

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXECUTIVE CABINET MEETING
SHIRLEY SARGENT BOARDROOM, SUB
5:00PM
SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2026**

- I. CALL TO ORDER- 5:00PM
- II. ROLL CALL
 - a. 9 President's Cabinet members present
 - b. Also present: Theresa Brissette, Student Leadership and Engagement Center Program Specialist
- III. President, Sky Halter- President Halter reported meeting with faculty regarding camaraderie among different Idaho State University departments. Faculty discussed how, at some of their previous institutions, they participated in dinners, team-building activities, and other opportunities to build relationships with colleagues. President Halter discussed how stronger relationships among faculty can positively affect students. President Halter also met with senators and directors regarding the reserve fund, tailgates, and a project intended to involve and support additional ISU sports. He reminded cabinet officers of the September ASISU team-building activity being held Friday at 6:00 PM in Reed Gym and will feature pickleball, basketball, and other activities. President Halter also highlighted the upcoming team-building presentation activity night being held on Thursday, October 22 at 6:30 PM in Rendezvous. President Halter attended the AI Steering Committee meeting in place of Director Price and took notes for her. The committee discussed whether the university should invest in one AI tool or multiple tools, development of an academic AI policy, and educating the university community on appropriate AI use. President Halter also met with Director Saunders and Vice President Medema regarding planning for the next several months.
- IV. Vice President, Charlie Medema- Vice President Medema reported that the Quad and Stone Plaza have been reserved for May Day 2027 on May 1, allowing for the event to return to its traditional date. He noted that planning for these events will begin soon. Vice President Medema has also began planning the spring merchandise drop and will send out a poll to senators and directors to gather feedback on potential merchandise options. He attended a meeting with President Halter and Director Saunders to discuss upcoming plans. Vice President Medema also prepared a presentation regarding the mural in Reed Gym and requested feedback from Cabinet members when he presents it later in the evening. He reported that, with assistance from Theresa Brissette, the items for the OAC thank-you basket have been purchased to thank the OAC following their support with training and the ASISU challenge course night.

- V. Vice President, Megan Ostermann- Vice President Ostermann reported working on the Meridian tailgate and watch party. She is currently reworking the event due to Scheduling and Events indicating that an outdoor tailgate with the available AV equipment requires an indoor room. Vice President Ostermann contacted Athletics regarding streaming the game which is available through ESPN+, and is investigating the cost of streaming the game for the Meridian campus. Depending on the cost and availability, she may contact restaurants in the Boise and Meridian area to determine which locations will be showing the game and potentially organize a group gathering for Meridian students to have a watch party. Vice President Ostermann also noted that she met with Ali Crane regarding ASISUs visit to the Meridian campus on a chosen Thursday in November. The Cabinet was asked to vote on which potential dates work best for the Meridian campus visit. She also reported that she will host Bengal Thursday in Meridian where she plans to distribute swag to students where she will be representing Student Activities Board members.
- VI. Vice President of Idaho Falls, Position Vacant
- VII. Vice President of Twin Falls, Position Vacant
- VIII. SAB Representative, SAB Director Allen absent.
- IX. Senate Pro Tempore- Senator Van Metre reported that many clubs are registering with the Student Leadership and Engagement Center noting that the registration deadline is September 24. She has been working to ensure clubs are assigned to senators appropriately. Senator Van Metre shared that she has been in discussion with Director Hutchins collaborating on a monthly social media feature highlighting an ASISU-recognized club. The goal is to produce the feature at the end of each month so that the club receives more than two weeks of recognition before the monthly Senate Pro Temp vote with the goal of creating consistency from month to month.
- X. Secretary, Kashlyn Peterson- Secretary Peterson continued training with former Secretary Madison, focusing on minutes and agendas. She noted she has officially begun website training and plans to complete it soon. Cabinet members were reminded that timecards and checklists are due September 24 by 5:00 PM.
- XI. Director of Finance, Robert Saunders- Director Saunders continued assisting clubs and senate members with internal funding and Benny's funding requests. He also reviewed previous reserve fund requests with President Halter to identify strong requests for continued consideration.

Director Saunders received access to the DocuSign account and began researching the potential of ASISU students having their own access to a university purchasing card. His goal is to allow more ASISU members to access areas and resources when necessary and reduce the burden currently placed on ASISU advisors. Director Saunders met with President Halter and Vice President Medema regarding semester planning and direction. Director Saunders has begun researching potential changes to the senate structure and invited cabinet members to share ideas on ways of improvements. He also researched purchasing procedures and found that clubs may not need to use Chartwells for refreshments when purchases are made through club accounts. Director Saunders is working with Theresa Brissette to verify the policy and ensure it goes through the appropriate channels before any changes are implemented.

