

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 28, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Emily Cutrer
Mr. Monir Ahmed
Mr. Jonathan Duran
Ms. Jennifer Haynes
Dr. Gerald Jones
Mr. Neil Markley
Dr. Karen Moranski
Dr. Karen Thompson
Ms. Kim Purdy
Ms. Vanessa Sanchez
Dr. John Urbanski
Mr. Fred Vaske
Ms. Amanda Visser

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. Kyuho Lee
Dr. Mario Perez

GUESTS:

None

AGENDA

24.30 Call to Order

Mr. Ahmed called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

24.31 Approval of the December 6, 2024 Minutes

Mr. Ahmed brought attention to the minutes that were sent out prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved with no objections.

24.32 President's Report

Dr. Cutrer reported the Chancellor's Office has will be launching the presidential search with the plan to have a permanent President selected before the end of the calendar year. She also announced the launch of the San Francisco Bay Area Network, a partnership between SSU, SFSU and Cal State East Bay. This partnership would provide a platform to launch a shared services model to lower administrative costs. More details will be forthcoming at the May CSU Board of Trustees meeting.

24.33 University Report

Dr. Moranski reported the Excellence Awards will be awarded at Commencement. The Faculty Research Symposium will be April 28th and 29th in the Student Center Ballrooms. Teach-out plans have been created for students impacted by the budget reduction plans.

24.34 Vice President for Student Affairs Report

Dr. Jones reported that the HUB will be relocating from the Student Center to the Schulz Information Center. This move will give the HUB more space to serve students. The Career Center will be moving to the space being vacated by the HUB. Dr. Jones was proud to announce the receipts of Project Rebound funding. CAPS is undergoing an accreditation recertification.

24.35 Vice President for Advancement Report

Dr. Perez was absent and, therefore, no report was made.

24.36 Associated Students Report

Ms. Sanchez reported that the AS Basic Needs and ASP programs are strongly supporting students. The AS is discussing a Student Bill of Rights. They are preparing for Immigration Appreciation Week and finalizing the AS budget. Finally, Ms. Sanchez announced that local businesses are supporting SSU students by providing discounts at their establishments.

24.37 Report from SSU Vice President for Administration and Finance/Chief Financial Officer and Chair of SSE Board of Directors

Mr. Ahmed reported on a number of partnerships underway. He clarified that the local business discounts are not only for students, but for faculty and staff as well. The Campus recently launched Redwood Bikeshare, in partnership with Sonoma County Transit and other community partners. This is a regional bikeshare program providing locations across Sonoma County. We are attempting to receive funding from Measure M supporting mental health. Sonoma State and the cities of Cotati and Rohnert Park will be signing a cooperation agreement on April 21st in the Ballrooms. In support of sustainability, SSU will be hosting an event, "Dig In", on April 22nd. Finally, in support of enrollment, the campus is providing scholarships up to \$5,000 for student committing to SSU and living on-campus.

24.38 Chief Operating Officer's Report

Mr. Markley reported that, in partnership with the AS, SSE will be launching a Seawolf Bundle insights survey along with focus groups to provide feedback to improve the program. The Seawolf Bundle pricing will increase from \$18.50 to \$19.00 next semester to fund a reserve for uncollected student accounts. The Bookstore returned to a very low reorder rate indicating the issues experienced last semester have been resolved. Two community focused events, \$5.00 Friday and Social Hour have been successful at bringing more people into our dining venues and building community. Prelude, under lease operation, will have their first event on April 3rd but the opening date is still to be determined. Markley reported that both land parcels are now under contract.

24.39 Chief Financial Officer's Report

Mr. Visser provided and discussed the February 28, 2025 Statements of Activities and Net Position. Dr. Urbanski asked if a plan for the future had been developed. Mr. Ahmed said this would be discussed later in the meeting. Mr. Vaske asked if there was a timeline on the SF Bay Area Network. As he had not yet seen the announcement email from Dr. Cutrer, Mr. Markley let him know he would forward it to him.

24.40 ACTION ITEM: Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Real Property

Mr. Markley presented the resolution to authorize the sale of 5565 and 5573 Petaluma Hill Road. Mr. Vaske felt the resolution provided too much authority to the Officers with regard to the sales price. The Board agreed and added limits to the authority providing no less than \$1,200,000 for 5565 Petaluma Hill Road and \$1,300,000 for 5573. Accepting a price lower than these limits would require at least Executive Committee approval. These suggestions were adopted and Mr. Vaske moved and Dr. Urbanski seconded the amended motion to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

24.41 Financial and Operational Update

Mr. Markley presented a document outlining a draft 2025 dining operation financial statement with meal plan participation of 750 (as provided by the Campus) and various mechanisms to return the corporation to profitability. Dr. Thompson asked how we were projecting an increase in enrollment. Mr. Ahmed feels the newly announced \$5,000 scholarship for new students in housing would help drive these numbers. Some questions around the mechanics of the scholarship were posed and answered. Dr. Thompson asked for additional information around this. Dr. Urbanski asked if the SF Bay Area Network would extend to dining operations. Mr. Ahmed responded that a partnership does exist currently in the CSU that could include dining, however no vendors are willing to cover any losses. Dr. Cutrer asked why we hadn't implemented cashless operations as it seemed like low-hanging fruit. Mr. Ahmed expressed his concern about potential equity issues. Discussion ensued and most felt this is a path to explore.

24.142 Other Non-Action Items

There were none

Mr. Ahmed adjourned the meeting at 10:39 am.