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To: **2026-2027 ASI Board of Directors**

From: **Dhruv Pratap Singh**
Director of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies

Subject: **September 2026 Board Report**

General Information

Office Hours:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Also available to meet per request (subject to availability)
- Location: ASI Student Government Office, 3rd Floor, University Union

Contact Information:

- Email: asissisdirector@csus.edu
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A Special Note to Our Hornets!

Fellow Hornets,

My name is Dhruv, and I welcome all of you to the Fall semester of the academic year 2026-27! May this Fall, for whether you are a continuing student, or a freshman, bring new opportunities for you. And that is exactly why Associated Students, Inc. was built 70 years ago. While this year marks ASI's 70th anniversary, I want to take a moment and reaffirm ASI's firm commitment to serve our students.

Serving as your ASI Director of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies this academic year, I am truly excited to put in the work, and ensure every student gets a meaningful experience from their involvement in our campus community.

Whether be it in the classroom, through student organizations, campus events, or simply connecting with fellow students, I am your resource to utilize and to help you find more opportunities to grow, learn, and make lasting memories from your college experience, here at Sac State. I look forward to hearing your ideas, understanding your concerns, and working alongside you to make this a successful and memorable academic year for everyone!

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2026-2027 ASI Board of Directors Strategic Priorities

- Academic Support and Professional Development
- Accessibility, Affordability, and Awareness
- Wellness, Equity, and Inclusion

ASI (Internal) and University Committees

ASI Internal Committees

As per ASI Operating Rule, 100.1.F.7, "Directors must sit on at least one (1) of the ASCSUS Internal committees."

- ***ASI Lobby Corps***
  - **Attended first committee meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2026**
  - Participated in the committee meeting to gain a deeper understanding of the Lobby Corps' role in representing student interests and advocating for issues that directly affect the student body
  - Attendance at the initial meeting provided an opportunity to become familiar with the committee's structure, responsibilities, priorities, and getting to know fellow committee members
  - Expressed interest to the Executive Vice President in being formally appointed, as the ASI Board of Directors representative to ASI Lobby Corps
  - Communicated willingness to Chair & Vice Chair of ASI Lobby Corps to take on a more active role within the committee, and contribute to its advocacy efforts

- ***ASI Social Justice and Equity Council***
  - **Attended first committee meeting on Monday, September 21, 2026**
  - Participated in the initial meeting to learn more about the Council's purpose, responsibilities, and role in addressing issues of equity, inclusion, accessibility, and student well-being
  - Raised concerns and actively engaged in discussions during the committee roundtable, to bring up issues under the committee's jurisdiction – contributed to the conversation by advocating for recognition of international students' enrollment and financial barrier directly affecting their active student status, having a direct impact on their stay in the United States
  - Expressed interest to the Executive Vice President to be formally appointed to the ASI Social Justice and Equity Council, as the ASI Board of Directors representative
  - **Attended second committee meeting on Monday, September 28, 2026**

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- Presented ideas during committee discussions regarding increasing student awareness of financial aid resources and information, focused on improving the ways students receive and understand financial aid-related information
- Discussion centered on the importance of ensuring that resources for guiding students are made aware to navigate the resources available, by the Student Service Center, Bursar's Office, and Financial Aid Advisors
- Highlighted the importance of making financial aid information more accessible and understandable to students in an active attempt to raise the issue within the Social Justice and Equity Council in order to connect financial aid awareness with broader questions of student access and equity; recognizing that students may face different levels of familiarity and how each students' situation is unique in terms of financial aid systems, and available resources

- ***ASI Executive Committee***
  - **Present and observed ASI Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2026.**
  - Participated in the meeting as an observer to gain a stronger understanding of how the Executive Committee conducts its business, discusses student issues, and addresses matters related and relevant to ASI and the broader student body, at large
  - Issued public comment relevant to the discussion of the Executive Committee by using public-comment portion of the meeting to bring forward a perspective crucially relevant to the matters under discussion
  - Further expanded upon the public comment during the meeting and further articulated the concerns and ideas being presented by providing additional context to clarify the purpose and significance of the comment and to ensure that the issue was communicated thoroughly to the Executive Committee

