

To: 2026-2027 ASI Board of Directors
Associated Students Incorporated at California State University- Sacramento

From: Elaine Lustado, Executive Director

Date: September 16, 2026

Re: Executive Director's Report — June through September 2026

This is my first report to you as Executive Director, covering my first ninety days and the organization's summer and start of fall. It's been a season of transitions: a new Board seated, a new ED, a retreat that set the year's direction, and the opening of a milestone year, **ASI's 70th anniversary, the Food Pantry's 10th, and KSSU's 35th. My thanks to the Board**, the management team, and every ASI staff member who made a demanding summer run well. What follows is where things stand.

AT A GLANCE

- 2026–27 Board seated June 1; two director vacancies filled by appointment in August; Board Retreat held August 17–19. Currently have two vacancies (Director of Education and Director of Discovery Pathways).
- Board adopted the year's governance updates, including Operating Rule 500.1 amendments defining the ASI Negotiating Team and the Board's role in collective bargaining.
- Food Pantry 10th Anniversary celebrated September 14 with the Roots & Recognition Gala and Community of Care Celebration.
- Strategic Priorities for 2026–27 before the Board for adoption at this afternoon's meeting.
- Fall scholarship cycle opened September 25 (Operating Rule 400.11).

Governance & Board Operations

- **Board seated and appointments completed.** The 2026–27 Board of Directors took office June 1. Following the August 3 special meeting, the Board appointed Directors for the Colleges of Arts & Letters and Health & Human Services through a redesigned appointment process featuring structured, behavior-based interviews and a candidate preparation guide. The same process will be used for the remaining Discovery Pathways and Education vacancies, for which the search continues.
- **Board Retreat.** The Board Retreat at the Jesuit Retreat Center (August 17–19) covered fiduciary responsibilities, roles and expectations, parliamentary procedure, ASI's financial picture, and the development of this year's strategic priorities. Every member received a role-specific guide and the year's calendar of duties and checkpoints.
- **Governance updates.** The Board considered amendments to Operating Rule 500.1 establishing the ASI Negotiating Team and the Board's oversight role in collective bargaining and completed alignment on implementation of the Accountability & Support Plan.
- Ahead of the 2027–28 election cycle, the Government office is aligning ASI's candidate eligibility materials with the Bylaws and campus policy so candidates, verifiers, and governing documents state one consistent standard, with standing verification checkpoints each cycle.

Finance & Administration

- **FY2026–27 budget.** The Board-approved operating and capital budgets are in effect. The Finance & Budget Committee will begin FY2027–28 planning in October, with an emphasis on long-term fiscal sustainability across all programs.
- **Audit and compliance.** The annual financial statement audit with CliftonLarsonAllen is complete. A consolidated compliance training calendar has been established across all ASI employment categories.

- **Labor relations.** ASI continues to negotiate in good faith with CSUEU toward a first collective bargaining agreement. The Board receives updates in closed session as appropriate.

Student Government

- **Strategic priorities.** The 2026–27 Annual Strategic Priorities — built at the retreat and refined through September working sessions — are before the Board for adoption tonight under three pillars: Academic Support & Professional Development; Accessibility, Affordability & Awareness; and Wellness, Equity & Inclusion.
- **Fall welcome.** ASI's President and Executive Vice President represented students at the President's Fall Address and Fall Convocation on August 27, Nest Fest August 28, and ASI participated in Hornet Day at the Lake on August 29.

Student Engagement & Outreach

- **Food Pantry 10th Anniversary.** On September 14, ASI celebrated ten years of the Food Pantry with the Roots & Recognition Gala and a Community of Care Celebration honoring the staff, volunteers, donors, and campus partners who built the program into an essential campus resource. Thank you to everyone who made the evening possible.
- **Pantry operations.** In the first week of fall, the Food Pantry distributed \$12,457 in retail value of groceries to 577 students. A new Food Pantry Coordinator has been hired and begins in October.
- **KSSU 35th Anniversary.** KSSU begins its 35th year of student-run radio, with anniversary programming planned throughout the year.
- **Fall welcome.** Phlagleblast brought approximately 1,000 students through the Student Engagement & Outreach office — a major boost in ASI awareness at the start of the year

Children's Center

- The Center completed its second week of speech screenings and welcomed fieldwork students for the fall. Children's artwork is on display in the "More Than Scribble" exhibit on the second floor Exhibit Lounge of the University Union, with a reception planned for September 18th from 6 pm to 8 pm. Parent education resources are in development.

Aquatic Center

- **Summer season.** Summer youth camps concluded a full ten-week season, and the Center hosted Hornet Day at the Lake on August 29 to welcome the campus community to the water.
- The Center completed its annual fire drill in coordination with campus Risk Management.

Peak Adventures

- **Summer and fall.** Peak Adventures completed its summer camp season with an expanded seasonal staff, provided transportation and team-building programming for the Board Retreat, and has reopened the Challenge Center and Bike Shop for fall.

Looking Ahead — Next 60 Days

- Adoption and launch of the 2026–27 Strategic Priorities, with responsible parties and progress-reporting cadence.
- Completion of the Director of Discovery Pathways Director of Education appointment.
- Fall scholarship review cycle through the ASI Scholarship Committee.
- Fund development: ED and President attending the Sacramento Region Community Foundation Philanthropy Summit on September 15th. 70th anniversary planning continues.
- Continued alignment of governance documents ahead of the spring election cycle.



Elaine Lustado
Executive Director

Coming Up This Fall

- **ASI Week, Sept. 28–Oct. 2:** Free Groceries Pop-Up (Sept. 28), Bingo with the Board (Sept. 29), ASI Day on the Quad (Sept. 30), K-Pop Night with UNIQUE and KSSU (Oct. 1), and Peak's Free Community Ride (Oct. 1).
- **KSSU 35th Anniversary Celebration,** Sept. 24, Harper Alumni Center.
- **Homecoming Week, Oct. 12–17,** including the Noon Live Concert and Homecoming Rally with UNIQUE and ASI on Oct. 14.
- **ASI 70th Anniversary Tailgate,** Friday, Oct. 30, ahead of Hornet Football vs. Kent State — Sac State's first "MAction" game.
- **Hornet Football at home:** Sept. 19 (North Dakota State), Sept. 26 (UMass), Oct. 17 (Ohio), Oct. 30 (Kent State), Nov. 4 (Toledo) — ASI tailgates Oct. 30.
- **Peak Adventures:** 20+ fall trips and free outdoor clinics through October, plus the Fall Free Open Climb with KSSU and SEO on Oct. 29.
- **Aquatic Center:** full fall class schedule (sailing, paddling, kayaking, windsurfing), Sac State Students Free Rental Days on Sept. 25, Oct. 9, and Oct. 16, and Adaptive Kayaking on Oct. 10.
- **Children's Center:** "More Than Just Scribbles" art gallery reception, Friday, Sept. 18, 6–8 PM, University Union Cottonwood Suite.

Standing Meetings & Engagement

Management Work Team (paused) · ASI Board and Working Board (biweekly) · Finance & Budget Committee · Student Affairs Leadership Council (weekly) · 1:1s with Board members, senior staff, and students (ongoing) · Children's Center Parent Advisory Committee (monthly) · Quarterly Auxiliary Leadership Council · Auxiliary Organizations Association.

Questions or ideas are always welcome.

In service,

Elaine Lustado

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Executive Director, Associated Students, Inc.