Elaine Lustado
Executive Director

To: 2026-2027 ASI Board of Directors
From: Elaine Lustado, Executive Director
Date: October 14, 2026
Re: Executive Director's Report, September 16 through October 14, 2026

This report covers the four weeks since the Board adopted the year's Strategic Priorities. The short version: the Board's agenda is set and the work is now about carrying it out. ASI Week brought the organization onto the quad for five days, KSSU marked 35 years, the Board took up its first legislation of the year, and the first full rewrite of the Operating Rules in plain language is finished and headed for review. The 70th Anniversary Tailgate is seventeen days out.

AT A GLANCE

- Strategic Priorities for 2026-27 adopted September 16 under three pillars. Reporting cadence and responsible parties are the next step.
- Director of Education: interviews complete and scores finalized; appointment before the Board. Discovery Pathways search continues.
- Operating Rules plain-language rewrite complete (89 pages to 30), with a companion summary of every substantive change. Going to counsel, then Internal Affairs, then the Board.
- ASI Week ran September 28 through October 2, with more than 650 students at K-Pop Night alone. KSSU marked 35 years on September 24 with coverage from CBS, KCRA, CapRadio, and Sac State News.
- ASI 70th Anniversary Tailgate is Friday, October 30, ahead of Hornet Football vs. Kent State.

Governance & Board Operations

- **Strategic Priorities adopted.** The Board adopted the 2026-27 Annual Strategic Priorities on September 16 under three pillars: Academic Support & Professional Development; Accessibility, Affordability & Awareness; and Wellness, Equity & Inclusion. The adopted version reflects line edits from the September working sessions so that each item names an outcome, not just an activity, and so that advocacy items name who ASI is advocating to. The 2.2.3 CCAMPIS item now reads "or comparable funding as availability allows," which keeps the priority intact if federal support changes. Next step is a one-page progress tracker with an owner and a check-in date for each item, which the Executive Vice President and I will bring to a Working Board this fall.
- **Director of Education appointment.** Interviews for the Director of Education vacancy are complete using the structured, behavior-based process adopted this summer. Scoring is finalized and the appointment is before the Board. The Discovery Pathways vacancy remains open and recruitment continues; I would welcome referrals from any Director who knows a strong candidate in that program.
- **Operating Rules rewrite.** The complete plain-language rewrite of the ASI Operating Rules is finished. The current rules run 89 pages across inconsistent formats; the rewrite is 30 pages in ten parts, with one legislation format, one deadline for submissions, one accountability path (the Accountability & Support Plan for performance, the Judicial Review Committee for conduct), and new advisory committees for the Food Pantry and KSSU. A companion document lists every change, why it was made, and which ones need a Board decision rather than a wording fix. Sequence from here is counsel review, an Internal Affairs Committee walkthrough, officer confirmation of their own sections, and then a single piece of legislation requiring a two-thirds vote. One

housekeeping item the Board will need to resolve before adoption: the current rules assign the numbers 400.10 and 400.11 to two committees each, and the crosswalk table in the companion document proposes the fix.

- **Legislation.** The Board's first legislative cycle of the year is underway, including a conforming change to the Educational Assistance Policy sponsored by the Director of Natural Sciences & Mathematics (terminology updated to match loan documents after the SAVE plan ended; no change to amounts) and a resolution from the Director of Arts & Letters now in the working board cycle.
- **Board training and campus partnership.** At the request of Student Affairs, the Board is taking part in the campus TPM training series led by Student Organizations & Leadership. Executive officers attended the first session with their Directors, and the second session is October 29. The Board's role this year is to attend, to bring the training to clubs and Joint Councils through each Director, and to open a session; co-presenting policy content comes after the Board has been through the training itself.
- **Representation and appointments.** Several requests this month, from campus partners and from students, concerned how ASI appoints student representatives to university bodies and how it responds to requests for new seats or committees. Each is being handled directly with the person who asked. The common thread is that ASI does not have one written process for these decisions, and I have added that to the Internal Affairs list for the Operating Rules rewrite.
- **Elections platform.** The Government office is moving ASI elections from BigPulse to Qualtrics for spring 2027. The one design question is how a student votes for executive officers and for their own college's Director in a single submission. I have reached out to two CSU campuses that already run elections in Qualtrics to learn how they build it, and we will settle the approach well before the filing period opens. The eligibility alignment work reported last month continues alongside this.
- **ED reporting.** Beginning with this report, I will report to the Board monthly on this schedule. Reports are posted to the ASI website and to the Government Office library on SharePoint.

Finance & Administration

- **FY2027-28 budget planning.** The Finance & Budget Committee begins FY2027-28 planning this month. The Vice President of Finance and the Interim Director of Finance will set the calendar, and department directors will receive their budget guidance and templates in November. The emphasis again is long-term fiscal sustainability across every program, with a clear line between what fee revenue funds and what each enterprise must earn.
- **Audit.** The FY2025-26 financial statement audit with CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) is complete. The Interim Director of Finance in partnership with CLA presented the audited statements and the auditor communications to the Board.
- **Federal funding.** The federal changes to the CCAMPIS grant that we anticipated in the Strategic Priorities are now affecting Children's Center families. The Center Director is working with each affected family on payment plans, and I am tracking the total exposure so the Board hears a number, not a worry, at the next Finance & Budget meeting.
- **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

- **ASI Week, September 28 through October 2.** Five days on the quad. The Free Groceries Pop-Up served 88 students on Monday. Bingo with the Board at The WELL on Tuesday drew several Directors and gave away 70th anniversary prizes. ASI Day on the Quad on Wednesday brought roughly 250 students through. K-Pop Night on

Thursday, now in its third year, drew more than 650 students with four student dance crews, KSSU DJs, Stinger Expo vendors, and partners from UNIQUE, the University Union, the Asian Studies Program, and KP International. Peak closed the week with its Free Community Ride. Thank you to every Director who staffed a table and to the SEO team who built the week; it takes weeks to plan and three days to tear down.

