



To: President Carvajal, Ph.D, Vice President of Enrollment Management & Student Success
Holliday, Ph.D, and Interim Vice President of Administration and Finance and Chief Financial
Officer, Fisher, MBA

From: Eduardo Cruz, President, Associated Students of Cal Poly Humboldt

Date: May 01, 2026

Subject: 2026-27 Associated Students Board of Directors Recommended Budget

In accordance with the Operating Agreement between the California State University and Associated Students of Cal Poly Humboldt, I am pleased to submit the 2026–2027 Associated Students (A.S.) Recommended Budget for your review and approval.

Pursuant to Section 10.2.1 of the CSU Auxiliary Organizations Compliance Guide on Fiscal Policy, the Associated Students Board of Directors conducted its annual review of the organization’s fiscal viability. This review included a comprehensive assessment of our financial position, with particular attention to reserve levels, projected revenues, and anticipated enrollment trends. While our initial projections assumed a 4% increase in enrollment, ongoing uncertainty has required a more cautious approach. As a result, the Board has approved a budget strategy that allows for the use of up to \$100,000 in reserve funds, if necessary. This approach reflects both prudent fiscal planning and the strength of our current reserve levels, which remain healthy and sufficient to support strategic, short-term investments while maintaining our commitment to long-term fiscal sustainability.

For the 2026–2027 cycle, Associated Students received 34 applications totaling \$1,587,116. Of these, 13 were new requests, including 10 new programs and 3 first-time A.S. requests. This increase reflects our ongoing commitment to advancing student advocacy and responding to the evolving needs of the campus community. However, total requests significantly exceeded the projected available revenue of \$901,776, highlighting the growing demand for services and the need for a transparent, equitable, and impact-driven allocation process.

With the Board reducing its composition from 15 to 7, this shift has allowed for more meaningful and focused conversations, reducing the burden of extensive recruitment efforts to fill vacancies, and enabling the reallocation of funds toward programming, services, and events that directly benefit students. Additionally, this change aligns with our holistic approach to representation, ensuring that the Board serves all students collectively rather than maintaining vacant,

college-specific positions that could create inequities in representation. The Officer of Academic Affairs, one of the brand-new positions, has further supported this approach by actively bridging gaps across colleges through targeted events and intentional feedback collection from students across different academic areas; one such example is *Breaking the Cycle*, a cross-campus event that fostered meaningful engagement and dialogue among students from diverse backgrounds.

The development of this recommended budget followed a thorough and student-centered process. The A.S. Sub-committee on Finance conducted an extensive review of all submitted funding applications using the established rubric criteria. We also expanded direct student engagement through a week-long series of listening sessions with all A.S. applicants, led by the Administration and Finance Vice President, after which a proposed budget was brought forward to the A.S. Board of Directors for deliberation. During this process, the Board carefully reviewed each recommendation, resulting in five formal appeals from the following programs and departments: Campus Center for Appropriate Technology (CCAT), Office of Student Life (OSL), Women's Resource Center (WRC), Scholars Without Borders (SWB), and the Indigenous Foods Festival (IFF). Notably, the appeal from the IFF highlighted a broader concern regarding the absence of consistent base funding for culturally significant programming. The board decided to provide some funding for this event until further conversations can happen at the campus-wide level.

This budget also reflects intentional internal decisions to ensure that a greater share of resources is directed toward student-facing programs and services. These efforts are informed by ongoing assessment of program outcomes and student engagement, as well as a growing emphasis on strengthening Associated Students' visibility and brand recognition across campus. Together, these strategies support our commitment to maximizing the impact of student fee revenue and to continuously improving how we allocate resources to support student needs.

As Associated Students, we decided to provide free access to *The New York Times* for three years because we see access to information as essential to the student experience. Our role is to ensure student fees are used in ways that directly support students—not just in the classroom, but in how they engage with the world around them. Providing access to a major publication like the *New York Times* helps students stay informed, think critically, and be more prepared academically and professionally.

Additionally, the Bicycle Learning Center (BLC) is transitioning from the Waste Reduction and Resource Awareness Program (WRRAP) to become a standalone program. This change reflects



the significant growth of the BLC and its evolving capacity, necessitating a dedicated structure to better support its purpose, programming, and student impact.