- XII. Director of Public Relations, TeAnna Hutchins- Director Hutchins reported that the social media post explaining, “What is ASISU” and what it does for students was published to the ASISU Instagram. She plans to continue posting on the ASISU social media pages to help students understand ASISU and how to get involved. She shared a Google Form to collect cabinet members' names, majors, and goals for the year where responses will be used for individual introductions on social media. Group introductions and photographs will also be posted to the page as well, now that group photos have been taken. Director Hutchins added that the anonymous feedback form has been posted to ASISU's Instagram bio and encouraged cabinet members to monitor student feedback submitted through the form. Director Hutchins is working with Senator Van Metre on a video series highlighting ASISU-recognized clubs. Cabinet members were encouraged to suggest clubs to feature. The goal is to highlight a variety of clubs, including clubs that are particularly relevant to a given season or campus activity rather than only the most popular organizations. She is also working on videos highlighting campus resources, including the laptop loaner program and other student resources. Director Hutchins continues to work on the October 3rd football game giveaway and plans to obtain additional information regarding potential items from the bookstore.
- XIII. Director of Student Affairs, Amy Joinville- Director Joinville reported meeting with students, community members, and senators to determine student needs and interest in several programs currently being developed. Director Joinville also reported attending the “speed-dating” candidate event that she aided in planning and highlighted that she was able to make connections with other candidates interested in speaking at ISU in the future. She hopes to use these connections to bring additional speakers and opportunities to campus.
- XIV. Director of Academic Affairs, Mia Price- Director Price met with President Halter regarding plans for ASISU lunch with the dean. She informed everyone that two potential dates have been identified, and additional planning is needed. Director Price received documents from the AI Steering Committee and will review them before the next meeting. President Halter assigned Director Price and Director Ollivant to plan a student leadership mixer involving ASISU officers, resident assistants, and ambassadors. Director Price reported that she is meeting with Director

Ollivant on Friday during their office hours to begin the planning process. Director Price plans to research procedures for academic complaints across various colleges at ISU to get in contact with college deans regarding syllabi for courses taught by multiple professors to determine whether course content is appropriately aligned. She also sent concerns and potential solutions regarding the election code to Senator Smith for consideration of possible legislative changes to the election code.

- XV. Director of Student Affairs, Kate Ollivant- Director Ollivant met with Director Price to discuss plans for the student leadership mixer involving ASISU officers, resident assistants, and ambassadors. She also met with Dr. Matt Daily to discuss student affairs and ways ASISU can build relationships with university departments and learn more about their needs. Director Ollivant highlighted a meeting with Karina Rorris, Director of Disability Services, to discuss the Disability Services Center. She reported on their conversation about supporting student needs, and addressing accessibility concerns around campus with one specific example discussed being the Fine Arts Building, where construction has affected the only ADA accessible entrance.
- XVI. Election Commissioner, Position Vacant
- XVII. Deputy Election Commissioner, Position Vacant
- XVIII. OTHER
 - a. Discussion
 - i. Director Saunders asked for an update regarding ASISU's participation in the Homecoming parade.
 - ii. Senator Van Metre reported that there are currently two possible truck drivers: Senator Paine or another individual who has volunteered to drive a truck. A final headcount will be taken during caucus to determine how many senators are definitively participating.
 - iii. President Halter reminded members that Homecoming parade registration closes September 24. President Halter also asked Cabinet members who intend to hold weekly office hours at a consistent time to provide their schedules so that the times can be compiled and advertised together. Office hours do not necessarily need to be a full hour. Members may hold shorter office hours, provided they consistently attend their scheduled time. President Halter discussed appointing ASISU officers to University Committees on the topic of lactation pods and scooter policies. These groups are expected to function as working groups rather than traditional monthly committees and may meet for only a limited period of time depending on the policy-development process. Additional information will be provided regarding the responsibilities and meeting schedules.

