

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes January 21st, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER at 12:04 pm

- II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** - We would like to recognize that while we gather at California State University East Bay located in Hayward, CA, we are gathered on the ethno-historic tribal territory of the intermarried Jalquin (hal-keen) / Yrgin (eer-gen) Chochenyo-Ohlone-speaking tribal group, who were the direct ancestors of some of the lineages enrolled in the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area, and who were missionized into Missions San Francisco, Santa Clara and San Jose.

It is important that we not only recognize the history of the land of the Jalquin/Yrgin on which we gather to learn and participate, but also recognize that the First People of this region – the Muwekma Ohlone People, are alive and thriving members of the Hayward and broader Bay Area communities today.

It is of great importance to acknowledge the significance of this Holše Warep (hol-sheh wah-rehp) ~ Beautiful Land to the indigenous Muwekma Ohlone People of this region. We ask everyone who attends or visits Cal State University East Bay in Hayward, to be respectful of the aboriginal lands of the Muwekma Ohlone People, and consistent with their principles of community and diversity strive to be good stewards on behalf of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, on whose land you are their guests.

III. [ROLL CALL](#)

IV. ACTION ITEM - Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda of Board of Directors Meeting on January 21st 2026 by **K. Tripathi**, seconded by **D. Lopez**.

0:13

V. ACTION ITEM - Approval of the Minutes of November 12, 2025

Motion to approve the minutes of Board of Directors Meeting on November 12th 2026 by **M. Dempsey**, seconded by **K. Reddipally**.

0:43



VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public Comment is intended as a time for any member of the public to address the committee on any issues affecting ASI and/or the California State University, East Bay.

No Public Comments.

VII. UNFINISHED ITEMS:

No Unfinished Items

VIII. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

A. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Pause For Paws: Spring 2026

The ASI Board of Directors will be informed on the Pause for Paws Spring 2026 Initiatives.

M. Dempsey explained that the committee discussed the Pause for Pause Spring 2026 activities during the retreat and then outlined the planned initiatives. He shared those three tabling dates have been scheduled, all taking place on Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the RAW Gym. Each tabling session will feature a different activity, with the goal of addressing various wellness elements and keeping student engagement diverse and interesting. He noted that ASI Board of Directors and committee members are invited to participate if they are available and encouraged members to add their names so coordination can take place. He also described a raffle giveaway bag, including sample items listed in the document, and invited additional suggestions to be added through hyperlinks. **M. Dempsey** also shared that an ASI “Self-Love and Self Care” infographic card he designed will be distributed during the first tabling session. For future months, he proposed changing the theme of the infographic to align with different health awareness topics.

2:54

B. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: "Spread the Love: Valentine's Campus Pop-Up"

The ASI Board of Directors will be informed on the Event "Spread the Love: Valentine's Campus Pop-Up".

M. Dempsey described a Valentine's-themed event he created, modeled after two previous follow-up events that had been very successful. He explained that the event would involve assembling and distributing seasonal gift bags to students across campus, with this particular theme focused on Valentine's Day. He outlined that the proposed budget includes Valentine's-themed items to be given to students, along with pink ASI brochures designed



specifically for the event. He stated that the total budget requested for the event from the Director of Wellness budget would be \$115. He also invited board and committee members to participate if they are available and encouraged collaboration. Additionally, he welcomed suggestions for any extra items that could be included in the gift bags.

4:21

C. ACTION ITEM: [Resolution in Support of Establishing a Teaching Associate \(TA\) Tuition and Fee Waiver Program at Cal State East Bay](#)

The ASI Board of Directors will be discussing a resolution in support of establishing a Teaching Associate (TA) Tuition and Fee Waiver Program at Cal State East Bay. This resolution advocates for improved financial support for graduate students serving as Teaching Associates, recognizing their instructional contributions and addressing affordability and equity concerns.

Motion by **N. Nettem** to approve the Resolution in Support of Teaching Associate Fee Waiver Resolution, seconded by **D. Lopez**.

5:19

N. Nettem provided an update on the Teaching Associate Tuition and Fee Waiver Resolution. He explained that since the previous BOD meeting, the group contacted additional members across multiple colleges and continued follow-up conversations to clarify LGBT considerations and implementation under Executive Order 611. In total, they reached out to 12 individuals across three CSU campuses as well as CSU administration. He shared that meeting were held with Dean **Dr. Kaman** from the College of Science and Associate Vice President of Graduate Studies, **Dr. Chandrakant**, to discuss the resolution and address remaining questions. The group also contacted San José State University, Fresno State, and Cal Poly Humboldt, working with faculty from Graduate Studies and the University of Boston. Their key finding was that all three campuses confirmed teaching associates, including international graduate students, are eligible for mandatory state university fee waivers under Executive Order 611. This confirmed that international teaching associates are eligible, which addressed a concern previously raised by Dean **Dr. Kaman**. The information was further verified through official CSU communications.

