



Associated Students of Santa Monica College

A.S. Board of Directors Regular Meeting

09/14/2026 at 3:00 p.m.,

Cayton Center Computer Lab (2nd Floor),

Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405

The Public may join via: Zoom/Telephone: <https://smc-edu.zoom.us/j/89893070926>

Associated Students Office Phone Number: (310) 434-4250

Minutes

I. Call to Order at 3:06

II. Roll Call

- Motion to allow the Secretary to conduct roll call via zoom due to illness, Motioned by ICC Vice-Chair, Seconded by Student Outreach
 - Motion approved without objections

President, Paula Cortes, **P**

Vice-President, Gabriel Sánchez, **P**

Secretary, Zoe Linkins, **A**

Budget Management, **Vacant**

Basic Needs, Annabelle Garcia **P**

Instructional Support, Jiale Ma, **P**

Student Outreach, Daria Zharkova, **P**

Equity and Diversity, **Vacant**

External Affairs, Viktoriia Oberderfer, **P**

Activities, Gregory Hawthorne, **P**

Publicity, Samantha Jauregui, **A**

Sustainability, Muhammadjon Usmonzoda, **P**

ICC Chair, **Vacant**

ICC Vice-Chair, Matt Frankel, **P**

ICC Communications Officer, **Vacant**

Student Trustee, Audrey Liljegren, **A**

Dean of Community and Academic Relations, Dr. Kiersten Elliott, **P**

III. Public Comments (2 Minutes Per Speaker) – None.

IV. Approval of Minutes – 08/24-08/26/2026 (AS RETREAT), 8/31/2026, and 9/9/2026

- Motion to approve minutes for 08/25-08/26/2026 and 8/31/2026,
 - Motioned by Vice President, Seconded by Instructional Support
 - Motion approved without objections
- Motion to table 9/9/2026 minutes,
 - Motion approved without objections

V. Committee Reports & Informational Items – None.

VI. Minor Action Items (Under \$1,000) – Consent Agenda –

6.1 Proposal 1005 Approval for Canva Subscription Request by A.S. Director of Publicity

(Cost \$300.00. Requesting \$300.00 from A.S. Directors. – A.S. Director of Publicity, Samantha Jauregui)

- Motion to approve item 6.1, Motioned by ICC Vice-Chair, Seconded by Activities
- Motion approved unanimously

6.2 Proposal 1007 Approval for ICC Club Awareness by A.S. Director

(Cost \$944.95. Requesting \$944.95 from Activities – ICC Vice-Chair, Matt Frankel)

- Motion to approve item 6.2, Motioned by Vice-President, Seconded by Activities
- Motion approved unanimously

VII. Major Action Items (\$1,000 and over) – None.

VIII. Other Action Items

8.1 Confirmation of Interim Appointments Positions and Appointment Process:

- A.S. Director of Budget Management and A.S. Director of Equity and Diversity
- Motion to table item 8.1, Motioned by ICC Vice-Chair, Seconded by Vice-President

8.2 Confirmation of Vacant Positions and Process:

- A.S. Director of Budget Management and A.S. Director of Equity and Diversity
- The Vice-President explains the application, eligibility, and public interview process for filling the vacant director positions. The Vice-President also discussed forming an Ad Hoc Committee to develop interview question, conduct public interview, and assist with the select. The Board will vote on candidates following the interviews.

8.3 Formation of Ad Hoc Committee for the A.S. Director of Budget Management and A.S. Director of Equity and Diversity Vacancies

- Motion to confirm Ad Hoc Committee of President, Secretary, ICC Vice-chair, Instructional Support, and Vice-President
- Motioned by Director of Outreach, Seconded by Activities
 - Motion approved without objection

8.4 Constitution Committee Appointment (Vice-President) – see item 8.7 below

8.5 A.S. Director and Commissioner Stipends (Vice-President/Mitch Heskell)

- Motion to move item 8.5 to discussion item due to error, Motioned by Vice-President, Seconded by Activities.
- Mitch Heskell, Dean of Education Enterprises: Explained that director stipends may be approved by the Board but cannot be increased beyond the \$1,000 cap for the current Board. Any increase would apply to the following year's Board. The Board may also establish commissioner stipends. Stipends will be distributed once in the fall and once in the spring.