- iv. President Halter reminded members that information regarding reserve fund planning meetings had been sent by email. Senators, directors, and staff are welcome to participate.
- v. Director Saunders shared information from the Budget Advisory Group. He reported that current projections indicate approximately a 4.1% decrease in the student population compared with the previous year. Revenue is currently projected to be approximately 0.14% different from the previous year, with tuition increases and lower scholarship expenditures affecting the overall revenue picture. The fall 2025 class had an approximately 70% retention rate, compared with approximately 74% for the fall 2024 class. Director Saunders noted several possible factors affecting retention, including student-athlete transfers, international student enrollment changes, changes in Idaho student enrollment patterns, and students completing programs more quickly. The incoming class is approximately 15% smaller than the previous year. Director Saunders noted that enrollment and retention have also declined at other Idaho institutions. The university is currently facing an estimated \$2.37 million budget shortfall based on enrollment being lower than the levels used to establish the budget. When asked about a potential tuition increase, Director Saunders reported that it is too early to know whether one will occur, although university officials indicated that a moderate increase may be considered.
- vi. Vice President Medema presented information about the mural located in Reed Gym, including its history, original intent, and concerns that have been raised about its imagery and continued placement in the space. The mural dates to the 1960s and was created by former ISU Art Department Chair John B. Davis after three ISU professors commissioned him to create artwork for the building in 1963. The mural is rumored to be titled, “Dawn of Recreation”, and its original intent was described as depicting ancient people in Idaho in a natural environment. Vice President Medema also provided background on previous conversations surrounding the mural. Around 2013, there were discussions about potentially relocating it, although no action was ultimately taken. The mural has also been covered or partially concealed during some events held in Reed Gym, including events associated with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It was noted that Reed Gym is used for a variety of academic, athletic, University, and community events, including the ISU Powwow. Vice President Medema raised questions about the historical accuracy of some of its imagery, particularly the depiction of the people and the presence of horses. He also discussed religious interpretations that some viewers may associate with those elements. He emphasized that the concern was not with any particular religion or religious community, but rather whether the University’s continued display of the mural in its current location is appropriate and consistent with how the space is used today.
 - a. Director Saunders suggested that, if the mural is relocated or removed from Reed Gym, ASISU should consider proposing an appropriate replacement for the space.

- b. Cabinet members discussed whether a Shoshone-Bannock artist or artists could potentially create artwork for the location.
 - c. Director Hutchins discussed the importance of the mural's location because Reed Gym is used for recruitment and other events attended by prospective students and families. She suggested that artwork in the location should be welcoming and representative of the broader student body.
 - d. Cabinet members also discussed whether replacing the mural with artwork representing another specific group could create similar concerns and emphasized the importance of considering the purpose and context of any replacement artwork.
 - e. President Halter asked for additional information regarding the historical and religious sources referenced in the presentation and the connection between those sources and the mural's imagery.
 - f. Director Joinville discussed her perspective as a parent whose child attends events in the building and noted that the mural can be noticeable to families attending activities. She supported exploring artwork connected to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes as a way of recognizing the Indigenous history of the land on which ISU is located.
 - g. Cabinet members clarified that the appropriate terminology is the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation.
 - h. Vice President Ostermann noted that the mural may be titled "Dawn of Recreation," which could provide additional context for its imagery and may support relocating it to an art-focused setting. She agreed to verify the title and conduct additional research.
 - i. Cabinet members discussed the possibility of moving the mural rather than removing or destroying it, allowing it to remain part of the university's artistic and historical collection while placing it in a setting where its context can be better understood.
- vii. Vice President Ostermann brought up the possibility of an ASISU visit to the Meridian campus in November and proposed November 5th, November 12th, or November 19th, 2026, as potential dates for the trip and a lunch with Meridian students.
 - 1. Other Cabinet members suggested that Vice President Ostermann send a Google Poll in the 2026-2027 Team Google Chat to determine which student officers would be available to attend.
- viii. Senator Van Metre asked whether, during the process of assigning senators to clubs, a senator who is already a member of a particular club should also be assigned to serve as that club's primary point of communication.
 - 1. President Halter recommended not having overlap between senators' club assignments and clubs in which they are already members.

ix. Cabinet members discussed an issue with accessing the checklist forms through Google Drive and the ASISU website.

1. Senator Van Metre reported that copying the form's response link and opening it in a separate tab was identified as the appropriate way to access the form.

XIX. ROLL CALL

- a. 9 Cabinet members present.
- b. Also present: Theresa Brissette, Student Leadership and Engagement Center Program Specialist

XX. ADJOURNMENT

- a. President Cabinet adjourned at 5:44pm