- ***ASI International Students Committee***
  - **Attended for the meeting on Monday, September 28, 2026.**
  - Engaged with the committee's discussions and gained and additional perspective on the role ASI can play in supporting and representing international students within the university committee
  - Advocated for committee action, in concurrence with items on the agenda – "Committee Roundtable: International student enrollment" – by providing varying lived experiences of international students facing difficulty in regards with enrollment and financial aspects of access to their college education
  - Also highlighted the importance of recognizing and valuing international student perspectives for maintaining a deeper cultural connect to our campus community

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- Continued expanding involvement across different ASI committees in order to gain a broader understanding of the diverse needs and concerns represented within the student body, especially in the case of international students

- ***ASI Student Academic Senate***
  - **Nominated two students from the College of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for consideration for the Student Academic Senate**
  - Identified students who could contribute to Student Academic Senate and by forwarding their nominations to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, supported the process of connecting students with opportunities to participate in academic governance and to represent their unique student viewpoints

University Committees
As per ASI Operating Rule, 100.1.F.8, "Each Director shall sit on at least two (2) University committees."

- ***Committee Preferences***
  - Responded to the Vice President of University Affairs with a list of University Committee preferences, for the academic year 2026-2027
  - Preferences were submitted on Monday, July 13, 2026 as follows:
    (1) Campus Educational Equity Committee (CEEC)
    (2) Friends of the Library
    (3) Sacramento State Alumni Association Board of Directors
    (4) **Grade Appeals Panel**

- ***Committee Appointments***
  - On Monday, August 3rd, the ASI Board of Directors appointed the Director of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies to serve as a representative on behalf of ASI on the Grade Appeals Panel for the Fall 2026 semester
  - On Thursday, September 3rd, 2026, the Vice President of University Affairs officially appointed the Director of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies to serve on **(1) Campus Educational Equity Committee (CEEC); and (2) Friends of the Library**

- ***Additional Appointments***
  - On Monday, September 28, 2026, the Director of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies was made aware by the Vice President of University

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Affairs during their office hours that the division of Student Affairs and Inclusive Excellence for the need of recommending the appointment to International Affairs Task Force, a university-wide group, which aims at examining how Sacramento State can strengthen its international education and global engagement efforts, while also improving support for international students, faculty, staff, and scholars; strengthen coordination across programs and services; and advance international partnerships, study abroad, recruitment, and related activities

- Responded with interest to serve on the International Affairs Task Force, and expressed a willingness to be considered for appointment to the university-wide task force, reflecting commitment to supporting international students and advancing initiatives that foster a more globally engaged campus community
- Vice President of University Affairs recommended the appointment of Director of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies to the **International Affairs Task Force**

Events

As per ASI Operating Rule, 100.1.F.11, "Each Director will be required to attend at least ten (10) campus events per semester, which must include at least one (1) from each of the following: a. An event hosted by the ASI Board or an ASI department; b. An event hosted by the ASI Office of Governmental Affairs; c. A university-wide event; and d. An event hosted on behalf of their representative constituency."

- ***ASI Events***
  - Attended **ASI Board Retreat from Monday, August 17 – Wednesday, August 19**, and actively participated in discussions and deliberations with all board members, and ASI Staff
  - Attended and participated in tabling efforts at the **ASI Office of Governmental Affairs – National Voter Registration Fair on Tuesday, September 15th**
  - Attended **ASI Children's Center 'More Than Just Scribbles' Reception** on **Friday, September 18th**

