



# Board of Directors Meeting

## Minutes

---

Day/Date: Thursday, August 1, 2024  
 Time: 2:00- 4:00 PM  
 Location: <https://calstatela.zoom.us/j/87681934041>  
 Attendees: Board Members, General Public  
 Type of Meeting: General

### I. Organizational Items:

- **Land Acknowledgment:** With Great respect, Cal State LA acknowledges the Tongva people as the traditional caretaker of Tovaangar (TOE-van-gar) – the Tongva world, including the Los Angeles Basin, South Channel Islands, San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys, and portions of Orange, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties. Cal State LA is located within these lands. As an institution located on unceded Tongva land, we pay our respects to the ancestors, elders, and our relatives/relations, past, present, and Emerging. Consistent with our values of community and diversity, we have a responsibility to acknowledge and make visible the university’s relationship to Native peoples. By offering this land Acknowledgment, we affirm Indigenous sovereignty and will work to hold Cal State LA more accountable to the needs of American Indian Peoples.
- **Call to order by: Chief of Staff, Cindy Nguyen @ 2:05 pm**
- **Roll Call**

Yahir Flores	President	Excused Absence
CJ Calica	Vice President for Administration	Present
VACANT	Vice President for Finance	
Arwa Mohamed Hammad	Vice President for External Affairs and Advancement	Present
Santhosh Kumar	Vice President for Academic Governance	Present
Cindy Nguyen	Chief of Staff	Present
Valerie Canizales	College of Health and Human Services Rep.	Present
Kimberly De La Cruz	College of Business & Economics Rep.	Unexcused Absence
Victoria Gragasin Montoya	College of Arts and Letters Rep.	Present
Preet Jadhav	College of Engineering, Comp. Science & Technology Rep.	Present
Ananya Sharma	College of Natural & Social Sciences Rep.	Present
Savanah Alvarez	College of Education Rep.	Excused Absence
VACANT	College of Ethnic Studies Rep.	Present
Natasha Booka Raghu	Civic Engagement Officer	Unexcused Absence
Briana Goytizolo	Diversity and Inclusion Officer	Present
Blanca Martinez-Navarro	AVP- Dean of Students	Excused Absence
Barnaby Peake	ASI Executive Director	Present
Dena Florez	Associate Executive Director	Present
Gus Salazar	Director of Graphics and Marketing	Excused Absence
Amanda Maldonado	Administrative Coordinator	Present
Ashley Foskey	Program Coordinator	Present
Guests of the Gallery		

➤ **Adoption of the Agenda**

Offered By:	Briana Goytizolo	Seconded by:	Valerie Canizales			
Motion to Approve Agenda for Thursday, August 1, 2024						
Consensus reached						
All in Favor	All	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

➤ **Motion to table the certification of the Minutes**

Offered By:	Santhosh Kumar	Seconded by:	Valerie Canizales			
Motion to table the certification of Minutes for July 18, 2024						
Consensus Reached						
All in Favor	All	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

**II. Public Comment**

- We will now move on to Public Comment. This time is allotted for the public to bring up comments or concerns of interest to the board. Please be advised that due to a set agenda, the board will not address the items brought up at this time but will note them down for the Executive Committee's review and action. If members of the public would like to be followed up with directly, please provide your contact information through the QR code on the door or through the form provided on the ASI website meeting agenda. We will now call on members of the public in the order of registration before moving on to the general public.

**III. Informational Items**

➤ **CSUnity 2024**

**Cindy Nguyen:** A delegation of five members will attend CSU Unity 2024 from August 9-12, 2024, and will present a summary of the event upon their return.

**IV. Action Items**

➤ **Removal of BOD Member**

**Barnaby Peake:** Barnaby updated the Chief of Staff position description and shared the revised organizational chart showing reporting lines.

**Cindy Nguyen:** A survey will be sent to assess summer training and needs, with responses due by the end of the week. Barnaby also proposed removing Kimberly, the College of Business and Economics representative, due to missed meetings and lack of communication, to allow for a more active replacement.

