



CYPRESS COLLEGE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS REGULAR MEETING



January 12, 2026 at 1 p.m.
Minutes

Meeting Location: SLL/VRC Conference Room (Building 8, Room 150)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Associated Students of Cypress College will meet, commencing on January 12, 2026. The start time is approximate. Pursuant to the Government Code Section 54955 and 54954.2(b) (3), the council may adjourn, reconvene, and re-adjourn from time to time, as may be necessary to transact the business of the Council. Those wishing to address the Council shall be present during public forum and express their concern. For further information, please contact Student Life and Leadership via email at: StudentLife@CypressCollege.edu.

Cypress College Associated Students Council

President	_____	Angel Hernandez
Executive Vice President	_____	Samantha Sweiss
Student Trustee	_____	Zachary Colinco
Vice President of Internal & External Affairs	_____	Sania Usmani
Vice President of Student Organizations	_____	Alfa Anan Madhu
Vice President of Campus Activities	_____	Sundehi Hassan
Vice President of Fiscal Affairs	_____	Ayesha Arif
Vice President of Public Relations	_____	Yessenia Oseguera
Executive Secretary	_____	Connor Foley

Activities Coordinator	_____	Adeline Yoo
Activities Coordinator	_____	Rahma Fares
Activities Coordinator	_____	Madelyn Young
Activities Coordinator	_____	Claire Jung
Activities Coordinator	_____	Alika Joshi

Senator	_____	Gianna Garza
Senator	_____	Alec Gibson
Senator	_____	Helen Vu
Senator	_____	Jules Kim
Senator	_____	Ward Alkeelany
Senator	_____	David Su
Senator	_____	Ian Dumatol

Advisor	_____	David Okawa
Co-Advisor	_____	Joseph Shonkwiler

ABSENT: Alfa Anan Madhu, Ayesha Arif, Yessenia Oseguera, Connor Foley, Ward Alkeelany

GUESTS:

RECORDER: Sania Usmani, Vice President of Internal & External Affairs

I. PRELIMINARY ITEMS

(1.1) Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of Quorum

Meeting called to order at **1:31 PM**.

(1.2) Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of Agenda for January 12, 2026

APPROVED

(1.3) Review of Minutes

Approval of Minutes for December 1, 2025

APPROVED

II. PUBLIC FORUM

This time is reserved for members of the public to address the AS Council on issues not already appearing on the agenda. A limit of five minutes per speaker and fifteen minutes per topic shall be observed.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(3.1) N/A

IV. NEW BUSINESS

(4.1) Consideration of Changing CCAS Council Regular Meeting Dates and Times

The council will consider changing CCAS Council regular meeting dates from Mondays at 1 p.m. to Fridays at 10 a.m. effective Fall 2026

Angel opened the floor for discussion. Samantha expressed concern that Friday meetings may be inconvenient for students who are typically on campus Mon-Thur. Angel agreed and suggested that an alternative could be adjusting the time of Monday meetings to be later in the day. Sundehi clarified that such changes would be taking effect in the next academic year.

Claire noted that student participation in Wednesday AS events is already typically low, which should be considered. Gianna asked whether the proposed changes applied to official council meetings or informal meetings, Jay clarified that the discussion is regarding official Monday meetings.

Alec stated that Fridays are often the only free day for students and that some students also have Friday classes, so if anything Friday meetings might work better as informal or secondary meetings rather than official ones. Dave asked current council members to consider and reflect on their own Friday availability.

Gianna supported keeping meetings within the Mon-Thur academic week while potentially moving them to a later time. Alec suggested surveying council members to assess availability, Jay emphasized that any decision made would need to be consistent for future councils and likely formalized in writing.

Gianna also suggested that the appointment process could be more strict in emphasizing time commitment expectations. Samantha added that changes to meeting times could affect event scheduling and student participation, Angel agreed.

Dave stated he would consult Institutional Research to gather data on student availability for meetings and events. Helen expressed concern that later meeting times could conflict with club meetings and committee meetings.