- ***University Events***
  - Attended **Sacramento State Alumni Association (SSAA) Board of Directors Retreat** on **Friday, August 21st**
  - Attended **President's 2026 Fall Address** on **Thursday, August 27th**
  - Attended **Fall Convocation Ceremony #1** on **Thursday, August 27th**
  - Attended **Hornet Family Welcome Reception** on **Thursday, August 27th**
  - Attended **Fall Convocation Ceremony #2** on **Thursday, August 27th**

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- Attended **Hornet Nest Fest** on **Friday, August 28th**
- Attended the **Swarm Photo** on **Thursday, September 3rd**
- Attended the **Swarm Pep Rally** on **Thursday, September 3rd**
- Attended **General Education (GE) Honors Fall Convocation** on **Friday, September 4th**
- Attended the **Student Alumni Association General Meeting (Get to Know SAA)** on **Tuesday, September 8th**
- Attended the University Union's annual **Phlagleblast** on **Wednesday, September 9th**
- Attended the **Student Alumni Association's Fall Chill Out** on **Wednesday, September 9th**
- Attended **MENA American Policy Summit** on **Tuesday, September 22nd** and **Wednesday, September 23rd**

- ***College Departments Events***
  - Attended **Engineering & Computer Science Joint Council General Meeting** on **Wednesday, September 16th**
  - Hosted and attended **Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies Joint Council Meeting** on **Tuesday, September 22nd**
  - Attended **Department of Political Science Fall Open House** on **Friday, September 25th**

Office Hours Tasks

As per ASI Operating Rule, 100.1.F.4, "Directors are required to keep office hours. Four (4) hours in the office per week during the academic year will be the minimum, not including weekly Regular and Working Board meetings."

- Met with fellow Directors and Executive Board members to discuss college-specific and campus-wide issues
- Drafted legislation for Board review and contributed to the development of ASI Strategic Priorities
- Met with students and student organization leaders to discuss concerns and initiatives within the College of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies
- Connected students with relevant campus resources, including financial aid and academic support through the SSIS Student Success Center
- Reviewed ASI Operating Rules and consulted with Executive Board members, the Executive Director, and ASI staff for clarification on policies and procedures
- Coordinated meetings with department chairs, the Dean's Office, Board members, and administrators, as well as room reservations for the SSIS Joint Council
- Communicated with student clubs and organizations, department chairs, faculty, and students regarding SSIS Joint Council initiatives and participation

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- Created, drafted, and edited SSIS Joint Council materials, including social media graphics, informational materials, and student and organization interest forms.
- Designed and printed informational materials for the SSIS bulletin board.

Presentations

As per ASI Operating Rule, 100.1.F.6, "Every director must complete seven (7) presentations per semester in order to promote and enhance the Board of Directors' yearly Strategic Priorities as well as promote and share resources and information available through ASI and their respective colleges."

- Presented at **General Education (GE) Honors Fall Convocation** on **Friday, September 4th** about ASI, its programs, university committees and ASI internal committees, scholarship opportunities, as well as resources available for students to peruse through ASI
- Presented at the **Department of Political Science Faculty Meeting** on **Friday, September 11th**

Meetings (July 2026-September 2026)

- ***Meetings with the Dean's Office (College of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies)***
  As per ASI Operating Rule, 100.1.F.5, "Each Director shall be responsible for meeting with their College Dean or Associate Dean at least once a month excluding the summer and January to discuss issues of interest pertaining to their said representative body."

  First Meeting: Wednesday, July 22, 2026 (Associate Dean, Dr. Shane Nordyke)

  - Discussed SSIS goals, priorities, and challenges for the 2026–2027 academic year
  - Raised the need for a consistent student feedback channel and introduced the SSIS Joint Council as a potential avenue for student-department communication
  - Presented forward the idea of having a college-wide event for accessibility to resources, opportunities, breaking the barriers between departments and students, ensuring smooth flow of connections between peers outside of the classroom
  - Advocated for keeping the Joint Council open to all SSIS students and student organizations, with opportunities for broader campus participation