**Santhosh Kumar:** Raised a question about exactly how many mandatory meetings Kimberly missed.

**Cindy Nguyen:** Points out that the dates missed are listed on the document, totaling to three meetings.

**Motion to Approve Action Item A**

Offered By:	CJ Calica	Seconded by:	Briana Goytizolo			
Motion to Remove Kimberly as the College of B&E Rep						
Consensus reached						

1 Objection: Santhosh Kumar						
All in Favor	5	Opposed	0	Abstained	1	Motion: Passed

➤ **Appointment for Vacancies**

**Santhosh Kumar:** He would like to appoint Akshat Reddy for the position of Graduate Senator #2. He explains that Akshat has great time management and experience with faculty. Santhosh is also appointing Adityaram for Graduate Senator #2 and Dion for the At-Large.

**Sweeping Motion for 3 Appointments of the Agenda**

Offered By:	Santhosh Kumar	Seconded by:	Arwa Mohamed Hammad			
Consensus reached						
All in Favor	All	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

➤ **Approval of the committee meeting calendar for Fall 2024**

**Motion to Approve the Committee Meeting Calendar for Fall 2024**

Offered By:	Valerie Canizales	Seconded by:	Briana Goytizolo			
Motion to Approve Committee Calendar						
Consensus reached						
All in Favor	All	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

➤ **ASI Standing Committee Appointments**

- **Cindy Nguyen:**
  - **Exec Cabinet: Victoria (Finance) and Ananya (Personnel).**
  - **Legislative Affairs: Valerie and Ananya.**

**Motion to Approve ASI Standing Committee Appointments**

Offered By:	Briana Goytizolo	Seconded by:	Santhosh Kumar			
Motion to approve						
Consensus Reached						
All in Favor	All	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

**V. Discussion Items**

- **Bylaws & Codes of Procedures- The Board will discuss revisions to the following ASI Committee Codes of Procedures and ASI Bylaws.**
  - [ASI Policy 001- ASI Bylaws](#)
  - [ASI Policy 017 - Community Engagement & Outreach Committee \(CEO\)](#)
  - ~~ASI Policy 014 - Legislative Affairs and Advocacy Committee~~
  - [ASI Policy 012 - Environmental Policy Committee](#)
  - [ASI Policy 018 – Cabinet of College Representatives Code of Procedure](#)

**Barnaby Peake:** The updates to the bylaws were discussed, focusing on aligning them with approved position descriptions and organizational changes. Key updates include:

- **Position Titles and Succession:** Adjustments were made to reflect the updated titles (e.g., VP of Community Engagement, VP of University Affairs) and clarify the line of succession, with the Chief of Staff as the next in line if the President is unavailable.
- **Document Cleanup:** Revised awkward wording, cleaned up language, and updated references to reflect changes in position descriptions.
- **Vacancies and Special Elections:** Updated procedures for handling vacancies, including a special election if all executive positions are vacant.
- **Removal Procedures:** Revised sections on the removal of directors, incorporating new procedures into the student leader handbook.
- **Committee Chairs:** Specified chairs for standing committees (e.g., Chief of Staff for Personnel Committee, CEO for Finance Committee) to ensure consistency.

**Santhosh Kumar:** Proposed to remove the clause allowing a recall of an official based on a petition by 10% of the student body. The concern is that this process could be manipulated by special interest groups or used unfairly, potentially allowing a small, possibly biased group of students to remove someone from their position without sufficient justification.

**Cindy Nguyen:** Asks if there are any members of the Board who shares the same concern as Santhosh.

**Arwa Mohamed Hammad:** Disagrees and believes this is unlikely to be manipulated, noting that the review process and oversight by the Vice President for Student Life would ensure legitimacy. She supported maintaining the right for students to petition against leaders if needed.

**Barnaby Peake:** Clarifies that this petition doesn't remove anybody, but instead calls for a special election. Advises the Board to draft specific language and recommendations if they think it is needed.

**Barnaby Peake:** Discussed the updates to the Code of Procedures for standing committees, emphasizing that these procedures provide detailed guidance beyond what's outlined in the bylaws. He highlighted several key changes for the CEO Committee, including:

- **Authority and Function:** Expanded to include responsibilities related to sustainability, environmental programming, civic engagement, and voter registration, allowing the Legislative Affairs Committee to focus more on advocacy.
- **Membership:** Updated to remove outdated positions.
- **Meeting Schedule:** Adjusted to weekly meetings to keep up with the demands of programming.
- **Community Engagement:** Shifted from administration to programming.

