

**UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 – NORTHRIDGE CENTER**

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the USU Board of Directors was called to order at 12:34 p.m. by Chair Lopez.

II. Roll Call

Present	Absent	Staff	Guests
Mishell De Leon	Nawshin Sabah	Alejandra Aparicio	Cesar Jimenez
Rudy Granillo		Amanda Christianson	Jordan Brown
Debra Hammond		Robert Graves	Jordan Cote, CohnReznick LLP*
Iman Khan (A.S. Liaison)		Jeremy Hamlett	Michael J. Good, CohnReznick LLP*
Daniel Lopez		Raine Hernandez	Jackie Richman, CohnReznick LLP*
Joaquin Macias		Tari Hunter	
Devaansh Mann		Joe Illuminate*	
Marilyn Orantes		Natalie Johnson	
Heet Patel		Sharon Kinard	
Vyom Pathak		Samantha Liu	
Nataly Pelaez		Audrey Martinez	
Ricky Rosado		Roy Ng-Jaramillo	
Dr. Freddie Sanchez*		Kristen Pichler	
Dr. Mirna Sawyer		Caroline Ponce*	
Dr. Winterhalter		Shelley Sakoda	
Steven Wang		Ruth Vasquez	
		Steven Wein	
		Malahat Zhobin	
		Denver Zepeda	

* TEAMS video participant

III. Approval of Agenda

M/S/P (R. Granillo / D. Mann) Motion to approve the agenda for September 9, 2024.

Motion passed 11-0-0.

Director Sanchez arrived at 12:36 p.m.

IV. Approval of Minutes 8/26/2024

M/S/P (R. Rosado / D. Mann) Motion to approve the minutes for August 26, 2024.

Motion passed 12-0-0.

Director Macias arrived at 12:44 p.m.

V. Action Items

A. Acceptance of the 2023-2024 Financial Audit Report (Time Certain 12:45 p.m.)

Motion out of the Audit Committee to accept the 2023-2024 Financial Audit Report as presented by CohnReznick LLP.

CohnReznick Partner, Michael Good introduced Assurance Director Jackie Richman who presented the 2023-2024 Financial Audit Report. This is the eighth year CohnReznick has audited the USU's financial statements. The audit and analysis were conducted by CohnReznick LLP, a firm independent from the USU and CSUN.

The USU adopted Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2016-13, *Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Statements* ("ASC 326") starting July 1, 2023. The new standard changes the impairment model for most financial assets that are measured at amortized cost and certain other instruments, including trade receivables, from an incurred loss model to an expected loss model. The new adoption had no impact on the organization's financial statements.

Following a detailed analysis of the USU's financial statement there were no audit adjustments made, which is a testament to the due diligence of the USU Accounting and Finance Department. There were no disagreements, fraud, or deficiencies noted in the report.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

VI. Open Forum

Richard "Richie" Quiroga introduced himself to the Board. He is a transfer student starting his first semester at CSUN. He met Vice Chair Orantes at the CSUN Housing Block Party and was inspired to join. He served as an ASB Executive Senator at his community college and hopes to be engaged with the BOD after he has completed his first semester on campus eligibility requirements to serve on an auxiliary board.

VII. Chair's Report

Chair Lopez thanked everyone for being engaged in the BOD Goals Brainstorming discussion in the last meeting. He is confident in the goals that were established for the year. He thanked the directors for their participation in tabling, outreach, and recruitment these first couple of weeks of school. He and Vice Chair Orantes are available to support during the recruitment and interview process if needed.

VIII. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair Orantes shared that she accepted a position as Outreach Coordinator at CSUN's Parent Scholar Resource Center. In this role, she will facilitate a Parent Scholar Affinity group aimed at collaborating with campus partners on how to best support parenting students. Director Granillo has agreed to serve as a USU Representative during these meetings. She will be assisting Interim Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, Equity and Inclusion Dr. Freddie Sanchez in the post-conference debriefing discussion for the 38th Annual Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) conference.