6:24

N. Immadi added that following these discussions, the group met with Associate Dean, who acknowledged awareness of Executive Order 611 but stated that the College of Science has not historically issued teaching associate fee waivers. She further noted that **Provost Musker** confirmed that teaching associates at CSU East Bay are already eligible for a university fee waiver while actively teaching, covering up to 6 WTU, though this



information had not been clearly communicated. She emphasized that the core issue is not the existence of policy, but the lack of transparency and consistent implementation. She also shared that Human Resources clarified that waivers are coordinated through Student Financial Services, that a Spring 2026 deadline exists, and that there is currently no published guidance or application process for teaching associates.

N. Nettem concluded by stating that the resolution calls on the university to implement the existing Executive Order 611 policy, publish clear eligibility criteria and procedures, explicitly include international teaching associates, and align CSU East Bay with system-wide CSU practices. He respectfully urged the Board of Directors to support the resolution to ensure equitable access to fee waivers for all teaching associates.

7:40

L. Deguzman acknowledged the thorough research conducted and expressed appreciation for the work presented. He then stated that a roll call vote would be conducted for the resolution.

- **K. Tripathi** - In favor
- **C. Doolam** - In favor
- **K. Chalasani** - In favor
- **R. Munos** - In favor
- **Y. Avhad** - In favor
- **M. Dempsey** - In favor
- **D. Lopez** - In favor
- **A. Sheik** - In favor
- **C. Pangilinan** - In favor
- **N. Immadi** - In favor
- **N. Nettem** - In favor
- **N. Desale** - In favor
- **K. Reddipally** - In favor
- **M. Castillo** - In favor

Motion Passed.



D. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Blooms for Belonging: Bouquet Making

The ASI Board of Directors will be discussing the event Blooms for Belonging.

C. Pangilinan provided an update on an upcoming event, *Bouquets for Belongings*, which is being held in tandem with *Create a Creature*. She explained that the event, originally named *Blooms for Belongings*, is scheduled for February 11th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The room has already been reserved, and the layout prepared, as it aligns with the planning for *Create a Creature*. She emphasized that the purpose of the event is to give students a sense of belonging by allowing them to create something beautiful they can take home. Traditionally, students purchase flowers themselves during Valentine's Day, but this event offers them the opportunity to do so in collaboration with the organizers.

9:27

C. Pangilinan noted that the event is being coordinated with the director and other team members, including **Y. Avhad**, **D. Lopez**, and **M. Dempsey**. She referenced the planned timeline included in the event template, as well as the budget breakdown outlining the allocation of funds. Flyers for the event have already been created and are planned to be posted following the Board of Directors meeting. Given the scale of the event and the amount of funding being raised, she also designed a countdown flyer to increase awareness and engagement among students. She reported that, as of now, all preparations are progressing smoothly.

10:08

L. Deguzman commented on the event, noting that given its high cost, it is important to ensure that promotion and outreach are properly coordinated. He inquired whether **Destiny** had been contacted regarding promotional efforts, such as creating a video or making additional announcements. He praised the event as inclusive and appreciated the collaboration between the organizers. **L. Deguzman** emphasized the importance of having a clear schedule for attendance, particularly for the bouquet activities, and suggested that a well-structured plan could encourage participation from more Board and committee members. Finally, he requested a post-event recap, highlighting the need to track outcomes given the budget. He asked for details on participant numbers and reminded the organizers to manage sign-ups to accurately measure the event's impact.



E. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Cup w/ Casey: Meet Your CLASS Senator

The ASI Board of Directors will be discussing the event Cup w/ Casey.

C. Pangilinan explained that the upcoming event is intended to be low-stakes and is scheduled during her office hours from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. next week. She noted that all marketing materials are prepared to ensure students are aware of the event. The purpose of the event is to allow students who may not know about her office hours to meet her face-to-face.

She shared that her planning timeline is already established in the event template and requested that 1:30 p.m. be allocated for giving students coffee or tea to facilitate casual interaction. **C. Pangilinan** mentioned that she had hosted a similar event during field trip finals, which had been very popular, and she hopes to replicate that success at the start of the semester so students are aware of her presence and advocacy for their needs.

She highlighted that the budget sheet is linked and available for review. Marketing materials are already prepared and scheduled to be posted, including a “We’re Not Really Strangers” card with prompts to guide conversations with students. These prompts are structured in three levels: Level One focuses on personal connections, Level Two on academics, and Level Three on general events and community interests. For students unable to attend in person, a QR code links to a form where they can share their priorities and what they hope to see this semester.

13:24

F. ACTION ITEM: ASI Election Committee Candidates

The ASI Board of Directors will appoint the ASI Election Committee Candidates.

