ASSOSCIATED STUDENTS OF

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT SENATE

SHIRLEY SARGENT BOARDROOM, PSUB

7:00PM

OCTOBER 28TH, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:03PM
II. ROLL CALL
    a. 16 Senators present.
    b. Also present: Dr. Matt Daily, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Students
III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 21ST, 2026
    a. Motion to approve the minutes from October 21st, 2026: Sharma/Paine
    b. Unanimous
    c. Motion: **CARRIED**
V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 28TH, 2026
    a. Motion to approve the agenda for October 28th, 2026 with the friendly amendments to include the Nepalese Student Association's Dashain Night in the amount of $3,000 under old business and the Geology Club's Fossil Fest in the amount of $950 under new business: Smith/Van Metre
    b. Unanimous
    c. Motion: **CARRIED**
VI. GALLERY QUESTION AND ANSWER
VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE
    a. University Budget and Student Fees Presentation- Vice President Craig Chatriand and Interim Vice President Fred Parrish
        i. Vice President Chatriand explained that university finances are influenced by legislative appropriations, tuition revenue, operational expenses, and state-mandated employee compensation increases. He noted that the state does not always provide sufficient funding to cover required salary adjustments, requiring the university to identify additional revenue sources.
        ii. Vice President Parrish discussed the importance of fund accounting, explaining that university revenue is separated into categories with restrictions on how funding may be used. These categories include central university funds, special appropriations, local funds, auxiliary revenues, restricted funds, and capital project funding. He explained that approximately 65% of the central university budget supports personnel expenses. Other significant expenses include utilities, insurance, scholarships, and operating costs. Vice President Parrish then reported that gross tuition and fee revenue has increased approximately 20% over the past decade, while institutional scholarship expenditures have

increased by approximately 337%. He explained that many institutional scholarships function as tuition discounts rather than externally funded awards.

iii. Senator Paine asked whether scholarship eligibility is based on financial need or academic performance.
iv. Vice President Chatriand explained that incoming freshman merit scholarships are based primarily on high school GPA, while scholarships available through the Bengal Online Scholarship System may include both merit-based and need-based awards.
v. Senator Wight asked about the increase in scholarship expenditures.
vi. Vice President Chatriand explained that changes to scholarship eligibility during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the removal of standardized test requirements, increased the number of eligible students. He emphasized the need to balance affordability, student recruitment, and financial sustainability.
vii. Senator Hsieh asked about alumni donations and scholarship funding.
viii. Vice President Chatriand recommended consulting the Vice President for Development for additional information.
ix. Senator Paine also discussed the benefits of increased scholarships for student affordability and enrollment.
x. Vice President Chatriand agreed that scholarships improve access to higher education while acknowledging the financial challenges they create for the university.
xi. Vice President Parrish reported that fall enrollment had decreased, creating an anticipated revenue shortfall of approximately $2–3 million compared to budget projections.
xii. Vice President Chatriand attributed part of the decline to reduced international student enrollment and fewer Idaho students applying to college. He also reported that student retention declined by approximately four percentage points from the previous year.
xiii. Senator Hsieh asked whether improvements in retention had contributed to higher graduation rates.
xiv. Vice President Chatriand explained that graduation outcomes take several years to reflect changes in enrollment and retention. He reported that approximately 22% more graduating individuals were at spring 2026 commencement compared to during the spring of 2023.
xv. Senator Ball asked about the university's efforts to advocate for funding through the Idaho Legislature.
xvi. Vice President Chatriand discussed the work of Associate Vice President Ryan Sargent and Vice President for Health Sciences, Rex Force, in strengthening relationships with legislators and securing support for university programs.
xvii. Senator Paine asked about the university's financial reserves and whether they could help address budget shortfalls.
xviii. Vice President Parrish explained that ISU maintains healthy reserves, subject to state requirements, which may be used to address temporary financial challenges while preserving long-term stability.

xix. President Halter asked what additional information university administration would find useful when reviewing ASISU reserve fund proposals.
xx. Vice President Parrish emphasized the importance of identifying an approved project manager, obtaining accurate cost estimates, and ensuring that projects meet university and facilities requirements before allocating funding.
xxi. Senator Hsieh asked about initiatives to encourage graduates to remain in Idaho.
xxii. Vice President Chatriand discussed partnerships with communities, healthcare organizations, and economic development initiatives to expand opportunities for graduates.
xxiii. Senator Little asked about the educational value of remaining at the same university for graduate studies.
xxiv. Vice President Chatriand discussed the potential benefits of both continuing at ISU and gaining experience at other institutions.
xxv. Vice President Medema asked whether state-mandated salary increases could affect future faculty hiring.
xxvi. Vice President Parrish explained that competitive compensation is essential for recruiting and retaining qualified faculty.
xxvii. Vice President Chatriand then discussed reallocating positions to support programs with increasing demand.
xxviii. Senator Paine asked about partnerships with businesses to support students after graduation.
xxix. Vice President Chatriand highlighted university partnerships with organizations such as Idaho National Laboratory and Micron, noting that external funding is often restricted to specific programs or purposes.

VIII. PRESIDENT REPORT

a. President Halter reported on the recent football tailgate, which celebrated Native American Heritage and recognized Hall of Fame games. He then encouraged members to attend the remaining home football games on November 7 and November 21, as well as other upcoming athletic events. President Halter recognized Director Joinville for her work organizing the Gubernatorial candidate event and thanked members for their participation. He also reported attending University Council, where enrollment and other university updates were discussed. President Halter reported his continued work with Dr. Matt Daily on a recurring student leadership program through the Student Leadership and Engagement Center. He noted that a potential ad hoc committee may include ASISU representatives and other student leaders. He concluded by reminding members of the November 2 Student Leadership Social event and encouraged senator participation.

IX. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

a. Senate Pro Tempore Committee, Senator Smith
    i. Senator Smith reported meeting with committee chairs to discuss ongoing projects, senator interviews, and committee responsibilities. He then reminded senators to continue contacting assigned student organizations and updating the club outreach spreadsheet. He noted that newly recognized organizations

will be assigned to senators for introductory outreach the following week. Senator Smith also reminded senators that timecards and checklists are due Thursday, October 29.

b. Finance Committee, Senator Ball
    i. Senator Ball reported that the Finance Committee approved the ISU Copy and Print Services Club Merchandise Screen Printing Equipment Proposal in the amount of $22,500, the ASISU/Facilities Campus-Wide Menstruation Products Initiative in the amended amount of $48,000, the First-Generation Club Food for First Generation Night for $2,000. He also reported that the Geology Club Fossil Fest request for $950 was approved. Senator Ball then noted that Finance Committee also discussed a $1,000 internal funding request for Benny's Pantry volunteer appreciation T-shirts along with additional reserve fund requests including electrical outlets in the Student Union Building for $10,000, financial assistance for The Bengal newspaper for $50,000, and the Laptop Loaner Program for $9,500.
c. Rules and Appointment Committee, Senator Smith
    i. Senator Smith reported continued progress on Rules and Appointments Committee projects, including legislative matters, judicial initiatives, and proposed constitutional and bylaw amendments. He announced that Resolution 635 had been rescinded, Bill 631 was ready for consideration, and Bill 632 required additional review. Senator Smith then thanked Senator Swartz for her dedication to the Rules and Appointments Committee, reporting that the committee was ahead of schedule on the bylaw review, with completion anticipated by the end of November.
d. Student Involvement Committee, Senator Van Metre
    i. Senator Van Metre reported lower-than-expected student organization participation at the recent football tailgate. She highlighted the Jungle support for providing candy and assisting with event activities. She encouraged increased ASISU participation at future tailgates, emphasizing opportunities to connect with students, alumni, and community members. Senator Van Metre then noted that the Student Involvement Committee is exploring providing hot chocolate at an upcoming tailgate and continues planning the line-item mixer, club mixer, and holiday activities.
e. Health, Wellness, and Sustainability Committee, Senator Swartz
    i. Nothing to report.

X. OLD BUSINESS
a. Bill 631
    i. Motion to approve Bill 631: Van Metre/Baughman
        1. ROLL CALL
        BRENDON BALL- YES
        MAKENNA BAUGHMAN- YES
        ASHRAYA BURLAKOTI- YES
        HANNAH BURRELL – YES
        ERIC HSIEH – YES

JOVANY LEYVA – YES
PAIGE LITTLE – YES
OLIVIA PICANCO – YES
PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES
SILAS SMITH – YES
HEATHER SWARTZ- YES
JOHN TORRES-DROZD – YES
AJ VACCARELLA – YES
HANNAH VAN METRE – YES
BRAYDEN WIGHT- YES

2. Motion: **CARRIED**

b. Bill 632
    i. Senator Burrell shared feedback from her assigned line-item organization regarding proposed meeting requirements. She explained that semesterly meetings would be more manageable than monthly meetings due to the organization's workload.
        1. Motion to send Bill 632 to the Rules and Appointments Committee: Van Metre/Baughmann
            a. ROLL CALL
            BRENDON BALL- YES
            MAKENNA BAUGHMANN- YES
            ASHRAYA BURLAKOTI- YES
            HANNAH BURRELL – YES
            ERIC HSIEH – YES
            JOVANY LEYVA – YES
            PAIGE LITTLE – YES
            ETHAN PAINE – YES
            OLIVIA PICANCO – YES
            PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES
            SILAS SMITH – YES
            HEATHER SWARTZ- YES
            JOHN TORRES-DROZD – YES
            AJ VACCARELLA – YES
            HANNAH VAN METRE – YES
            BRAYDEN WIGHT- YES
            b. Motion: **CARRIED**

c. Resolution 635
    i. Senator Van Meter asked why Resolution 635 had been rescinded.
    ii. Senator Smith explained that the resolution's language could be interpreted differently than intended and that ASISU leadership preferred to demonstrate its commitment to improvement through continued action rather than moving forward with the resolution.

d. Reserve Funding Request
    i. New Bowling Balls for ISU Games Center, $2,200

1. President Halter reminded senators about previous discussion on the topic and opened the floor to any discussion.

ii. College of Science and Engineering EPIC Center- Launch Support and Five-Year Staffing Fund, $200,000
    1. Senator Burrell asked whether the funding could be reduced or approved for a shorter period to evaluate the program's effectiveness.
    2. President Halter explained that the proposal requests $40,000 annually for five years and that a shorter commitment could create difficulties recruiting qualified staff and establishing the program.
    3. Senators Picanco emphasized the importance of stable initial funding and effective marketing to encourage student participation.
    4. Senator Paine highlighted the need for qualified staffing to ensure safety and effective operation.
    5. Senator Ball expressed concerns regarding the request's significant share of ASISU reserve funding and emphasized the importance of ensuring that the facility would benefit a broad student population.
    6. Director Saunders reminded members that ASISU may approve any amount up to the requested total.
        a. Motion to move to committee for 20 minutes: Vaccarella/Paine
        b. Unanimous
        c. Motion: **CARRIED**
        d. Motion to exit committee: Van Meter/Vaccarella
        e. Unanimous
        f. Motion: **CARRIED**
        g. Motion to move to committee for an additional 10 minutes: Smith/Baughman
        h. Unanimous
        i. Motion: **CARRIED**
        j. Motion to exit committee: Baughman/Picanco
        k. Unanimous
        l. Motion: **CARRIED**

e. Benny's Funding Request
    i. Nepalese Student Association Dashain Night, $3,000
        1. Motion to enact exception powers regarding reimbursement timeline: Smith/Baughman
            a. ROLL CALL
               BRENDON BALL- YES
               MAKENNA BAUGHMANN- YES
               ASHRAYA BURLAKOTI- YES
               HANNAH BURRELL – YES
               ERIC HSIEH – YES
               JOVANY LEYVA – YES
               PAIGE LITTLE – YES
               ETHAN PAINE – YES

OLIVIA PICANCO – YES
PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES
SILAS SMITH – YES
HEATHER SWARTZ- YES
JOHN TORRES-DROZD – YES
AJ VACCARELLA – YES
HANNAH VAN METRE – YES
BRAYDEN WIGHT- YES

b. Motion: **CARRIED**
    i. Senator Smith suggested following standard reimbursement guidelines while extending eligibility to include qualifying expenses incurred during the previous week.
        1. Motion to approve the Nepalese Student Association Dashain Night in the amount of $3,000: Smith/Vaccarella
            a. ROLL CALL
            BRENDON BALL- YES
            MAKENNA BAUGHMANN- YES
            HANNAH BURRELL – YES
            ERIC HSIEH – YES
            JOVANY LEYVA – YES
            PAIGE LITTLE – YES
            ETHAN PAINE – YES
            OLIVIA PICANCO – YES
            PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES
            SILAS SMITH – YES
            HEATHER SWARTZ- YES
            JOHN TORRES-DROZD – YES
            AJ VACCARELLA – YES
            HANNAH VAN METRE – YES
            BRAYDEN WIGHT- YES
            b. Motion: **CARRIED**

XI. NEW BUSINESS
    a. Reserve Fund Requests
        i. ISU Copy and Print Services Club Merchandise Screen Printing Equipment Proposal, $22,500
            1. Vice President Medema reminded senators of Wes Clezie's presentation and encouraged members to continue reviewing the request before final consideration
        ii. ASISU/Facilitates Campus-Wide Menstruation Products Initiative Funding for Five Years, $60,000

1. Senator Paine suggested expanding product availability to all campus facilities, including replenishing existing dispensers and providing products where they are not currently accessible.
2. Director Saunders clarified that the proposed funding would be distributed over five years rather than allocated as a single annual expenditure.

b. Benny's Funding Request
    i. First Generation Club Food for First Generation Night, $2,000
        1. Senator Paine raised concerns regarding the use of Benny's Funding to provide food for community members rather than exclusively for ISU students. He suggested establishing a consistent standard for funding food at student organization events.
        2. Vice President Medema and several senators noted that family participation is an important component of recognizing first-generation students.
        3. Senator Leyva highlighted the event's potential benefits for prospective students and their families.
        4. Director Saunders referenced ASISU's bylaws restricting direct expenditures on non-ASISU individuals and the organization's constitutional purpose of supporting involvement in community affairs.
            a. Motion to move to committee for 20 minutes: Paine/Picanco
            b. Unanimous
            c. Motion: **CARRIED**
            d. Motion to exit committee: Baughman/Van Metre
            e. Unanimous
            f. Motion: **CARRIED**
    ii. Geology Club Fossil Fest, $950
        1. Vice President Medema discussed the Geology Club's request for $950 to help support Fossil Fest in collaboration with the Idaho Museum of Natural History. He informed senators that the event will feature educational activities highlighting Idaho's prehistoric camel populations, including two live camel species on the ISU Quad. He noted that Geology Club representatives will also provide educational information about fossils, fossil formation, and the region's geological history.

XII. OTHER

a. Approval of Newly Hired 2026-2027 Deputy Elections Commissioner
    i. President Halter introduced the appointment of Marisol Bueno-Salazar as the 2026–2027 Deputy Election Commissioner. He explained that she interviewed for both the Election Commissioner and Deputy Election Commissioner positions and expressed confidence in her ability to serve successfully. He also noted that the position could prepare her to serve as Election Commissioner in a future academic year.
        1. Motion to approve Marisol Bueno-Salazar as the 2026-2027 ASISU Deputy Election Commissioner: Paine/Baughman

a. ROLL CALL
   BRENDON BALL- YES
   MAKENNA BAUGHMANN- YES
   ASHRAYA BURLAKOTI- YES
   HANNAH BURRELL – YES
   ERIC HSIEH – YES
   JOVANY LEYVA – YES
   PAIGE LITTLE – YES
   ETHAN PAINE – YES
   OLIVIA PICANCO – YES
   PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES
   SILAS SMITH – YES
   HEATHER SWARTZ- YES
   JOHN TORRES-DROZD – YES
   AJ VACCARELLA – YES
   HANNAH VAN METRE – YES
   BRAYDEN WIGHT- YES
b. Motion: **CARRIED**

XIII. GALLERY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
   a. Senator Smith asked whether the updated election timeline would be presented the following week.
   b. President Halter confirmed that the updated election timeline would be presented during the upcoming week.
   c. Senator Smith reminded members that attendance requires being present for all roll calls and votes and that missing required portions of a meeting may result in being marked absent.
   d. President Halter encouraged attendees to enter meetings promptly rather than waiting outside, emphasizing that ASISU meetings are open to the public and generally begin at their scheduled times.
   e. Vice President Medema reminded members to follow Robert's Rules of Order by raising their hands and waiting to be recognized before speaking to improve meeting efficiency and recordkeeping.

XIV. ISU FIGHT SONG

XV. ADJOURNMENT
   a. Motion to adjourn: Vaccarella/Torres-Drozd
   b. Unanimous
   c. Motion: **CARRIED**

XVI. ROLL CALL
   a. 16 Senators present.
   b. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM

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ASISU VICE PRESIDENT

CHARLIE MEDEMA

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ASISU SECRETARY

KASHLYN PETERSON