**Barnaby Peake:** Discussed the updates to the Code of Procedures for the representatives:

- **Reporting Line:** The reporting line has been updated to reflect changes in the position description. Oversight responsibilities, previously held by the ASI President, are now shared, with the Chief of Staff working directly with college representatives. The Chief of Staff has been added to the membership to reflect this change.
- **Chair of CCR:** A call will be made at the first CCR meeting for college representatives interested in serving as the chair, a role that includes additional responsibilities and a seat on the executive cabinet as the voice of the college representatives.

- Meeting Schedule: A new section was added specifying that CCR meetings will occur once a month.
  - Approval Flow: Part five was updated, and it was noted that Ananya has been selected as the chair. Representatives are encouraged to review the updates and reach out with any questions.
- **2024-2025 ASI Advocacy agenda- The board will discuss the advocacy agenda, student priorities, and action plans for the upcoming academic year**

**Cindy Nguyen:** She provided an overview of the ASI Advocacy Agenda, highlighting past achievements and outlining priorities for the upcoming year:

- Past Initiatives: ASI has previously focused on campus safety (lighting and safety walks), emergency guidance, facility improvements (such as a submission portal for maintenance requests), food security (expanding the food pantry), and commencement venue changes.
- Current Priorities:
  - Mental Health: Addressing concerns about recruitment and reducing wait times at CAPS, with plans to engage CAPS and the community care team in future meetings.
  - Student Life: Following up on last year's survey results to improve student interaction and engagement post-pandemic, with specific actions tied to the feedback received.
  - Student Outreach: Planning events similar to past initiatives like "Spill the Tea," where students could engage with administration while participating in campus activities.

Cindy encouraged board members to contribute their ideas and emphasized the importance of their involvement in shaping the advocacy agenda.

**CJ Calica:** Emphasized the importance of sexual and reproductive health education and access on campus. Key points included:

- Suggested providing pamphlets in the ASI room and posters around campus to inform students about the services offered by the Student Health Center, emphasizing that these services are covered by student tuition.
- The need for pad and tampon dispensers in restrooms, noting that many restrooms lack these essentials or are not consistently stocked, which negatively impacts women's health and their ability to focus on school.

**Valerie Canizales:** Suggested there be more accessible trainings for students, such as a naloxone training program.

**CJ Calica:** Stated that students may not be taking advantage of opportunities that are available on campus because of lack of transparency or promotion efforts. This could also be linked to the fact that CSULA is a commuter school.

**Briana Goytizolo:** Highlighted the need for more microwaves on campus, noting that the limited availability affects students, particularly those who commute or use the gym. Some students have to go home just to warm up their food, which is inconvenient and time-consuming. Brianna suggested placing more microwaves around campus, especially near classrooms and cultural centers, to better accommodate students' needs.

**Arwa Mohamed Hammad:** Supported the idea of promoting biking and community engagement beyond the campus. She emphasized the importance of encouraging students to get involved in local activities, particularly in the San Gabriel Valley (SGV) area. Arwa suggested that ASI should promote

events which close streets to promote biking and community interaction, providing students with more opportunities to engage with their surroundings and be active participants in their community.

**Santhosh Kumar:** Emphasized the importance of ensuring impartiality and preventing the over-promotion of certain agendas at the expense of others. He advocated for maintaining a balance in giving platforms to different viewpoints, particularly those that align with liberal values. He also stated that DEI principles and support for students with disabilities need to be prioritized in discussions and the advocacy agenda.

**Cindy Nguyen:** Asked Santhosh to elaborate on specifics.

**Santhosh Kumar:** Santhosh reiterated the importance of ensuring that students with disabilities are adequately represented and receive the necessary accommodations they deserve. He also expressed concerns about individuals who falsely claim persecution to justify harmful actions, suggesting this issue should be addressed in the advocacy agenda. Additionally, Santhosh highlighted the need for a discussion on promoting equality over equity, emphasizing that while supporting minorities is important, it should not come at the expense of others. These topics, though potentially unpopular, were identified as crucial for inclusion in the advocacy agenda.