Motion to appoint **Ace Maharjan, Elia Varela, Srividya Peri, Destiny Escatel, Walter Perez** and **Saksham Jain** to the ASI elections committee, seconded by **C. Doolam**.

13:43

K. Tripathi stated that during the previous week’s personnel meeting, their advisors, Eric and James, presented a group of potential candidates for the ASI Elections Committee. He explained that these candidates hold various leadership roles and are involved across different campus departments. The personnel committee reviewed the candidates and decided to recommend all six for consideration to the Elections Committee. **K. Tripathi** added that they are available to answer any questions regarding the recommendations.



14:46

E. Loredo explained that a memorandum was sent to personnel the previous week summarizing the candidate interviews. He and **Destiny** had interviewed six candidates out of eight applications, as two candidates were unavailable. **E. Loredo** stated that they are recommending **Ace, Elia, Srividya, Destiny, Walter,** and **Saksham** to move forward. He noted that many of these candidates are involved in SLCC, possess strong teamwork and social skills, and are well-suited for the Elections Committee.

E. Loredo further explained the committee's role: to oversee the upcoming election cycle, ensure transparency, verify vote counting, and address any grievances. He emphasized the importance of the committee for the proper functioning of elections and affirmed that the recommended candidates are strong choices, working alongside advisors including **J. Carroll**, himself, **Heather Gordly**, and **Destiny**.

16:20

L. Deguzman stated that a roll call vote would be conducted.

- **K. Tripathi** - In favor
- **C. Doolam** - In favor
- **K. Chalasani** - In favor
- **R. Munos** - In favor
- **Y. Avhad** - In favor
- **M. Dempsey** - In favor
- **D. Lopez** - In favor
- **A. Sheik** - In favor
- **C. Pangilinan** - In favor
- **N. Immadi** - In favor
- **N. Nettem** - In favor
- **N. Desale** - In favor
- **K. Reddipally** - In favor
- **M. Castillo** - In favor

Candidates are appointed.



G. ACTION ITEM: ASI Recreation and Wellness Committee Candidates

The ASI Board of Directors will take action on the appointment of the ASI Recreation and Wellness Committee Candidates.

Motion by **K. Tripathi** to appoint **Annalise**, **Giselle**, and **Mariana** to the ASI Recreation and Wellness Committee seconded by **M. Dempsey**

17:23

K. Tripathi noted that at the end of the previous semester and over winter break, **M. Dempsey** had led and conducted interviews for his committee, and **K. Tripathi** had the opportunity to interview **Annalise** alongside him. He mentioned that the other two candidates were interviewed by **E. Lored** and **M. Dempsey** and invited them to briefly introduce the candidates to the board.

18:12

M. Dempsey presented the three candidates. **Annalise Grajeda**, entering her senior year and majoring in psychology, was highlighted for her compassion, problem-solving skills, and ability to apply her past knowledge to benefit the Wellness Committee. **Mariana**, a health science major from Hayward and former member of the campus cross-country track and field team, emphasized her passion for campus involvement and her experience promoting health opportunities and physical activity through local organizations. The final candidate, **Giselle**, a first-year freshman with an undeclared interest in nursing, focused on her academic dedication, prior healthcare experience, and ideas for wellness committee workshops, such as pottery and other collaborative programs.

K. Tripathi thanked **M. Dempsey** for presenting the candidates and informed the board that, after discussion at the previous personnel meeting, the personnel committee had recommended all three candidates for appointment to the Recreation and Wellness Committee. He invited any questions to be directed to himself, **M. Dempsey**, or **E. Lored**.

20:15

L. Deguzman stated that a roll call vote would be conducted.

- **K. Tripathi** - In favor
- **C. Doolam** - In favor
- **K. Chalasani** - In favor
- **R. Munos** - In favor
- **Y. Avhad** - In favor



- **M. Dempsey** - In favor
- **D. Lopez** - In favor
- **A. Sheik** - In favor
- **C. Pangilinan** - In favor
- **N. Immadi** - In favor
- **N. Nettem** - In favor
- **N. Desale** - In favor
- **K. Reddipally** - In favor
- **M. Castillo** - In favor

Candidates are appointed.

IX. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. External Affairs Committee presentation

K. Chalasani provided an overview of local, state, and federal representatives to help student leaders understand who holds decision-making power and how to engage with them. She began with the mayor of Hayward, **Mark Salinas**, a longtime resident and educator who previously served on the city council before becoming mayor in 2022. His leadership focuses on education, civic pride, affordable housing, and public infrastructure, and he enjoys mountain biking and weekend barbecues.