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8.6 DPAC – Budget Planning Subcommittee Appointment (Vice-President)

- Applicant, David Dagne, introduced himself and expressed interest in serving as an A.S. representative on the DPAC Budget Planning Subcommittee.
- Vice-President appointed David Dagne to the DPAC Budget Subcommittee representee. Motioned by Activities, Seconded by ICC Vice-Chair
 - Motion approved without objection

8.7 Constitution Committee Ad Hoc Appointment (Vice President)

- Motion to adjust **Item 8.7** language to include, “Ad Hoc”, Motioned by Vice-President, Seconded by Outreach
- Motion to strike **Item 8.4** due to administrative error, Motioned by External Affairs, Seconded by ICC Vice-Chair
- Motion to confirm Ad Hoc Constitution Committee of Vice-President, External Affairs, President, Student Outreach, and Activities
- Motioned by ICC Vice-Chair, Seconded by Instructional Support
 - Motion approved without objections

IX. Discussion Items

9.1 Giving Thanksgiving (Dr. Lizzy Moore)

- Dr. Lizzy Moore provided an overview of Giving Thanksgiving and its 10th anniversary. The event is scheduled for Monday, November 23 and Tuesday, November 24, with the time and location TBD. This year's event will focus on bringing students and the SMC community together through a hot holiday dinner, emphasizing community, togetherness, and belonging.
- A.S. will consider whether to provide financial support through the SMC Foundation
- Questions/thoughts:
 - Suggested using reservations to help streamline the event.
 - Vice President: Asked about the grocery gift card process and how A.S. could support the event.
 - Activities: Asked whether the event must take place on campus and whether students may invite friends and family.
 - Sustainability: Asked about food preparation and catering.
 - ICC Vice Chair: Expressed support for the event.
 - President: Asked what happens to leftover food? Dr. Moore explained that redistributed to the Bodega, donated to Food Cycle LA and community partners, and made available to faculty when appropriate. She emphasized that the goal is to ensure no food goes to waste.

9.2 Robert’s Rules of Order and Meeting Procedures (President)

- Calling on Speakers
- Speaking Order
- Unanimous Consent
- When a Second Is Required
- The President clarified that members absent due to illness or an extraordinary circumstance may be permitted to participate remotely if approved by the Board.

9.3 Student Survey Continued Discussion (External Affairs)

- Expressed the goal of finalizing it by the end of the week, allowing another week for responses before analyzing the results in October.

9.4 Election on November 3, 2026 (External Affairs)

- Reminded that Elections are on November 3rd, wants to promote the event starting in October.

9.5 Student Trustee Voting Rights – Continued Discussion (President)

- The Board continued discussing potential voting rights for the Student Trustee, including possible changes to the Constitution, quorum, attendance requirements, and stipends. The discussion included the potential benefits of increased participation and incentives, as well as maintaining separation between the A.S. Board and Board of Trustees. The item will continue to be discussed with consideration for future Boards.

9.6 Homecoming (Student Outreach)

- Planning is progressing, theme and date still being finalized

9.7 New Technology for A.S. Directors (President)

9.8 Budget Transparency and Finance Discussion (President)

9.9 Anti-Harassment on Campus (President)

9.10 Status of Commissioner Applications (President)

- Motion to table **items 9.7 through 9.10** by Vice-President, Seconded by ICC Vice-Chair
 - Motion approved without objection



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X. Director Reports (2 Minutes Each)

- ICC Vice Chair: Proposed creating an A.S. community stage as a potential future project.
- Vice President: Reported on the recent Student Trustee meeting, upcoming Homecoming planning, and outreach to international students.
- President: Reminded Directors to submit agenda items, provide budget breakdowns for Finance items, report absences, and review meeting minutes for corrections.

XI. Student Trustee Report - None.

XII. Advisor Reports –

- Dean Elliott: Announced an upcoming A.S. information table from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., featuring a QR code for student involvement, A.S. materials, and campus/community resources.

XIII. Adjournment at 4:57 p.m.