## VI. Reports

### ➤ **ASI President: Yahir Flores**

- The team was thanked for their presence at the meeting, and an apology was offered for the speaker's absence due to all-day training with Housing and Residence Life.
- The executive team is working on collective goals for the 2024-25 academic year, which will be updated on the website.
- He is participating in search committees for interim vice president roles within the administration.
- Collaboration is ongoing with the President and government members to present annual board meeting agendas, keep the board informed about their charges, and address questions affecting the student body.

### ➤ **ASI Vice President for Community Engagement: Caitlin Jane Calica (CJ)**

- Reminds the board to attend the CEO meeting if they are a part of it. The meeting will go over more introductions, appointment of a vice chair, and efforts to appoint someone as the Engagement Commissioner.

### ➤ **ASI Vice President for Finance (vacant)**

### ➤ **ASI Vice President for Academic Governance: Santhosh Kumar**

- Discussed plans for an upcoming training session on August 13, focusing on parliamentary procedures. The training will include a session followed by a Kahoot game, with a gift card as a potential prize. The training aims to ensure that all attendees fully understand their roles. Santhosh noted that the team is doing well, with two emails already set up and the rest of the team recently appointed.

- **ASI Vice President for External Affairs: Arwa Mohamed Hammad**
  - Working to address a financial burden on students imposed by a tax from the LA City Council. The goal is to potentially repeal this tax.
  - Developing a central repository for external scholarships based on student feedback from a priority survey. The plan includes creating a document with tasks for the Legislative Affairs Committee, transitioning from a simple spreadsheet to a more advanced database in the future. This database could include personalized scholarship recommendations based on various student criteria.
  - Working on four events with PBI related to civic engagement and ballot bowl initiatives to increase student voter registration. Further details and opportunities to get involved will be shared via email.
- **ASI Chief of Staff**
- **Reps at Large**
  - **Civic Engagement: Natasha Booka Raghu**
  - **Diversity & Inclusion: Briana Goytizolo**
    - Explains she is setting up one-on-one meetings with the President and also Barnaby.
- **College Reps**
  - **College of A & L: Victoria Gragasin Montoya**
    - Explains she will be having a meeting the Dean and Associate Dean.
  - **College of B&E (vacant)**
  - **College of Education: Savanah Alvarez**
  - **College of ECST: Preet Jadhav**
    - Explains he is working on his goals for the coming semester.
  - **College of Ethnic Studies (vacant)**
  - **College of HHS: Valerie Canizales**
    - Explains she is waiting to hear back from her Dean. She has a couple of events coming up, including one with Cindy. She is also working on her elevator pitch.
  - **College of NSS: Ananya Sharma**
    - Explains that she is scheduled to meet with the Directors of the Urban Ecology Center as well as the Dean of NSS.
- **Executive Director: Barnaby Peake**
  - Barnaby will send an email with survey results from last spring for review. This data will be discussed in more detail later.
  - The budget for this year is still awaiting signature from the university. There are no known issues, but wanted to keep everyone informed.
  - Gus and his team have sent out video samples for review and approval. Feedback is requested to finalize and release these videos.

- The summer financial audit is proceeding well. Findings will be presented in September, with no major issues reported so far.
- With the meeting calendar confirmed, Amanda will send out more invites. Barnaby emphasized the importance of checking emails daily and accepting calendar invites.

➤ **Program Coordinator: Ashley Foskey**

- Reminds the Board that Inauguration is scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> and Eddie’s Rodeo Roundup is on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Volunteers are needed for booths, games, and decorations. Sign-up links will be sent out. Volunteering hours can be logged as engagement time on bi-weekly reports. Keep an eye out for volunteer opportunities and event details in your emails.

**VII. Adjournment**

Offered By:	CJ Calica	Seconded by:	Briana Goytizolo			
Motion to adjourn the meeting 3:49 PM.						
Consensus to adjourn the meeting - Consensus reached.						
All in Favor	All	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

**CERTIFICATION**

Official Minutes taken for the ASI Board of Directors Meeting of the Associated Students, Inc., Cal State Los Angeles held on August 1, 2024 and were approved by consensus by the ASI Board of Director on Thursday, August 22, 2024.

Prepared by:

*Kaina Orozco*

[Kaina Orozco \(Jan 31, 2025 15:46 PST\)](#)

Kaina Orozco- Recording Secretary

*CJ Nguyen*

[Cindy Nguyen \(Feb 3, 2025 12:46 PST\)](#)

Cindy Nguyen- Chief of Staff