



Associated Students of Santa Monica College

A.S. Board of Directors Regular Meeting

09/28/2026 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 3:05 p.m.

II. Roll Call

President, Paula Cortes, **P**

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

Secretary, Zoë Linkins, **P**

Budget Management, David Dagne (Interim), **P**

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, Zahra Veera, **P**

Student Trustee, Audrey Liljegren, **P**

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

- **Motion to allow ICC Vice-Chair to vote via zoom due to extraordinary circumstances, Motioned by Vice-President, Seconded by Sustainability**

III. Public Comments (2 Minutes Per Speaker)

- Gohar Srapyan: Introduced herself as a counselor and shared that Counseling is available for academic plan career pathways, transfer applications, and other stud support.
- Matt Bakalinsky (Regional Affairs Director for Region 7): Requested increasing public comment to three minutes and adding an SSCCC Report to future agendas, announced the September 30 Delegate Assembly, and encouraged Directors to follow SSCCC Region 7.
- Adrian Ibarra: Introduced himself as a member of The Corsair and reminded Directors to check their emails.

IV. Approval of Minutes – 09/09/2026

– 09/14/2026

- Motion to approve the minutes or adjust the minutes. Motioned by Secretary, Seconded by Vice-President
 - Motion approved without objection

V. Committee Reports & Informational Items –

- Ferris Kavar (Director of sustainability): Reported on the presidential candidate forum and noted Dr. Jones's previous experience with an energy/climate action plan.
- Sustainability: Also discussed inviting Dr. Jones to a future A.S. meeting to discuss further sustainability efforts.
- ICC Vice-Chair: Reported that preparations were underway for Club Awareness and Club Row, including printing club signs, preparing materials, and submitting proposals for the upcoming Finance Committee meeting.

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

6.1 Proposal 1012 Approval for Club Awareness Table materials, by SMC Rotaract Club

(Cost \$92.00. Requesting \$92.00 from Club ICC Allotment)

- Motion to approve **Item 6.1**, Motioned by Student Outreach, Seconded by Budget Management
 - Motion approved unanimously

VII. Major Action Items (\$1,000 and over) –

7.1. Proposal 1008 Approval for Smart Sheets License Annual Renewal, by Office of Student Life Department

(Cost \$3,150. Requesting \$3,1500 from A.S. Office – Dean of Community and Academic Relations, Dr. Kiestem Elliott)

- **Item 7.1** is approved unanimously

7.2. Suspension of Fiscal Policy for Proposal 1011 Approval for Organic Learning Summer Budget, by A.S. Director of Sustainability

(Cost \$3,000.00. Requesting \$3,000.00 from A.S. Funding)

- **Item 7.2** is approved unanimously.



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VIII. Discussion Items

8.1 Media Training (Sharyn Obsatz)

- Professor Obsatz: Discussed how The Corsair operates as a student-led newsroom and emphasized that Directors should be authentic and avoid over-rehearsing interviews. She also discussed story pitches, advertising, letters to the editor, photography rights, and the importance of understanding that public meeting comments may be reported.

8.2 International Students (President)

- Motion to table **Item 8.2**, Motioned by Vice-President, Seconded by Sustainability

8.3 Student Trustee (President)

- Motion to table **Item 8.3**, Motioned by Student Outreach Seconded by Instructional Support
 - Motion approved without objection

8.4 Ad Hoc for Vacancy Positions (President) – Ad Hoc was approved during the A.S. Board Meeting of 9/14/2026.

8.5 Homecoming (Student Outreach)

- Student Outreach: The theme was established as "Once a Corsair, Always a Corsair," with a focus on SMC community, school spirit, and bringing current students and alumni together.
- Motion to table **Item 8.5**, Motioned by Student Outreach Seconded by Budget Management
 - Motion approved without objection

8.6 ICC Updates

- The ICC Vice-Chair reported continued preparations for Club Awareness and Club Row, and the Vice-President welcomed newly appointed ICC Communications Officer Zahra Veera.
- Motion to table **Item 8.6**, Motioned by Vice-President, Seconded by Instructional Support
 - Motion approved without objection

8.7 Ad Hoc Committee Updates

- Vice-President: Reported that the Constitution Committee must establish an agenda and follow Brown Act requirements, including the 72-hour agenda posting requirement.
- Motion to table **Item 8.7**, Motioned by Vice-President, Seconded by Secretary

8.8 Event Updates

- Motion to table **Item 8.8**, Motioned by Instructional Support Seconded by External Affairs.

IX. Other Action Items

9.1 November 3rd Election Ad Hoc Committee Appointment (External Affairs)

- Provided an update on preparations for the November 3 election, with a focus on voter registration and providing students with information about voting rights and voting instructions.
- Motion to confirm Ad Hoc Committee of Vice-President and Sustainability, Motioned by Sustainability, Seconded by Instructional Support
 - Motion approved without objection

9.2 Student Trustee

- Motion to strike **Item 9.2** due to administrative error, Motioned by Vice-President, Seconded by Budget Management.

X. Director Reports (2 Minutes Each) – None.

XI. Student Trustee Report

- Student Trustee: Provided updates on recent District decisions and approvals. The report included updates regarding student housing, the 2026-2027 District Budget, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Plan.

XII. Advisor Reports

- Dean of Community and Academic Relations, Dr. Elliott: Thanked Directors for attending meetings and reminded them to remain engaged with their semester goals. She also asked Directors to reflect on what they wish they had known when beginning their positions and prepare a short end-of-semester reflection for their stipend requirements.

XIII. Adjournment at 4:13 p.m.