposed budget of **$2,000**, including **four** packages of signs (**10** signs each, totaling **40**) at **$800**, and printing/laminating years for years for **$1,160**. **Discussion** confirmed plans to reuse signage for future audits and the potential to expand to other buildings on campus that are used by students. A motion to change the budget to **$20000 passed 4-1-0 (Lamun/Nelson) (four** in favor, **one** against, **zero** abstentions, after clarification of Laila's vote). A subsequent motion to approve the funding for **$2,000 passed 5-0-0**.

H. Action Item: Approval to fund the A Living Legacy: Chico State Graduation Tree project in the amount of $520.00. **<u>Motion to approve funding the A Living Legacy: Chico State Graduation Tree project in the amount of $520.00</u> (Nelson/ Lanum)** 5-0-0 MSC Tatum the presenter outlined the *Living Legacy Chico State Graduation Tree project*, which involves planting a tree to promote campus connection, Wildcat pride, and sustainability. The project, which has been done in the past, has a designated site in front of the BSS building. The requested amount was **$520**.**Discussion** confirmed the location for the new tree and the success of past plantings. The motion to approve funding for **$520 passed 5-0-0**.

I. Action Item: Approval to fund the Sustainable Period Equity: Reusable Menstrual Products for Student Wellness Project in the amount of $4,999.00 **<u>Motion to approve funding the Sustainable Period Equity: Reusable Menstrual Products for Student Wellness Project in the amount of $4,999.00</u> (Nelson/Timko) 5-0-0 MSC** Amelia presented the Sustainable Period Equity Reusable Menstrual Products for Student Wellness Project, aiming to provide free reusable menstrual cups and discs. The project seeks to promote menstrual equity, environmental sustainability, and financial wellness, supplementing existing free tampon and pad provisions. It highlights that women spend $150 to $300 annually on menstrual products and that reusable products reduce waste. The project aims to provide 500 students with reusable products, costing $4,699 for 522 Eco Blossom discs and cups, each at $8.99. Discussion clarified that these products would be in addition to existing provisions and would be a continuous offering, with the need to reapply for funding annually. The motion to approve the funding **for $4,999 passed 5-0-0**

J. Action Item: Approval to fund the Safe Sips Promoting Student Safety and Social Sustainability through Drink Spike Testing Project in the amount of $4,999.00. **<u>Motion to approve funding the Safe Sips Promoting Student Safety and Social Sustainability through Drink Spike Testing Project in the amount of $4,999.00 (Nelson/ Lanum) 3-2-0 MSC</u>**
Amelia also presented the Safe SIPs project, which aims to provide free drink spike test strips to Chico State students. This initiative is intended to promote safety, prevent substance-related harm, and increase access to harm reduction resources, complementing existing fentanyl testing strip provisions. The presenter emphasized that one in 13 college students surveyed reported having their drinks spiked, with 83% involving alcoholic beverages. The requested amount was $4,800 for 2,800 single test strips at $1.49 each, or a two-pack option for $1,927 to reduce waste. Discussion raised concerns about whether the project aligned with environmental sustainability guidelines, with some arguing it was a health and safety issue, not a sustainability one. The sustainability coordinator clarified that while these are guidelines, the committee has the discretion to approve projects outside of strict environmental sustainability if they choose to redefine the scope. There was a suggestion to reduce the number of test strips to 1,400 to cut the budget by half, but this was countered by the argument that student safety should not be compromised. The motion to approve funding for **$4,999 passed 3-2-0 (three in favor, two against, zero abstentions)**

K. Action Item: Approval to fund the Wellness Selfcare Corner: Sustainable Clothing for All Project in the amount of $4,999.00. **<u>Motion to approve funding the Wellness Selfcare Corner: Sustainable Clothing for All Project in the amount of $4,999.00 (Nelson/ Timko) 2-3-0 Failed</u>** Amelia presented the Wellness Self-Care Corner / Sustainable Clothing for All project, aiming to provide free, gender-inclusive clothing to Chico State students. The project focuses on financial wellness, sustainability, and social equity by sourcing secondhand clothing from Leap Repeat, a local thrift store. This initiative seeks to reduce waste and carbon footprint, promote inclusivity, alleviate student financial stress, and educate on sustainable practices. The project aims to purchase between 900 and 1200 gently used, gender-inclusive clothing items, with an average cost of $3.83 to $5.11 per item. Discussion clarified that the clothing would be obtained from Leap Repeat, which donates to local organizations, and that the goal is to fill gaps in existing donations, particularly for winter and gender-neutral items. The committee discussed the continuous nature of the project and the possibility of re-applying for funding if the current funds run out. The motion to approve the funding for **$4,999 failed 2-3-0 (two in favor, three against, zero abstentions).**

L. Action Item: Approval to fund the Increasing Biodiversity and Sustainability by Clarifying the Creek Spring 2025 Project in the amount of $1,400.00 **Motion to approve funding the Increasing Biodiversity and Sustainability by Clarifying the Creek Spring 2025 Project in the amount of $1,400.00 (Lanum/Nelson) 5-0-0 MSC** The motion to approve funding for **$1,400 passed 5-0-0**. The Increasing Biodiversity and Sustainability by Clarifying the Creek Project was unanimously passed 5-0-0 for funding at $1,400, resolving a previous administrative error and reimbursing Cherie's budget.

IX. SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR'S REPORT— Higgs

The meeting concluded with the sustainability coordinator's report, highlighting the current SFAC account balance of $500,000, with $75,000 allotted for the current semester's projects. An updated budget report will be sent to the committee, detailing approved funding and remaining account balance. The coordinator expressed gratitude for participation and patience, emphasizing the need to streamline the SFAC process for future semesters.

X. CHAIR REPORT- Murzakulova

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS — Announcements included discussions about updating SFAC guidelines to align with evolving definitions of sustainability, especially concerning the intent of student project funding. There was also an announcement about a proposed $250,000 contribution from ASFAC towards upgrades on Warner Street and West Sac, part of a larger $25 million city project.
A project for electrical work, previously approved by ASFAC, has commenced to replace campus generators.

XII. PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to three minutes per speaker, five minutes for the entire topic. Mark says that student funding should be included in the SFAC funding; there 't been a time when a student-focused event hasn't included faculty. contributions emphasized the need for clarity on whether projects must solely support students or if faculty initiatives are also eligible. **Aaron** spoke against the **$250,000** contribution to the city project, arguing that student funds should prioritize projects directly benefiting students and campus, especially since the contribution is less than **1%** of the total project cost and the budget is being reduced by **$75,000**.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – Murzakulova adjourned the meeting at 10:48 pm