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- Inquired about potential challenges the college is facing, as a whole, and how can ASI be of support
- Proposed monthly meetings with the Dean's Office to maintain consistent communication between student representatives and college leadership

<u>Second Meeting: Friday, September 4th, 2026</u> (Associate Dean, Dr. Shane Nordyke)

- Presented SSIS Joint Council updates following the drafting of the document chartering the creation of the SSIS Joint Council; asked for the Dean's Office feedback for the SSIS Joint Council, and to forward the idea to Department Chairs
- Provided the Dean's Office with the initiation of the SSIS Joint Council Kickoff, an event focusing on highlighting the importance of the Joint Council, as well as connecting various SSIS clubs and students
- Initiated conversations with the Dean's Office on a structured note for the creation of SSIS WEEK in Spring 2027, in conjunction with [then] pending voting of the ASI Board of Directors Strategic Priorities 2026-2027
- Introduced the idea of "Cookies with the Chairs" for the College of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies, to meet with their respective chairs, reinforcing the breaking of barriers between students, faculty, and administration
- Also focused efforts on advocating for the creation of more Career Readiness & Professional Development for all 15 departments, namely, **Anthropology, Asian Studies, Economics, Environmental Studies, Ethnic Studies, Family & Consumer Sciences, Gerontology, Liberal Studies, Nutrition, Food & Dietetics, Political Science, Psychology, Public Policy & Administration, Social Science, Sociology, and Women's & Gender Studies**, all within the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies
- Dean's Office posed the question of how to increase and maximize student engagement within the college, and if that were to be within the realm of the SSIS Joint Council to undertake
- SSIS Joint Council will be deliberating on the issue of increasing engagement in their next meeting on Tuesday, October 13th, 2026

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- ***Meetings with the Department Chairs (College of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies)***

#	Date	Time	Department	Faculty/Chair	Location
1	July 31, 2026	11:00 AM	Family & Consumer Sciences	Dr. Lynn Hanna	Zoom
2	July 31, 2026	11:00 AM	Public Policy & Administration	Dr. Lynn Hanna	Zoom
3	August 5, 2026	10:00 AM	Environmental Studies	Dr. Jamie Kneitel	TAH 3046
4	August 10, 2026	1:00 PM	Sociology	Dr. Heidy Sarabia	Zoom
5	August 20, 2026	2:30 PM	Gerontology	Dr. Catheryn Koss	AMD 553D
6	August 21, 2026	1:00 PM	Asian Studies	Dr. James DeShaw Rae	AMD 460
7	August 26, 2026	11:00 AM	Anthropology	Dr. Liam Murphy	4010 MDN
8	August 26, 2026	12:00 PM	Economics	Jonathan Kaplan	Zoom
9	August 26, 2026	3:00 PM	Nutrition, Food & Dietetics	Dr. Seunghee Wie	Mariposa 3000
10	September 1, 2026	2:00 PM	Political Science	Dr. Brian DiSarro	Tahoe 3098
11	September 3, 2026	9:30 AM	Psychology	Dr. Becky Penrod	AMD 350
12	September 3, 2026	1:00 PM	Ethnic Studies	Dr. Brian Baker	AMD 463
13	September 8, 2026	2:20–3:00 PM	Women's & Gender Studies	Dr. Tristan Josephson	AMD 550A
14	September 14, 2026	3:00 PM	Liberal Studies	Dr. Kristin Van Gaasbeck	Lassen 2008
15	September 14, 2026	3:00 PM	Social Science	Dr. Kristin Van Gaasbeck	Lassen 2008

Total: 15 department meetings across 11 unique meeting dates.

