

**University Student Union
California State University, Northridge
Facilities & Operations Committee
February 20, 2026
Regular Meeting Minutes**

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Facilities and Operations Committee was called to order at 9:01 am by Chair Heet Patel.

II. Roll Call

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Heet Patel (Chair)	Leof Chou	Jeremy Hamlett	
Alejandro Perez (Co Chair)		Samantha Liu	
Syed Husaini		Cecilia Ortiz	
Yash Patel		Alexander Gonzales	
Erwin Torres			

III. Approval of Agenda – February 20, 2026

M/S/P (A. Perez/Y. Patel) – Motion to approve the agenda for February 20, 2026.

Motion passed 4-0-0

IV. Approval of Minutes – January 30, 2026

M/S/P (Y. Patel/S. Husani) - Motion to approve the minutes for January 30, 2026.

Motion Passed 4-0-0

V. Chair’s & Co-Chair’s Report

Chair H. Patel shared that election deadlines are coming up and reach out to him for any assistance. Next Friday, The Valera NEST will be celebrating the ribbon cutting at 10:30a and we hope the committee can attend.

Co-Chair Perez emphasized The Valera NEST Grand Opening ribbon cutting and his hope that everyone can make it even though it is midterm season.

VI. Discussion Items

A. Computer Lab Analysis

- i. Chair Patel introduced the topic and the committee’s goal to review an analysis on the computer lab usage and introduced USU IT Manager, Alexander Gonzales. Alexander shared a comprehensive analysis from the USU IT Department evaluating how the current Computer Lab space is

being utilized. The analysis reviewed the Computer Lab utilization data from 2018–2026, highlighting post-pandemic recovery trends and current usage patterns. Participants discussed the underutilization of total capacity and Alexander proposed reallocation of workstations to the ECC and TV Lounges to better align resources with student needs.

- ii. Discussion: The discussion focused on clarifying the proposed ECC location, operating hours, and staffing structure for the new computing resource model. The committee reviewed staffing changes, including integrating current Computer Lab Technicians into USU IT and reducing roles, while also requesting additional data on peak usage times and daily demand patterns. It was agreed that USU IT will discuss with Operations and Services and further evaluate implementation details, with an estimated transition timeline of one month, ideally during the summer, and additional stakeholders included in future discussions.

B. NEST Lost and Found Procedure

- i. Chair Patel reported that since the opening of The Valera NEST, the USU Facilities Operations Department has been monitoring locker usage and identified concerns regarding items left behind at the end of each day. An updated procedure was presented to ensure lockers remain accessible, organized, and safe for all students.
- ii. ii. USU Operations Manager Tim Rasmussen summarized prior NEST Advisory Committee discussions confirming that both indoor and refrigerated lockers are intended for day use only. He outlined a revised process for temporarily storing and sorting unclaimed items before transferring them to the USU Lost and Found in accordance with campus policy, and invited committee feedback.
- iii. iii. Committee discussion included questions and considerations regarding the types of items left behind, potential student outreach or surveys to better understand locker usage, and the relationship to services such as Matty’s Closet and the Food Pantry. Clarification was provided that custodial staff will not remove items but may mark them as soiled if necessary. Additional questions were raised regarding notification methods (email or phone), handling of items left overnight, and defining what constitutes a standard item under the procedure.

C. Former Plaza Pool Update

- i. Facilities Planning Coordinator Rolando Cabral provided an update on the Plaza Pool decommissioning and upcoming renovation plans, outlining the transition of the space for alternative campus use.
- ii. Discussion included notes from the last committee meeting and ideas around proposed landscape enhancements, the addition of a secondary

access gate to improve entry and flow, and considerations for summer use programming.

- iii. Members reviewed ideas for outdoor furniture and shade structures to support comfort and usability, as well as potential activities that could activate the space while maintaining appropriate operational parameters.
- iv. Additional topics included opportunities for sponsorship, establishing a timeline for naming the renovated space, and updating signage to reflect the new purpose and design of the area.

D. Pizza Vending Machine Vendor

- i. Executive Secretary Samantha Liu shared that the University Student Union was approached by The University Corporation and Chartwells regarding the potential placement of an outdoor, 24/7 pizza vending machine as an additional food service option. A location near the East Conference Center was identified due to high student traffic and proximity to study areas.
- ii. Committee discussion included feedback on the proposed machine design, noting it may be more suitable than previous multi-purpose vending models, while also raising concerns about aesthetics and the need for appropriate branding to avoid visual disruption.
- iii. Operational considerations were discussed, including maintenance responsibilities, restocking frequency, inspection protocols, and compliance with storage and facility regulations for permanent fixtures. Members also requested comparative data from other campuses, including refill frequency, sales performance, and benchmarks such as pizza sales from Arbor Grill.
- iv. Financial considerations, including potential revenue generation, were also discussed as part of evaluating the feasibility of moving forward with the proposal.
- v. The discussion remains exploratory, with any advancement contingent upon review of permitting, health and safety standards, and campus policies.

VII. Announcements

N/A

VIII. Adjournment

By consensus, the regular meeting of the Facilities & Operations Committee was adjourned at 10:33 a.m. by Chair H. Patel.

Respectfully submitted by,
Samantha Liu