IX. Executive Director's Report

Director Hammond introduced the new Veteran's Resource Center Supervisor Roy Ng-Jaramillo. She highlighted installation of the 88 new pieces of strength and cardiovascular equipment throughout the SRC facility. The strength and cardiovascular equipment life span was stretched out longer due to COVID and the equipment being out of use for periods of time.

She announced that she will be on an extended vacation from September 13 through October 4, 2024. She will be back on October 7, 2024. During this time, all questions or concerns should be

directed to Associate Executive Director, Equity, Programs and Leadership Dr. Tari Hunter who will serve as the administrator in charge.

X. A.S. Report

Associated Students Vice President Khan reported that A.S. Welcome Week went well. There was higher engagement this semester. The Data Governance Committee discussed sharing data concerning student demographics with a third party for scholarship purposes. A.S. conducted its Elections Engagement Meeting in hopes of directing more students to the voting stations. The Academic Tech Committee is discussing “CSUN Ready” and the pros and cons of using the platform. The Committee is hosting a focus group for student input to understand the impact it would have on undergraduate students.

XI. Action Items

B. Board of Directors Student Member Appointment

M/S/P (M. Orantes/ H. Patel) Motion to approve Nataly Pelaez as a Student Member Representative for the Board of Directors.

Chair Lopez, Vice Chair Orantes, and Assistant Director of Programs and Leadership Audrey Martinez interviewed Nataly Pelaez, and all felt that this candidate would excel in this appointment if given the opportunity.

Nataly Pelaez gave a statement to the Board of Directors and fielded questions.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

A.S. Vice President Khan left at 1:08 p.m.
Director Pelaez took her seat on the Board.

C. 2024-25 BOD Goals

M/S/P (M. De Leon / V. Pathak) Motion to approve the USU BOD Goals for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Following the BOD Goals brainstorming sessions, Chair Lopez, Vice Chair Orantes, and Associate Executive Director, Equity, Programs and Leadership Dr. Tari Hunter reviewed the themes, feedback, and reflected on the discussions to compile and finalize the goals.

The proposed goals for the 2024-25 academic year are as follows:

1. The USU BOD will provide leadership opportunities to deepen students’ understanding of leadership pathways in the USU.
2. The USU BOD will enhance student awareness and engagement.
3. The USU BOD will enhance its internal governance framework and guiding documents.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

Director Winterhalter stepped out at 1:30 p.m. and returned at 1:33 p.m.

XI. Discussion Items

A. USU JEDI Assessment Tool

Associate Executive Director, Equity, Programs and Leadership Dr. Tari Hunter shared that the USU JEDI Assessment tool was launched with the Student Assistant Employees (SAEs) during SUMMIT on August 21, 2024. The USU JEDI Assessment was designed with intentionality to assist in the development of a shared culture rooted in the values of justice, equity, diversity, and

inclusion among members within this community. Participation is critical to understand what works needs to be done to achieve the shared culture we hope to experience.

She asked the Board of Directors to take a moment and complete the assessment.

XII. Announcements

Director Sawyer along with Director Wang and Briana Walden have started Sangha at CSUN, a mindfulness practice group. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Garden Level of University Library in Room 3 (FACDEV Commons) throughout the fall semester. CSUN students, faculty, administrators, and external community members are all welcome.

Chair Lopez announced that Matador Nights will be held on September 13, 2024. He reminded the directors to check Teams for communications and tabling opportunities. On September 23, 2024, a training will be conducted pertaining to Committee Reports.

Assistant Director of Programs and Leadership Audrey Martinez reminded the directors to continue conducting interviews and submit their Committee Member list by September 13, 2024. There will be a BOD Training in two weeks on September 23, 2024, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Thousand Oaks Room.

XIII. Adjournment

Chair Lopez adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Debra L. Hammond,
Executive Director