In alignment with our responsibility to be thoughtful stewards of student fee revenue, we are committed to strengthening accountability and transparency in all aspects of our work. Our Bylaws serve as the foundation that grounds our organization, and through listening sessions led by the Executive Vice President, we aim to bring that foundation directly to students—meeting them where they are and helping them understand how this organization works for them. Our Administration and Finance Vice President will host *Let's Talk Finance* roadshows that prioritize dialogue over presentation. Rather than focusing solely on what we fund, these spaces will center student questions, perspectives, and concerns about how their fees are used. Together, these efforts reflect our commitment not only to informing students but also to actively engaging them in shaping the direction and accountability of their Associated Students.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the ongoing work with Brailsford & Dunlavey. This partnership represents a critical step toward strengthening and expanding the role of the Associated Students, enabling us to better meet students' evolving needs through more strategic, data-informed decision-making and enhancing our impact within the broader higher education landscape. While these efforts reflect meaningful progress, they also establish a strong foundation to further expand engagement opportunities in the coming year.

The Board of Directors has approached this budget with diligence and care. We are proud of the programs and services supported through this process and remain dedicated to ensuring that A.S. resources directly benefit the student body.

Thank you for your continued support of Associated Students and our mission. We respectfully request your approval of the 2026–2027 A.S. Recommended Budget. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact our Executive Director, Kendra Higgins, at kendra.higgins@humboldt.edu or (707) 826-5410.

Sincerely,

Eduardo Cruz, President
2025 - 2026 Associated Students Board of Directors



Associated Students

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT

Program Budget	2026 - 2027 Approved Budget
Asian, Desi, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, North African Center (ADPI-MENA)	\$8,000
Bicycle Learning Center (BLC)	\$19,040
Campus Recreation – Student Marketing & Outreach Support	\$9,250
Campus Center for Appropriate Technology (CCAT)	\$39,800
Children's Center	\$12,000
Critical Agriculture Studies & Agroecology Healing Justice Garden Spaces	\$3,000
Diverse Male Scholar Initiative	\$6,140
Dreamer Center	\$17,000
Eric Rofes Multicultural Queer Resource Center	\$0
External Affairs	\$8,000
General Operations	\$391,613
Government	\$92,648
Grants	\$60,000
Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center – Free On-Site Student Boat Rentals	\$10,000
Humboldt International Film Festival	\$6,000
Indigenous Foods Festival	\$2,000
International Latino Film Festival	\$3,250
Intramural Sports	\$5,000
Lap Swim Program	\$8,600
Marching Lumberjacks	\$0
Office of Student Life	\$7,638
Oh Snap!	\$35,000
Outdoor Adventures – Free and Low-Cost Student Trips	\$11,000
Pre-Medical Society at Cal Poly Humboldt	\$0



Associated Students


CAL POLY HUMBOLDT


Rec Sports Drop In	\$5,000
Scholars Without Borders (SWB)	\$20,545
Social Justice, Equity & Inclusion Center (SJEIC)	\$13,380
Sport Clubs	\$34,250
Student Access Gallery	\$5,150
Student Recreation Center – Expanded Group Fitness Program	\$6,500
The LGBTQIA+ Center for Academic and Career Excellence	\$21,000
The Women's Resource Center	\$37,100
Transfer Center	\$15,500
Waste Reduction Resource Awareness Program (WRRAP)	\$32,000
Youth Educational Services (YES)	\$6,000
Total	\$951,404.00

New Programs


Not new programs, but 1st time A.S Request

Recommended Approval:


Chrissy Holliday (May 5, 2026 08:03:07 PDT) 05/05/2026
 Dr. Chrissy Holliday Date
 Vice President, Enrollment Management and Student Success


Michael Fisher (May 5, 2026 11:18:40 PDT) 05/05/2026
 Michael Fisher Date
 Acting Vice President, Administration and Finance

Approved:


Richard Carvajal (May 6, 2026 13:39:51 PDT) 05/06/2026
 Dr. Richard Carvajal Date
 President, Cal Poly Humboldt