Jay reiterated that the final decision rests with the council. Angel concluded that the discussion would continue after the appointment of new council members to allow for broader input and a final decision.

(4.2) Discussion Regarding Viability of Implementing AS Benefits Fee Policy Changes

The Council will discuss policy changes made to AS Benefits Fees and adjacent program fees implemented in recent years at other California Community Colleges within Region VIII. Changes include automatic fee assessment, refund/waiver policies, bundled fees, and ASG budget impact. The Council will discuss the interest in considering the implementation of similar policy changes to the AS Benefits Program at Cypress College.

Jay introduced a discussion regarding potential policy changes to the Cypress College AS Benefits Fee. He presented a Region VIII ASG Fees Overview, explaining that only four colleges, including Cypress College and Fullerton College, have not implemented automatic assessment of AS Benefits Fees.

Gianna asked how the additional funds generated at other colleges are allocated. Jay explained that, for example, Long Beach City College allocates approximately 25% of funds to athletics, with the remainder going towards supporting full-time staff positions, student hourly employment, promotional funding, equipment checkout programs, student advocacy travel, increased club funding, food vendors, shuttle programs, and scholarships.

Jay clarified that implementing automatic assessment would not increase the fee amount, only the method of collection. Gianna asked whether such a change would also affect Fullerton College, given the shared systems between campuses. Helen asked how students would receive the physical AS cards under the new system. Claire stressed the importance of clear student communication, particularly regarding opt-out procedures.

Alec voiced support for the proposed change. Gianna asked how waiver processes function at other colleges and whether processing would be handled by AS or campus departments such as Admissions & Records or the Bursar's Office.

Jay stated that the soonest possible implementation would be Fall 2026, though this is a very loose estimate. The council informally agreed on continuing forward with the proposed change.

(4.3) Resolution Decisions

The council will decide which resolutions we will proceed with for General Assembly

The resolution ideas for the upcoming GA were proposed.

Samantha & Rahma: Establishing a specific amount of time to be set before a major change or system update for CCC campus resources.

Sundehi: Revising and setting air quality standards for CCC campuses.

Gianna: Addressing single-use toiletry products in CCC campus bathrooms.

Ian: Developing improved resources, catered specifically to student parents.

Alec: Setting a program for CCC databases to compile external scholarships, easily accessible to students.

This discussion was tabled to the next meeting.

(4.4) Welcome Back Funding Request

The Council will approve funding for Welcome Back to not exceed \$800

No discussion. Moved by Alika, seconded by Jules.

APPROVED

(4.5) Club Rush Funding Request

The Council will approve funding for Club Rush to not exceed \$650

No discussion. Moved by Madelyn, seconded by Rahma.

APPROVED

(4.6) A.S. Spring Leadership Retreat Funding Request

The council will approve funding for the A.S. Spring Leadership Retreat to not exceed \$400

Gianna asked whether the retreat would again be held at a park. Angel confirmed that it likely would.

Madelyn asked what the funds would be used for, Angel clarified that the majority of the funding would cover food catering.

Moved by Alec, seconded by Ian.

APPROVED

(4.7) World Fest Funding Request

The Council will approve funding for World Fest to not exceed \$700

Gianna asked whether the country AS would represent had been selected. It was stated that this discussion would be revisited at a later time.

Moved by Ian, seconded by Sundehi.

APPROVED

(4.8) General Assembly Funding Request

The Council will approve funding for Assembly to not exceed \$17,000

Madelyn asked about GA dates. Samantha confirmed it would take place March 27-29, with travel beginning Thursday, March 26. Dave clarified that departure would be early to mid-morning. Sania noted that her and Connor registration fees would be covered by Region VIII. Angel stated that applications to attend GA will open at the start of the first week of the Spring semester and will close that same week.

Moved by Samantha, seconded by Gianna.