- **Safe & Supported Kits.** The Board's safety kit initiative for the October 30 tailgate is moving. The initiative has drawn its first financial support from campus leadership, and I have passed along the Board's thanks. The Director of Health & Human Services identified the state Naloxone Distribution Project as a possible source of free nasal naloxone for all 600 kits, and is working with the Food Pantry (which already stocks Narcan) and Student Health, Counseling & Wellness Services to confirm supply, storage, and distribution procedures before anything is ordered. I am checking the insurance question on ASI's side. The target is to have the supply answer by the end of this week.
- **Philanthropy Summit.** President Maciel Montoya and I attended the Sacramento Region Community Foundation Philanthropy Summit at Cal Expo on September 15. The most useful sessions were on board members as fundraisers and on relationship-centered funding; both will inform the fund development plan and the 70th anniversary giving ask.
- **Homecoming.** Homecoming Week runs October 12 through 17. ASI co-hosts the Noon Live Concert and Homecoming Rally with UNIQUE on October 14 at Serna Plaza.

Student Engagement & Outreach

- **KSSU 35th Anniversary.** KSSU celebrated 35 years of student-run radio on September 24 at the Harper Alumni Center, an event nearly a year in the making, with alumni, students, and staff in the room. The story reached well beyond campus: CBS Sacramento, KCRA, CapRadio, and Sac State News all covered the anniversary. Since then KSSU has trained 11 new live-mixing DJs, held open interviews that drew more than 30 students from 120 applicants for 13 open spots, and expects a full roster with shows every weekday by the end of October. A Bollywood Night is next in the genre series. Thank you to the Directors who came out on September 24.
- **Food Pantry.** River Truong joined ASI this month as Food Pantry Coordinator, coming from Alchemist CDC where he led CalFresh and Market Match programs, with earlier work at UC Davis and the California Department of Social Services. Five College Corps fellows also joined the Pantry team for the year; this is ASI's second year as a College Corps host site, which pairs student service with pay toward school. The next Free Groceries Pop-Up is Monday, November 2 on the Library Quad.
- **Safe Rides.** The rideshare reimbursement program has received 72 applications this fall, 20 reviewed and 52 in progress. Over winter break SEO will pilot a live dashboard so students can see their reimbursement status and remaining balance.
- **Outreach.** SEO tabled at the PRIDE Center Fall Resource Fair on October 6 and connected with 34 students. The student media agency pilot, which produced a pro bono project for the Food Literacy Center last year, is recruiting its second cohort of interns and a new community client.
- **A visitor.** Duke, a service dog in training, stopped by the ASI offices on Wednesday, October 7. Morale was measurably higher for the rest of the day.
- **Coming up from SEO.** Pumpkin Painting Party, October 27, Library Quad. Coffee Club, November 4, University Union.

Children's Center

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The "More Than Just Scribbles" art reception on September 18 drew families, faculty, and campus partners to the University Union to see the children's work. Speech screenings are complete for the fall and fieldwork students are in the classrooms. The Center is managing the CCAMPIS change family by family (see Finance & Administration), and parent education resources remain in development.

Aquatic Center

The fall class schedule is in full swing at Lake Natoma: sailing, paddling, kayaking, windsurfing, and powerboating. Sac State Students Free Rental Days ran September 25 and October 9, with the last of the fall on October 16. Adaptive Kayaking ran October 10. The Center is one of two campus partners offering adaptive programming this fall, alongside The WELL's weekly Adaptive Sports series, which matters for Strategic Priority 3.2.2.

Peak Adventures

Peak ran a full September and October trip calendar: Shasta Caverns, Tahoe Paddle, Tuolumne Meadows, Point Reyes, Angel Island, Pinnacles, and Hetch Hetchy, plus free Tuesday evening outdoor clinics on mindfulness, local ecology, Leave No Trace, and knots. The Challenge Center and Bike Shop are open for fall. Still ahead: Mt. Diablo tarantula walk October 24, the Latinx Community Hike October 25, the Fall Free Open Climb with KSSU and SEO October 29, Spooky Spelunking October 30, and Wilderness First Aid December 4.

Looking Ahead: Next 60 Days

- ASI 70th Anniversary Tailgate, Friday, October 30, 2 to 7 PM, ahead of Hornet Football vs. Kent State.
- Strategic Priorities progress tracker to a Working Board, with owners and check-in dates.
- Operating Rules rewrite: counsel review complete, Internal Affairs walkthrough scheduled.
- Director of Discovery Pathways appointment.
- FY2027-28 budget calendar set and department guidance issued.
- Fall scholarship review through the ASI Scholarship Committee.
- Qualtrics election build confirmed with campus IT and peer campuses.
- TPM training, second session, October 29.

Coming Up

- Homecoming Week, October 12 through 17, including the Noon Live Concert and Homecoming Rally with UNIQUE and ASI on October 14, and the Golf Cart Parade October 17.
- Hornet Football at home: October 17 (Ohio), October 30 (Kent State, ASI tailgate), November 4 (Toledo, UNIQUE tailgate).
- Fall Free Open Climb with KSSU and SEO, October 29, Challenge Center.
- Free Groceries Pop-Up, November 2, Library Quad.
- Aquatic Center: last Sac State Students Free Rental Day of fall, October 16; Sunset Paddles October 30 and November 20.

Standing Meetings & Engagement

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Executive Director

ASI Core Leadership · 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,

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