



Legislative Affairs & Advocacy Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2026
Location: Alhambra Room - USU Room 305
Type of Meeting: General

Time: 10:00 am - 11:15 am
Attendees: Committee Members, General Public

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.

A. Call to order by: Natalie Torres, Vice President for External Affairs @ 10:06

B. Roll Call

Natalie Torres	Vice President for External Affairs	Present
Emily Webb	Public Service Commissioner	Present
Andrew Chang	Diversity & Inclusion Commissioner	Present
Ashley Bellorin	ASI President	Present
Jazmine Rocha	Vice President for University Affairs	Excused absence
Maria Garcia	College of Natural and Social Sciences Representative	Present
Ekiria Magala	College of Ethnic Studies Representative	Present
Barnaby Peake	ASI Executive Director	Excused absence
River Foskey	Program Coordinator	Excused absence
Guests of the Gallery		

C. Approval of Agenda

Offered By:	Ashley Bellorin	Seconded by:	Maria Garcia			
Motion to approve the agenda for September 2, 2026						
Consensus reached: Yes						
All in Favor	All	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

D. Certification of Minutes

Offered By:	Maria Garcia	Seconded by:	Andrew Chang			
Motion to certify the minutes for September 2, 2026						
Consensus reached: Yes						
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 committee. 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 order of registration before moving on to the public.

Andrew: Students are concerned about the facilities and broken elevators in King Hall and there is overcrowding, long lines, and is not accessible for students with disabilities.

Ashley: Acknowledges statement by Andrew

Natalie: Acknowledges statement by Andrew

Maria: Students are concerned about payments for tuition

Ashley: Suggests sending students to the correct chain of command since ASI cannot interfere with financial aid

Ekiria: Concerned about dropping enrollment for payments past deadline, mentions king hall concerns

Andrew: Continues explanation for King Hall inaccessibility

III. Information Items

A. CSSA Plenary

Natalie: Ashley and Natalie will be attending next CSSA plenary meeting. Suggests checking the agenda. Natalie sits on audit, systemwide affairs, and legislative affairs and Ashley sits on board of directors.

Maria: Asks if we have to attend

Natalie: No, but it is virtual this time so anyone can attend

Ashley: If you want to make a public comment you should attend

Natalie: Make sure it is relevant to their agenda

Ekiria: Asks why we don't sit on all committee

Natalie: Explains that not every school sits on each committee, "ordinary committee" every school sits on

Ekiria: Asks when the committee appointments happened

Natalie: Responds with they did committee appointments over summer

Ashley: Explains how being voted into the committee happens and how it works

Natalie: Important to attend since its online

B. CSUnity Recap

Natalie: Asks to table this item because she wanted Barnaby and Omar to be in attendance. Motioned by Ashley, Seconded by Ekiria.

C. ASI Survey Results

Natalie: ASI survey result overview and going into more detail so we know what we should focus on

Maria: Something that stood out was how many hours students work and how that affects commuter students and usage of the U-SU. Suggests tabling in other areas because some students don't ever go around the U-SU plaza or main walkway

Ashley: is also concerned that some students don't know about the U-SU and agrees we should table over by Salazar Hall

Emily: Confirms ASI is tabling at Salazar Hall

Natalie: Asks if anyone has any pressing matters for advocacy

Ekiria: Suggests doing a range of time instead of the same time

Ashley: Suggests asking the deans for the colleges for timing for classes

Maria: Asks if we participate during orientation

Natalie: We participated for New Student Convocation

Ashley: We participate in First Flight and table during orientation. Asks about if the food pantry is moving or not

Emily: Doesn't think the pantry is moving anytime soon and will get back to the committee about that

Ekiria: Asks about hours and closing early

Natalie: wants to prioritize campus involvement and civic involvement

Ashley: The library is bringing back their rooftop lounge space

Ekiria: Mentions being able to use SNAP benefits on campus and can share the contact information of the person who gave her this idea and has done it at other campuses. Asks about providing flagship events and trying to keep library hours longer during finals week

Ashley: Eagle patrol is on shift until 2 am so staying open that late shouldn't be an issue for safety. Agrees that SNAP benefits

D. Bill AB 2251

Natalie: Mentions Bill AB2251 which was sent to her by a CSSA member. This would affect a number of expenses that college students face and asks if committee members would be in support

