UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 4, 2026 – Grand Salon

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the USU Board of Directors was called to order at 12:38 p.m. by Chair Sabah.

II. Roll Call

Present	Absent	Staff	Guests
Alexia Aguilar	Dr. Marlesha Bell	Alejandra Aparicio	
Alejandro Perez	Joaquin Macias	Alexander Gonzales*	
Cameron Gonzalez		Audrey Martinez	
Cesar Rosales		Chris Jensen	
Cecilia Ortiz		Condor	
Dr. Edith Winterhalter*		Dillon Goyette	
Dr. Freddie Sanchez*		Janessa Reyes	
Heet Patel		Jenny Aw	
Honey Modi		Jeremy Hamlett	
Nawshin Sabah		Jimmy Frances	
Karim Kouatly		Joseph Illuminate	
Rudy Granillo		Lara Shaghoian	
Scarlett Khadka (A.S. Liaison)		Magdalena Sanchez	
Steven Wang		Natalie Johnson	
Vyom Pathak		Raine Hernandez	
		Raquel De Ruiz	
		Rolando Cabral	
		Ryan Hairapetian	
		Samantha Liu	
		Sharon Kinard	
		Steven Wein	
		Dr. Tari Hunter	
		Tim Rasmussen	
		Tyler Wollenweber	
		Vincent King	
		Vincent Mele	

**TEAMS video participant*

III. Approval of Agenda

M/S/P (K. Kouatly / V. Pathak) Motion to approve the agenda for May 4, 2026.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes 04/13/2026

M/S/P (A. Aguilar / R. Granillo) Motion to approve the minutes for April 13, 2026.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

V. Open Forum

There were no participants for Open Forum.

VI. Chair's Report

Chair Sabah began her report wishing everyone luck on their finals. She congratulated graduating Directors Alex Perez, Karim Kouatly, Cameron Gonzalez, Heet Patel, and Vyom Pathak, wishing them the best in their future endeavors. The Board attended the last monthly workshop on their Year-End Reports and capstone presentation on April 20. Chair Sabah attended the USU Year End Celebration, noting it was a beautiful way for everyone in the USU to celebrate. She closed her report with words of encouragement.

VII. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair Granillo started off by apologizing for the lack of a physical report, noting the only update being about the Executive Director Evaluation, which was to be discussed later in the meeting. Additionally, Vice Chair Granillo praised Board members for their service this year. For continuing members, he shared optimism for continuing the legacy alongside them; for departing members, he shared that he looked forward to their endeavors.

VIII. Executive Director's Report

Director Ortiz shared highlights in the areas of Professional Activities and Programs. Intramural Sports & Day Camp Coordinator Demetrius Scott served as a co-chair of the Program Planning Committee for the American Camp Association (ACA) Spring Leadership Conference. Veteran Resource Center (VRC) Manager Robert Graves served as a panelist at The Future of Veteran Leadership Seminar at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB). Director Ortiz thanked the Board and committee members who attended and engaged with staff members at the USU Year End Celebration, hosted by Human Resources and Equity, Programs, and Leadership. Additionally, Human Resources hosted the annual Graduation Preparation Seminar (GPS) featuring workshops facilitated by several USU staff members and Financial Wellness Educator Sahiernys Pierce. Director Gonzalez was in attendance. Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) hosted a Racial Healing Retreat, which included a keynote speaker, workshops, guided reflection, and a sound bath. Programs hosted Night Market featuring live entertainment, food vendors, and interactive activities. Student Recreation Center (SRC) Fitness hosted a festival-inspired fitness event that featured a live DJ and a lineup of fusion workouts. Director Ortiz concluded her report by sharing that Sunny Days Camp is officially sold out.

IX. A.S. Report

Associated Students (A.S.) Senator Khadka announced that it was her last BOD meeting, expressing warm sentiment toward her service this semester. Outdoor Adventures will host Explore Yellowstone and Grand Tetons from June 7 to 14 and Camp Matador from August 11 to 14. Productions and Sustainability are preparing for a variety of events, including the final farmers market featuring Trends CSUN Fashion Show on May 5, Finals are a Drag on May 6, Housing Swap N Shop on May 7 to 8, Fallen Matador Memorial on May 7, and the commencement of Summer Movie Fest on June 4. Sports Club held their banquet. A.S. Student Leadership held its last meeting that day and made several approvals regarding updated personnel manuals, revised bylaws, funding allocation, Food Pantry support, and 2027-2028 A.S. Annual Budget and Finance Code. A.S. Senator Khadka closed her report wishing everyone luck on finals and a great summer.

X. Committee Reports

A. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Director Gonzalez reported the committee's strong progress with their accessibility survey, garnering over 90 responses with a goal of 150. They are excited to share the survey results with the rest of the Board, especially after engaging with students at USU Night Market, Matachella, and other events. They plan to compile results into a report by the June BOD meeting.

B. Facilities & Operations

Director Patel summarized major discussion points for the next committee meeting on May 15, noting they canceled their April 24 meeting. Members will discuss the goals, tasks for next year's committee, the Computer Lab decision, and the Year End Report.

C. Finance

Director Pathak stated they have no major updates. However, the committee will discuss the budget at their next meeting, providing an opportunity to review the USU's current financial standing and plan accordingly for next year. The committee is planning a development activity on May 8.