K. Chalasani then introduced Hayward city council members. **Angela Andrews** is known for her advocacy in economic development, environmental sustainability, and racial equity, having earned the highest number of votes in her most recent campaign. Ray Bonilla, Jr., a lifelong resident and CSUEB graduate, emphasizes youth empowerment, community safety, and accessible housing. **Dane Golston**, with a background in city planning and public works, focuses on infrastructure and data-informed decision-making, often walking neighborhoods personally to assess issues. **George Sarup** advocates for housing justice, equity, and transparency, bringing experience in community organizing and youth engagement. **Francisco Zermeno** promotes inclusive city practices and bridges between city government and underrepresented communities, and he has also taught Spanish at Chadworth College.

24:26

Moving to other Bay Area mayors, **K. Chalasani** highlighted **Marilyn Izzy Ashcraft** of Alameda, who emphasizes housing sustainability and public health, **Lily Mei** of Fremont, the



city's first Asian-American woman mayor with a focus on education and multicultural programs, **Shane Tao** of Oakland, the first Hmong-American woman mayor in a major U.S. city with a background overcoming homelessness, and **Jesse Green** of Berkeley, the city's first Latino mayor, known for progressive leadership on housing, climate, and racial justice.

29:47

K. Chalasani then outlined California state legislators. State Senator **Asia Wahab** of District 10, covering much of the East Bay, is the first Muslim and Afghan-American woman elected to the State Senate and a CSUEB alumna. Assembly members included Berkley Wicks (District 14), known for housing reform and abortion rights advocacy; **Liz Ortego** (District 20), the first Latina in her seat and labor organizer; **Mia Bonta** (District 18), active in criminal justice reform and community investment; and **Rebecca Burr-Cahan** (District 16), an environmental attorney and law professor. She also noted U.S. Senator **Alex Padilla**, appointed in 2021 as California's first Latino senator, focusing on immigration reform, infrastructure, and voting rights.

K. Chalasani highlighted key U.S. Senators and House members representing California and the East Bay. She noted that one senator, a trained engineer, brings a STEM mindset to policymaking. **Adam Schiff**, newly elected U.S. Senator in 2024 after over 20 years in the House of Representatives, is recognized for his leadership on the House Intelligence Committee and his role in proceedings against former President Trump. **Schiff** is also a former federal prosecutor and published author.

32:27

K. Chalasani then introduced U.S. House representatives. **Eric Swalwell** represents California's 14th District, including Hayward and surrounding areas. Serving in Congress since 2013, he has focused on cybersecurity, gun safety, and student debt relief. He was one of the youngest members of Congress upon his election and ran for president in 2020. **Ro Khanna** represents California's 17th District, covering much of Silicon Valley, including Fremont and Sunnyvale. He has advanced legislation holding big tech accountable, expanding broadband access, and supporting tech and gig economy workers, and he also teaches economics at Stanford.

Mark DeSaulnier serves as U.S. Representative for California's 10th District, including Concord and Walnut Creek. In Congress since 2015, he focuses on transportation, healthcare, and ethical government, drawing on his experience as a cancer survivor to advocate for healthcare equity and patient rights. **Latina Simone**, newly elected to California's 12th District, representing Oakland and surrounding East Bay communities, brings a background as a civil rights activist, non-profit leader, and former board director. In her first year, she leverages



decades of community organization experience to advance equity-focused policies. Notably, she is legally blind and a past recipient of the Genius Grant for her advocacy work.

37:38

K. Chalasani emphasized the relevance of these representatives to students, noting that their decisions directly affect tuition, financial aid, housing, transit, and broader community issues. She concluded by underscoring the importance of knowing one's representatives, engaging in advocacy, and showing up at critical moments to make student voices heard.

X. ROUND TABLE REMARKS

K. Tripathi acknowledged that most board members had submitted their office hours and noted some changes. He announced a one-week grace period for any final adjustments, emphasizing that by the end of Friday, all office hours would be finalized for publication on the ASI website. He reminded members to avoid repeatedly changing their schedules, as had occurred the previous semester.

35:55

J. Carroll commended the members who had already begun implementing programming ideas from the retreat and encouraged continued collaboration. He stressed the importance of collecting data on program success to document outcomes. **J. Carroll** also reminded current board members who may run in the upcoming elections to clearly separate their candidacy from their ASI roles, including not using campaign materials during office hours or any ASI-sponsored events.

37:24

E. Lored added that board members planning events should coordinate with **C. Doolam**, the VP of Finance, to track budget usage for each event, citing examples such as events organized by **C. Pangilinan** and **M. Dempsey**. This ensures proper management and accountability of allocated funds throughout the semester.

XI. ADJOURNMENT at 12:42 pm



Minutes reviewed and approved by:

President/CEO:

London Deguzman

London Deguzman

London Deguzman (Feb 4, 2026 15:55:17 PST)

Minutes approved on:

02-04-2026

Date








Board of Directors Meeting Minutes January 21st, 2026

Final Audit Report

2026-02-04

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|-----------------|--|
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