APPROVED

V. EVENT RECAP

(5.1) N/A

VI. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

Shared Governance Committees

(6.1) Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness | D. Su

NO REPORT

(6.2) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee | W. Alkeelany

NO REPORT

(6.3) Planning and Budgeting Committee | J. Kim

NO REPORT

(6.4) President Advisory Cabinet | A. Hernandez

NO REPORT

(6.5) Professional Development Committee | A. Gibson

NO REPORT

(6.6) Safety Committee | S. Hassan

NO REPORT

(6.7) Student Services Program Committee

NO REPORT

Representative Bodies

(6.8) Academic Senate | A. Hernandez

NO REPORT

(6.9) Curriculum Committee | G. Garza

NO REPORT

Campus Committees

(6.10) Guided Pathways Steering Committee | **S. Sweiss**

NO REPORT

(6.11) Student Equity and Achievement Committee | **D. Su**

2025-2028 SEA plan was presented at the last board meeting, the hiring process for director of Student Equity & Achievement has begun.

(6.12) Technology Committee | **I. Dumatol**

NO REPORT

(6.13) Distance Education Committee | **H. Vu**

NO REPORT

Workgroups and Taskforces

(6.14) Sustainability Committee | **A. Anan**

NO REPORT

Associated Students Internal Committees

(6.15) Events Committee (Activities Coordinators) | **S. Hassan**

NO REPORT

(6.16) Student Affairs Committee (Senators) | **S. Usmani**

NO REPORT

(6.17) Inter-Club Council | **A. Anan**

NO REPORT

(6.18) Civic Discourse Committee | **C. Foley**

NO REPORT

(6.19) Public Relations Committee | **Y. Oseguera**

NO REPORT

(6.20) Mental Health Committee | **S. Hassan**

NO REPORT

(6.21) Campus Garden Committee | **G. Garza**

NO REPORT

(6.22) Civic Engagement | **C. Jung**

NO REPORT

(6.23) Student Representation Committee | **A. Anan**

NO REPORT

Student Representative Affairs

(6.24) Region VIII Executive Board | **S. Usmani**

NO REPORT

(6.25) Delegate Assembly | **S. Usmani**

Attended the past Delegate Assembly for the month of January. The resolution process and planning was discussed, as well as General Assembly and Federal Advocacy Academy. A regional budget update was given. There will be a special Delegate Assembly meeting held before the resolution due date to go over sponsorships and revisions.

VII. ADVISOR AND EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

(7.1) David Okawa, Advisor

Appreciates everyone's participation and reminds everyone of next Tuesday's meeting. Also reminds everyone to register for COUN 299 before the new semester begins.

(7.2) Joseph Shonkwiler, Co-Advisor

States that AS special appointment interviews will be held this week and next week, if anyone has any ideas or suggestions for the upcoming semester, reach out to him. Reminds everyone that he and Dave's doors are always open.

(7.3) Connor Foley, Executive Secretary

NO REPORT

(7.4) Yessenia Oseguera, Vice President of Public Relations

NO REPORT

(7.5) Ayesha Arif, Vice President of Fiscal Affairs

NO REPORT

(7.6) Sundehi Hassa, Vice President of Campus Activities

NO REPORT

(7.7) Alfa Madhu, Vice President of Student Organizations

NO REPORT

(7.8) Sania Usmani President of Internal & External Affairs

NO REPORT

(7.9) Zachary Colinco, Student Trustee

Reported on the final 2025 board meeting, where awards were presented, new leadership for positions of President, VP, and Secretary were elected. Additionally, appointed representatives were adjusted for the upcoming year, and a presentation was given on professional experts and employee hiring, regarding full-time staff vs professional experts and temporary positions.

(7.10) Samantha Sweiss, Executive Vice President

Informed the council of the time frame for next week's meeting, it has been updated in Slack. Additionally, minutes will be revised and sent out for clarifications on any topics.

(7.11) Angel Hernandez, President

Reminded members of the next meeting, noting that resolutions would be voted on and the General Assembly attendance process would be discussed in greater detail.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(8.1) N/A

| **A. Hernandez**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at **3:11 PM**.

Agenda Reviewed and Approved by:

Angel Hernandez, President

David Okawa, Advisor