

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes - February 12th, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER AT 02:13PM

- 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](#)

Present: Daniel Kristofferson Lopez, David Teng, Mukul Dawan

IV. ACTION ITEM - Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve of the Agenda of February 12th, 2025 by M. Dawan, Seconded by D. Teng, MOTION CARRIED.



V. ACTION ITEM - Approval of the Minutes of February 10th, 2025

Motion to amend the action item **approval of the minutes of February 10th, 2025 to approval of the minutes of October 30th, 2025 and December 4th, 2025** by **M. Dawan**, seconded by **D. Teng**, **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 - Upcoming Event: “Bay Area Bargain Baddies 2.0”

The committee will be informed about the upcoming event’s logistics and execution.

D. Lopez stated that he wanted to inform the committee about an upcoming event, noting that he did not yet have the document link prepared. He asked whether members were familiar with the previous “Bay Area Bargain Baddies” event held last semester. He explained that the event involved partnering with a local thrift store and a secondhand clothing designer to host a runway show along the University Union walkway. The initiative aimed to raise awareness about secondhand clothing, promote the reuse and recycling of garments, and reduce textile waste.

D. Lopez shared that the goal for this upcoming iteration is to expand the event and improve organization. He is tentatively planning to hold it in late March, around March 24 or 25, and is beginning discussions early to allow sufficient preparation time. He requested that committee members begin researching and



reaching out to local thrift stores to explore potential partnerships and donations. He suggested that each member contact one or two stores so the committee can move forward with more detailed planning.

In addition to the runway event, he mentioned a related initiative called “Thrift, Shop, and Drop,” which had not been included on the agenda. This would be a two-day tabling event where students could donate clothing and accessories and participate in a clothing swap. The purpose of the event is to support students by addressing clothing needs during the seasonal transition and to promote sustainability through reuse.

D. Lopez concluded by formally delegating the task of contacting thrift stores to committee members. He also noted that he is collaborating with Jennifer Sanchez, the lead of the campus Sustainability Committee (separate from ASI), who expressed support for the idea. They are currently discussing logistical details, including the appropriate location for tabling.

7:14

B. INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Upcoming Event: “Earth Week”

The committee will be informed about the upcoming event’s logistics and execution.

D. Lopez explained to the committee that Earth Week is a campus-wide initiative consisting of sustainability-related events and programs held throughout the week. He noted that activities may include tabling, panel discussions, and educational programs hosted in spaces such as the MPR. The purpose of Earth Week is to educate students on sustainability practices, including reducing waste, conserving water, and adopting environmentally friendly habits. **D. Lopez** shared that, based on his own experience attending similar events, students can learn practical strategies such as using solar-powered devices and reducing plastic use by switching to reusable bottles.

D. Lopez further explained that Earth Week will involve collaborations with various campus partners and may include surveys to better understand student perspectives on sustainability and identify the types of initiatives students would like to see implemented. He mentioned that, based on conversations with Jennifer



Sanchez, conducting a campus-wide survey would require coordination with the Office of Institutional Research, likely at least one month in advance. Since Earth Week takes place in April, he suggested beginning that process immediately.

D. Lopez asked committee members if they would be willing to assist with coordinating the survey and offered to include them in email threads containing ongoing planning discussions. He clarified that these communications would provide updates and allow members to stay informed and contribute to the planning process.

D. Lopez expressed interest in inviting guest speakers to participate in Earth Week programming. He shared that he had been in contact with Professor Ben Judkins, who connected him with potential guest speakers involved in sustainability efforts, including individuals associated with major fashion organizations. These speakers may participate through campus visits or virtual sessions. **D. Lopez** noted that he would share those opportunities with committee members so they could attend and be involved.

11:49

C. DISCUSSION ITEM - Sustainability Committee Town Hall

The committee will be discussing the next steps on conducting committee town halls this semester.