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- ***Additional Meetings***
  - Met with SSIS Student Success Center Leadership on **Friday, September 4th, 2026**
  - Department of Political Science Faculty Meeting on **Friday, September 11th, 2026**

- ***ASI Board Meetings***
  - Attended *Special Working Board Meeting* on **Monday, August 3, 2026**
  - Attended *Special Formal Board Meeting* on **Monday, August 3, 2026**
  - Attended *Regular Working Board* Meeting on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**
  - Attended *Regular Special Board Meeting* on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**
  - Attended *Regular Formal Board Meeting* on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**
  - Attended *Regular Working Board Meeting* on **Wednesday, September 23, 2026**

Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Joint Council Updates

The Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Joint Council (SSIS JC) was rechartered with the aim of:

- Providing direct student feedback to the Dean's Office on academic programs, student experiences, campus climate, advising, equity, college culture, and support systems
- Creating a consistent, representative channel for student voice and shared governance across all the departments
- Strengthening communication and transparency between students, departments, faculty, and the Dean's Office
- Developing student leadership skills and fostering interdepartmental collaboration

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SSIS Joint Council Meeting Schedule Fall 2026

Tue, 09.22.2026	5:30PM-6:30PM	Capital Room, 3rd Floor, University Union
Tue, 10.13.2026	5:00PM-6:30PM	Orchard Suite I, 2nd Floor, University Union
Tue, 10.27.2026	5:00PM-6:30PM	Orchard Suite I, 2nd Floor, university Union
Tue, 11.10.2026	5:00PM-6:30PM	Amador Hall, Conference Room 312
Tue, 11.24.2026	5:00PM-6:30PM	Pacific Suite I, 3rd Floor, University Union
Tue, 12.08.2026	5:00PM-6:30PM	Pacific Suite I, 3rd Floor University Union

The SSIS Joint Council will be meeting ***six times*** during Fall 2026.

I highly recommend, and encourage all student clubs and student organizations, as well as all students to be a part of the SSIS Joint Council, to make a difference by raising concerns about our college. For any questions, please feel free to contact me by emailing at asissisdirector@csus.edu, or stopping by at Office Hours, every Tuesday & Thursday 11 AM – 1 PM, at ASI Student Government Office, 3rd floor, University Union.

- **First SSIS Joint Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 22, 2026**
  - Conducted the first meeting of the rechartered SSIS Joint Council, bringing together students, and student clubs'/organizations representatives from across the college
  - Introduced the Joint Council's purpose, structure, and role in creating a consistent channel for student feedback and communication with departments and Dean's Office
  - Had a brief introductory presentation by Dean of the College of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies, Dr. David Lang
  - Discussed college-wide concerns ranging from academic support, student engagement, and opportunities for collaboration

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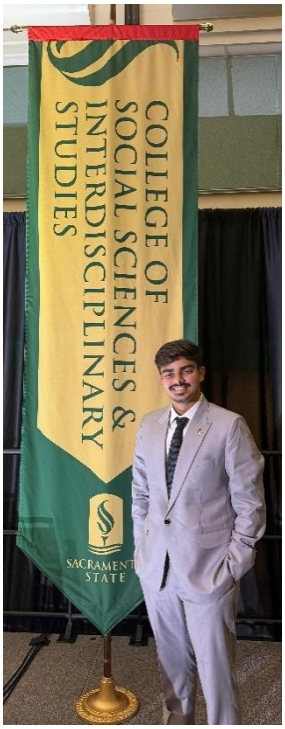
- Established priorities for upcoming meetings, including identifying student concerns and developing actionable recommendations
- Presented the proposed structure of the Joint Council for deliberation, including whether to establish it as a student organization, an internal ASI committee, or maintain its current structure
- Confirmed the next meeting for Tuesday, October 13, 2026, from 5:00-6:30 PM, Orchard Suite I, University Union

Bulletin Board

- Designed and created assigned bulletin board on the 2nd floor of Amador Hall on Thursday, August 27, 2026
- Updated the bulletin board with relevant information, and flyers on Friday, September 18, 2026
- Notified all SSIS clubs during the Joint Council meeting for postage of flyers on the bulletin board











If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me via email at asissisdirector@csus.edu