# Minutes of the Special Meeting of the CSUSM Corporation Board of Directors June 18, 2025

## Attendees

- **Board Members Present:** Ann Bersi (Vice-Chair), Carmen Rene, Cameron Munn, Chris Thibodeau, Denise Garcia, Elaine Pollard, Kim Pulvers, Kristin Stewart, Jason Schreiber (Chair), Leon Wyden, Michael Walsh (Departed at 4:10pm)
- **Board Members Absent**: Carl Kemnitz, Charles De Leone, Jennifer Ostergren, Sarah Villarreal
- **Staff Present:** Deanne Ellison, Deborah Davis, Janine Prior, Michelle Hinojosa, Trina Beckwith
- **Guests:** Rachel Stiehl

**I. Convening of the Regular Meeting**

Schreiber(chair) called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm

**II. Open Session**

Schreiber opened the meeting to public comments. There were none.

**III. Consent Agenda Item FY 25 -26 Proposed Budget**

- The Finance & Operations Committee approved the FY 2025–26 Corporation budget on June 10 and recommended it be forwarded to the Board for final approval.
- Rene made a motion to approve the budget as a consent item, and Wyden seconded the motion.
- Dr. Garcia raised a question regarding the increase in Indirect Costs (IDC), prompting discussion among Board members.
- Dr. Pulvers shared notes from Executive Director Ellison, which clarified:
- The Corporation is mandated to approve the full budget by June 30 each year.
- Budgets are projections related to post-award administration for sponsored project research grants within the CSU system.
- The 15% increase in IDC from the previous year is primarily due to rising operational costs.

- Additional clarification was provided regarding Cost Recovery and Indirect Costs (IDC):

- Cost recovery refers to actual expenses billed by the Corporation for services provided to OGSR and faculty.

- IDC is a fixed rate allowed for grants and sponsored projects. From this, fixed and variable costs are deducted, and any remaining funds are returned to the campus under the Provost's current model.

- Chair Rene noted that increasing personnel costs, especially in insurance (payroll, healthcare, liability)—are key drivers of rising expenses across all Corporation entities.

- Executive Director Ellison concluded by emphasizing:

"We are in uncharted territory. This next year will be anything but status quo. We will continue to monitor and refine our projections with the help of the Finance and Operations Committee to keep the Board apprised of any major shifts in expectations or reality."

Schreiber confirmed that motions had been made and asked all members to signify their approval of the proposed budget by saying 'Aye.' All members were in favor, and the FY 2025–26 budget was approved

**IV. <u>Adjournment</u>**

*Chair, Schreiber adjourned the meeting at 4:16 pm.*

Denise Garcia (Sep 30, 2025 14:56:59 PDT)

Denise Garcia
Secretary

9/30/25

Date