D. Personnel

Director Kouatly stated they have no major updates. The last committee meeting is on May 11 at 12:30 p.m.

E. Internal Review

Vice Chair Granillo shared that the committee rescheduled their latest meeting. The USU Scholarship Policy has been a big endeavor, and the committee plans to bring recommendations forward for next year's members. All are welcome to attend their final meeting.

F. Visibility and Engagement

Chair Sabah reported that the committee met that morning and approved the USU Awareness and Engagement Survey, which they will advance to the Board for approval in the June meeting.

XI. Action Items

A. USU's Continued Participation in the AORMA Programs

M/S/P (R. Granillo / H. Modi) Motion to approve the USU's continued participation in the AORMA programs.

The AORMA Participation Agreement has been revised to include all four AORMA coverage programs that are funded through the California State University Risk Management Authority (CSURMA). This amended agreement will take effect on July 1, 2026.

Key updates include:

- Consolidation of all programs into one document
- Clearer responsibilities for Program Participants, including cooperation in claims investigations
- Updated definitions and terminology for clarity and consistency

Motion passed 13-0-0.

B. 2026-2027 Capital Outlay Allocation Proposal

Motion out of the Finance Committee to approve the 2026-2027 Capital Outlay Allocation Proposal.

Capital outlay or fixed assets are defined as a single item with a value greater than $10,000 that has a useful life of more than one year and can be used in a productive capacity in the USU. The Capital Outlay Allocation Proposal is separate from the Operating Budget Proposal. A 10% financial contingency has been added to the base cost of each item to allow for potential price increases.

Capital outlay allocation requests include a flatbed golf cart, Grand Salon projector, Grand Salon projector lens #1, Grand Salon projector lens #2, portable event power source, and portable event power source battery, resulting in a total cost of $192,788.

Directors engaged in discussion about the purposes for each item, specifically highlighting the Grand Salon projector and lenses. The current projector used in the Grand Salon belongs to CSUN, so it will be returned. The new projector will be able to move around, hence the various lenses.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

C. 2026-2027 Major Purchases, Repairs, and Replacements Allocation Proposal

Motion out of the Finance Committee to approve the 2026-2027 Major Purchases, Repairs, and Replacements allocation proposal.

The funding source for major repairs and replacements is the USU's Repair and Replacement fund (53501) administered by the campus on behalf of the USU. Expenditures from this fund are recorded in the University's accounting records. A financial contingency has been added to the base cost of each item to allow for potential increases.

The 2026-2027 major purchases, repairs, and replacements allocation proposal include outdoor flexible furniture, replacement of the USU Maintenance shop roof, upgraded HVAC controls in USU buildings, and upgraded hardware for the virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI), resulting in a total cost of $1,624,372.

In response to Vice Chair Granillo's inquiry, IT Manager Alexander Gonzales shared that once the new VDI hardware is in place, the 2021 VDI hosts located in Sequoia Hall will be repurposed to replace the older server hardware that was purchased in 2017.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

D. 2026-2027 Designated Reserves Allocation Proposal

Motion out of the Finance Committee to approve the 2026-2027 Designated Reserves Allocation Proposal.

Designated Reserves are set aside for payroll-related items such as general salary increases, vacation advances, employer-paid payroll taxes, and funding for the Retirement Health Benefits Plan (RHBP). This allocation proposal amounts to a total cost of $1,001,353.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

XII. Discussion Items

A. Honoring BOD Graduation Medals

Chair Sabah and Director Ortiz took a moment to honor the graduating Student Directors Cameron Gonzalez, Karim Kouatly, Heet Patel, Vyom Pathak, and Alex Perez. Chair Sabah called each graduating Student Director to the podium, where Director Ortiz placed the graduation medal around their neck. Chair Sabah concluded each announcement with their anticipated degree and senior quote. Director Ortiz congratulated the graduates with warm closing remarks.

Director Ortiz left at 1:17 p.m. and returned at 1:19 p.m.

B. Executive Session – USU Executive Director Evaluation

M/S/P (R. Granillo / V. Pathak) Motion to enter a closed Executive Session to discuss the University Student Union Executive Director Evaluation.

Motion passed 13-0-0.

A.S. Senator Khadka left at 1:20 p.m. Everyone except voting members of the Board left the physical and virtual meeting spaces at 1:29 p.m.
Director Winterhalter left at 1:42 p.m.

M/S/P (C. Rosales / A. Perez) Motion to close the Executive Session.

Motion passed 12-0-0.
Individuals were welcomed back into the room at 2:00 p.m.

XIII. Announcements

Director Rosales made exciting announcements about the CSUN Men's Basketball team's advancement to championships and the Model UN team taking 1st Place for another consecutive year.

BOD Leadership & Administrative Coordinator Janessa Reyes asked the Board to stay back for group photos to commemorate the graduating seniors.

Chair Sabah announced that she has accepted an internship at Columbia University and may not make it to the June BOD meeting. The Board applauded her major accomplishment.

Director Perez announced that he has also accepted an internship in New York this summer and may miss the June BOD meetings. The Board provided a congratulatory applause.

Director Wang greeted everyone, "May the 4th be with you."

Director Ortiz provided encouragement for everyone ahead of finals.

XIV. Adjournment

Chair Sabah adjourned the meeting at 2:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cecilia Ortiz,
Executive Director