Maria: Asks how much the CSU system gets from the California Government

Natalie: Explains funding goes to CCC, UC, then CSU

Ashley: Explains funding is evenly split for all 22 campuses, and she would like to see funding split by need instead and has been involved in conversations about this topic

Emily: Learned about this in class and explains funding for the year 2024 percentage but cannot be sure, but funding has been lowered since and supports the bill

Ashley: Community colleges will always receive the most funding

Natalie: The bill's main objective is to lower cost of attendance, which is why CSSA is supporting this bill. Governor Newsom was presented with this issue on September 3rd and will be approved or vetoed by September 30

Maria: Asks how much our cost of attendance will be lowered and if tuition is taxed and mentions that grad students get less scholarships than undergrad students

Ashley: Explains that schools calculate a yearly COA, tuition plus other costs, and this bill would apply to Cal grant students for financial aid adjustment based on COA for individual circumstances

Maria: Asks how this would help grad students since grad students don't qualify for Cal Grants

Ekiria: Grad students would not be a part of this bill, and it is only for undergrad students and is in support for this bill

Maria: asks if tuition for undergrad students is lower, would that affect grad students tuition

Ekiria: Explains that each university is different for grad school and the cost for different degrees is different and this could be an advocacy point

Ashley: Asks if this bill only applies to Cal grants

Natalie: Not completely it more so affects the actual cost of attendance

Ekiria: Mentions the CSU asks California for a certain amount of funding and the Governor's office almost always gives lower

E. Midterm Elections

Natalie: Midterm elections are coming up and we have two events, Voter fest/NVRD and ballots and burritos and we are competing for different things with CSSA

IV. Discussion Items

A. ASI Advocacy Agenda

Natalie: The ASI advocacy agenda which we reviewed at the last committee meeting, which was the previous VPEX left for the committee, however we don't have to follow this and asks for input

Ekiria: Wants to get a bus for students out to a Board of trustee meeting since a lot of students don't know what that is and they can bring issues to their attention

Ashley: Brought this up in CEO last year with Jazmine

Emily: Expresses need to fill the at large seats for students

Natalie: Waiting to see if ASI is doing a larger campaign

Ashley: The application is open and Chair and Vice-Chair can start campaigning for this committee

B. Civic Town Hall Visit

Natalie: Possibly doing a civic field trip for ASI and possibly other students and there will be more information coming at the next meeting and the goal is November

Ashley: Previously thought it was open to all students

Natalie: Most likely but isn't sure

Ekiria: Asking if we can partner with outside organizations for this

Ashley: We can partner with inside organizations but will get back about outside organizations

C. Civic Calendar Review

Natalie: Civic calendar review which are events lines up that have to do with advocacy and legislative, including a potential movie night for Hispanic heritage. Also, the civic challenge with CSUDH and we are visiting their campus and encourages the committee to attend.

Ashley: Let Ashley know by today if we want to attend

Natalie: Refers students to the voter registration website for the ballot bowl

Ashley: Asks what our efforts outside the events for ballot bowl engagement

Emily: We can start tabling for civic engagement and encourage for voter registration

Natalie: Explains the civic challenge in detail; different engagement opportunities mean different point value, and we are working with CSUDH which is why we are visiting their campus

V. Action Items

VI. Reports

A. Members

Natalie: We just had NVRD and more coming up, campus visit with CSUDH, and plenary and encourages attendance

Emily: Voter fest was very successful and had around 200 people check in and there were a few news stations there and encourages to register using the link

Andrew: Mentions that project rebound was grateful that we invited them out there and they've been wanting to be more visible on campus

B. Advisors

VII. Adjournment

Offered By:	Emily Webb	Seconded by:	Andrew Chang			
Motion to adjourn the meeting @ 11:06						
Consensus reached: Yes						
All in Favor	All	Opposed	0	Abstained	0	Motion: Passed

CERTIFICATION

Official Minutes taken for the ASI Legislative Affairs & Advocacy Committee Meeting of the Associated Students, Inc., Cal State Los Angeles held on September 16, 2026, at Alhambra Room - USU Room 305 and were approved by consensus by the ASI Legislative Affairs & Advocacy Committee Meeting on Wednesday, September 30, 2026

Prepared by:

Emily Webb - Recording Secretary

Sophia Gamino - Executive Vice President