D. Lopez stated that he wanted to request the committee members' availability to participate in a proposed town hall focused on sustainability issues on campus. He explained that the purpose of the town hall would be to create an open and accessible space where students could share their concerns, feedback, and ideas related to sustainability. He noted that, unlike formal public comment sessions, which often have low participation due to location barriers, hosting the town hall in a more visible and accessible area would encourage greater student engagement.

D. Lopez proposed holding the town hall in a high-traffic location such as the Innovation Hub or the Entrepreneurship Hub, where students would naturally pass by and feel more comfortable stopping to participate. He also suggested providing food, such as pizza, to encourage attendance and create a welcoming environment for open discussion.



M. Dawan agreed that the Innovation Hub or Entrepreneurship Hub would be an ideal location, specifically mentioning rooms 176 to 178 on the first floor near the library, which are commonly used for student orientation and are easily accessible.

D. Lopez clarified that the town hall would not need to be held weekly but instead could take place on a biweekly basis. He explained that feedback gathered during these sessions would be used to inform committee discussions and could be incorporated into future meeting agendas to guide sustainability initiatives.

D. Lopez added that the next step would be to coordinate with Destiny or the ASI Board Assistants to confirm room availability and finalize scheduling. He also noted that this item would be brought forward as a discussion and action item for formal approval, since the town hall would function as an ongoing program organized by the committee.

14:30

D. DISCUSSION ITEM - Open Floor

The committee floor will be discussing any other issues regarding sustainability on campus.

D. Lopez informed the committee that he wanted to discuss the upcoming committee members, noting that he believed they were strong candidates. He first spoke about **Sri Charan Baka**, describing him as a qualified candidate with a bachelor's degree in architecture and currently pursuing a master's degree in construction management. He explained that **Sri Charan** previously held a leadership role in a sustainability-focused organization in India and was involved in projects aimed at improving waste management and sustainability practices. He also mentioned that **Sri Charan** reported improving a sustainability rating for certain projects from a silver to a gold level, although **D. Lopez** noted that he would need to verify this information.

D. Lopez then discussed **Srilekha Budithi**, highlighting her academic background in biochemistry and her interest in sustainability-related innovations. He explained that she shared ideas involving environmentally friendly materials and sustainable practices to improve soil health and reduce plastic waste. He acknowledged that



some of her explanations required further clarification but emphasized that she brought creative and innovative thinking to sustainability efforts.

Next, **D. Lopez** spoke about **Ruthvik Reddy**, noting that he is a sophomore who currently has less hands-on experience on campus compared to the other candidates. However, he emphasized that **Ruthvik** demonstrated strong ambition, motivation, and a desire to advocate for student voices. He explained that **Ruthvik** expressed interest in ensuring that student perspectives are represented in sustainability discussions and policies. He also mentioned **Ruthvik's** familiarity with artificial intelligence and his interest in understanding and reducing its environmental impact.

D. Lopez stated that he believed all three candidates would be valuable additions to the committee, as each brings different strengths. He explained that **Sri Charan** could contribute technical and logistical expertise, **Srilekha** could provide innovative sustainability ideas and hands-on solutions, and **Ruthvik** could contribute to policy discussions and student advocacy. He concluded by stating that the final decision would depend on board approval, which was expected to take place on Wednesday.

M. Dawan asked how Ruthvik would be a good fit despite his limited campus experience. In response, **D. Lopez** explained that Ruthvik's perspective as a newer student could be beneficial, as he demonstrated strong motivation to represent student concerns and advocate for sustainability policies. He emphasized that each candidate offers unique strengths that align with the committee's overall goal of advancing sustainability initiatives on campus

20:00

IX. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

Motion to postpone committee reports indefinitely by **D. Lopez**. Seconded by **M. Dawan**. **MOTION CARRIED**

X. ROUND TABLE REMARKS

No roundtable remarks



XI. **ADJOURNMENT AT 02:30PM**

Minutes reviewed and approved by:

Chair/Director of Sustainability:

Daniel Kristofferson Lopez

Minutes approved on:

02/26/2026

Date:

