

Remote via Zoom

Governors Present: **Cathy Pleasant, Chair**; Darryl Schoen, Vice Chair; Chuck Nelsen, Past Chair; David Hufford
Absent: Joyce Densmore-Thomas

Ex Officio Present: Ahmad Boura, Vice President for University Advancement (CEO); Jamie Clyde, Interim Vice President for Business and Finance (CFO)

Staff: Pam Hollis, Jessica Harrington and Michelle Slack, University Advancement

DRAFT MINUTES

Chair's Report: Cathy Pleasant

Pleasant shared the Winter 2025 Draft Meeting/Event Schedule with the board and asked for suggested changes.

Ahmad Boura presented several minor changes and additions. Pleasant asked for approval. David Hufford motioned to approve the changes and additions to the agendas. Darryl Schoen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

President's Report: Steve Perez

Boura reported on behalf of the President Steve Perez, and shared the date and time of the State of the University address that the President will be delivering on campus February 17th.

Boura informed the board that a workplace audit called the Cozen Report was recently conducted across 23 CSU campuses, leading to recommendations for improvements. The president is working with a committee comprised of staff and students to create a "Community Agreement" aimed at fostering a better workplace. The committee has completed a final proposal, which the president will present at the board meeting to seek the board's endorsement.

CFO's Report: Jamie Clyde

Jamie Clyde reported on the CSU Final Operating Budget for 2023/24. She stated that they had originally planned for a deficit of \$20 million but ended with a deficit of only \$3.5 million. She stated that the use of reserves was planned. Clyde explained how the university was able to make cuts in areas like custodial to avoid more negative outcomes.

Clyde then shared 2024/25 Final Budget Details and the current Budget Cycle with projections for future budgeting.

The Foundation's mission is to support California State University, Chico's strategic plan by raising, investing, and disbursing funds to fuel the growth and excellence of the University.

Clyde confirmed that the university is facing a 7.95% budget cut in FY 25/26, in addition to penalties for not meeting enrollment targets. Current projections show the university using about \$11 million in reserves by the end of FY 24/25.

Clyde relayed that staff are already working on additional cost reductions, including the Provost's restructuring of Academic Affairs, which accounts for about 70% of the budget. Clyde reported that the Chancellor's office is working on creating a unified system to improve efficiency, leverage economies of scale, and support other CSUs.

CEO's Report: Ahmad Boura

Boura reported that the university has reached 38% of the current campaign fundraising goal of \$600 million. Boura stated that Tower Society donors have increased their giving when compared to previous years.

Boura shared a list of campus programs, or 'earmark initiatives', identified to potentially receive federal funding. In January, representatives of Congressman Doug LaMalfa and Senator Alex Padilla visited the campus to tour these programs, allowing the university to highlight their local and statewide impact.

Adjournment: Pleasant

Pleasant adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2025.