

Election Committee Meeting Minutes of March 25th, 2026

- I. **CALL TO ORDER at 10:24AM**
- II. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT** - 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**

Present: Ace Maharjan, Elia Varela, Srividya Peri, Destiny Escatel, Walter Perez Saksham Jain, James Carroll, Erick Loreda, Heather Gardley, Destiny Jones

Absent:

Motion to appoint D. Escatel as Chair for elections committee on march 25th 2026 by **W. Perez**, seconded by **S. Jain. Motion Carried.**

After voting, D. Escatel is appointed as Chair for election committee on march 25th 2026.



IV. ACTION ITEM - Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve agenda of elections committee on march 205th, 2026 by **W. Perez**, seconded by **S. Peri. Motion Carried.**

V. ACTION ITEM - Approval of the Minutes of March 11th, 2026

Motion to approve minutes of March 11th, 2026 by **S. Jain**, seconded by **W. Perez. Motion carried.**

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 Comment.

VII. UNFINISHED ITEMS:

No Unfinished Items

VIII. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

A. INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Candidate Updates

The ASI Election Committee will be informed on updates for Candidates.

4:53

J. Carroll stated that there were no specific updates to report at that time.

B. INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Election Timeline

The ASI Election Committee will be informed on the election timeline.

E. Loredo informed the committee that voting for the ASI elections would conclude that Wednesday March 25th 2026 at 11:59 p.m., marking the final opportunity for students to cast their votes. He reported that approximately 686 votes had been recorded so far. He added that the election committee would continue tabling throughout the day to support and assist students with the voting process. He encouraged members to stop by and offer support if



available. He also noted that election results were expected to be available tentatively by Friday.

5:42

C. INFORMATIONAL ITEM – Marketing & Events

The ASI Election Committee will be informed on the marketing and events.

D. Jones reported that, for marketing updates, all election candidates had been posted and that the posts had generated significant engagement. He stated that current outreach efforts were focused on reminding students to vote, noting that it was the final day for voting and that students could cast their ballots until 11:59 p.m. through the link sent to their Horizon email. He also shared that the winners of the “Meet the Candidates Week” basket giveaway had been announced, with one student yet to claim their prize, and that the parking permit grand prize winner had also been posted.

6:51

S. Peri stated that “Meet the Candidates Week” was successful, with over 100 students attending the candidate forum tabling events held on Tuesday and Wednesday. He noted that there was strong participation in the tabling passport activity, and that three winners, along with a grand prize winner, had been selected and notified.

S. Jain added that student volunteers from the ASI communications and present teams supported the tabling events during “Meet the Candidates Week,” with a total of seven volunteers assisting. He further reported that approximately seven volunteers also helped staff the election polling station across all three days.

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Grievances & Ethics

The ASI Election Committee will be informed on grievances and ethics.

W. Perez stated that during the referenced week, he and Ms. Garthley reviewed the available evidence and reached out to the appropriate parties. He explained that, based on their findings, the situation was confirmed to be a violation. However, he clarified that the recommended course of action was not to remove the candidate. He then invited Ms. Heather to add any further comments if necessary.

8:34

H. Gardley explained that she met with the candidate, **Joe Trujillo**, over Zoom the previous week to understand how he obtained the items that were being distributed during tabling.



She stated that he is employed as a student assistant at Perry's Nest, and that his supervisor had provided the items for him to give away while tabling, asking him to promote the store in exchange for taking time off work.

She clarified that this was how the candidate came into possession of the items. **H. Gardley** stated that she instructed him to immediately cease distributing the items and to return them to his employer, which he complied with. She also noted that she spoke directly with the supervisor at Perry's Nest to explain the election code regulations, as they were previously unaware of the rules. She added that the supervisor now understands the guidelines and will not repeat the action in the future. Based on these findings, **H. Gardley** recommended that the candidate receive a written warning rather than further disciplinary action.

11:42

W. Perez provided additional context regarding the elections code violation, stating that the candidate had violated provision C1. He explained that this section of the code requires all campaign materials, such as printed literature, online content, and digital media, to comply with university policies and clearly identify the individual or organization responsible for their distribution. He further noted that campaigning using official university branding or platforms, in a way that could imply endorsement, is prohibited. He clarified that the violation occurred when the candidate distributed merchandise associated with the university, specifically items from Perry's Nest. **W. Perez** explained that this could be interpreted as leveraging university-affiliated branding for campaign purposes or suggesting institutional endorsement, which is not permitted under the elections code.

However, **W. Perez** stated that, based on their findings and communication with the candidate's supervisor, the situation was not entirely the candidate's fault. He explained that the candidate had been encouraged by their manager to distribute the items. While he acknowledged that the candidate should have reviewed and understood the elections code more carefully, he characterized the violation as one of negligence rather than intentional misconduct.

W. Perez concluded that, although a violation did occur, there was no evidence of deliberate intent to misuse the rules. For that reason, he reaffirmed that the recommended course of action was to issue a written warning, and that this should not disqualify the candidate from continuing in the election process.



Motion by the chair to initiate committee voting for issuing a written warning to the candidate.

14:37

E. Varela votes yes for a written warning to the candidate

S. Peri votes yes for a written warning to the candidate

D. Escatel votes yes for a written warning to the candidate

W. Perez votes yes for a written warning to the candidate

S. Jain votes yes for a written warning to the candidate

Committee agreed on issuing a written warning to the candidate.

IX. SPECIAL REPORTS

No Special Reports

X. ROUND TABLE REMARKS

15:15


D. Jones expressed her appreciation to everyone for their support during the candidate forum. She acknowledged that the weather conditions were challenging but noted that the event had a strong turnout, allowing many students to engage with and meet the candidates. She also thanked those who contributed their time and effort to support tabling activities for the voting process.

XI. ADJOURNMENT at 10:38AM

Minutes reviewed and approved by:

Chair of Elections Committee:

Ace Maharjan


Ace Maharjan (Apr 8, 2026 16:28:16 PDT)

Minutes approved on:

04/08/26

Date

