



Supporting San Diego State University

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, June 4, 2026

3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Stephen L. Weber Boardroom

Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center

Minutes

A meeting of The Campanile Foundation Board of Directors was held on Thursday, June 4th, 2026, in the Stephen L. Weber Boardroom of the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center, located at San Diego State University, pursuant to the notice duly posted for public information.

The following members were present: Risa Baron, DeAnn Cary, Adela de la Torre, Alan Dulgeroff, Joyce Gattas, Georgia Griffiths, Dan Gross, Judy Hamilton, Kareen Holstrom, Zeynep Ilgaz, Joe Johnson, Janette Lampe, Mark McMillin*, Alex Mora*, Mike Neal, Mike Pack, Jeff Partrick, Milan Rawls, Patti Roscoe, Jessica Sarowitz, Michael Schweitzer*, Elliot Scott, Kit Sickels, Adrienne Vargas, Sandra Wawrytko, John Wills (*attended virtually).

The following members were absent: Terry Atkinson, Rick Bregman, Julie Dillon, Mark Filanc, Jeff Glazer, Michael Kanigher, Jennifer Stone.

The following staff members were in attendance: Kate Carinder, Travis Clancy, Mary Darling, Stephanie Dathe, Chris Lindmark, Bob Moosbrugger, Richard Noble, Eugene Olevsky, Cynthia Swanson, Amy Walling, Agnes Wong Nickerson.

Call to Order and Welcome

Chair-Elect Alan Dulgeroff called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and welcomed members attending both in person and virtually. He announced the addition of a new standing agenda item, "New Business," to provide board members an opportunity to raise questions and share ideas, and thanked Mark McMillin for the suggestion.

Alan reported on the success of SDSU's 2026 Day of Giving, noting that 22 TCF board members contributed \$122,675 toward a record-breaking university fundraising total of \$704,923. He also shared highlights from commencement, which celebrated 13,649 graduates representing 45 states and 77 countries, including nearly 2,000 first-generation college students.

Alan announced that the 2026 TCF Annual Gathering will be held on October 6 and thanked Zeynep Ilgaz for offering to host the event. He also recognized John Wills for receiving the 2026 Distinguished Alumni Service Award, after which the board viewed a video honoring his service and contributions to SDSU.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public in attendance, therefore no comments were made.

Approval of Consent Agenda and Past Meeting Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda, thereby approving minutes of The Campanile Foundation Board Meeting on March 5th; Arts Committee on April 3rd; Stewardship Committee on April 14th; Nominating and Governance Committee Meeting on April 22nd; Government and Community Relations Committee on May 7th; Athletics Committee on May 20th; and Finance and Investment Committee on June 3rd.

Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee met on May 13 and received updates from the Foundation's committees, which are detailed in the committee minutes included in the board packet.

The committee was joined by Tim Rice, Executive Director for University Initiatives, who presented on SDSU engagement opportunities designed to strengthen connections with alumni, donors, corporate partners, and the broader community. The committee agreed the presentation would be valuable for the full board, and Adrienne and Cynthia are exploring opportunities to schedule it at a future meeting.

College of Engineering

Dean Eugene Olevsky provided an overview of the College of Engineering's recent growth and accomplishments, noting that faculty ranks have increased by nearly 50% since 2018, research funding has more than tripled over the past decade, and the college has more than doubled its endowment. He highlighted the college's national standing in workforce development, the success of its student organizations, including the Rocket Project's two world records, and recent milestones such as a \$4.5 million NSF grant for Robotics and AI in Construction and a new partnership with Samsung Heavy Industries to support a Naval Engineering program.

Dean Olevsky highlighted the imminent water crisis we face and outlined the research and work being done to combat that threat. He then presented a proposal to establish the School of Water Innovation and Environmental Engineering at San Diego State University. The proposed school would build on SDSU's existing strengths in environmental

engineering, water treatment, water reuse, public health, and climate research to address growing regional and global water sustainability challenges. The school would enhance undergraduate and graduate educational opportunities, expand interdisciplinary research collaborations, and develop partnerships with industry, government agencies, and international institutions, including a proposed collaboration with Israeli universities and research centers.

The presentation outlined a phased implementation plan that includes launching the school, expanding research and curriculum offerings, increasing student and faculty exchanges, and developing advanced professional training programs. Dean Olevsky emphasized the school's role in advancing innovative solutions for water resilience while preparing the next generation of water-focused engineers, researchers, and industry leaders.

Adrienne Vargas shared that an unnamed donor has expressed an interest in supporting this project with a transformational gift, contingent on the university identifying additional donors to match their support.

Aztec Electric & Baja Race Teams

Grace Martin, Chief Mechanical Engineer for Aztec Electric Racing (AER), provided an overview of the student-led Formula SAE Electric team. She highlighted the organization's growth from 12 students at its founding in 2016 to more than 200 students today, representing engineering, software, business, and design disciplines. Grace described the team's work designing, manufacturing, testing, and racing a fully electric Formula-style race car in national competitions, giving students valuable hands-on experience in engineering, innovation, and project management. She shared that her involvement with AER played a significant role in her academic and professional development and helped prepare her for her new role as a Performance Engineer with General Motors' IndyCar program. Grace graduated from SDSU in May 2026 with a degree in Aerospace Engineering.

Ella Helge, Vice President of Aztec Baja Racing, presented on the club's efforts to design, build, test, and compete with a single-seat off-road vehicle in Baja SAE competitions. She discussed the practical engineering experience students gain through vehicle development, fabrication, testing, fundraising, and team management. Ella noted that she participated in seven national Baja SAE competitions during her time at SDSU and emphasized the impact the organization had on her educational experience and leadership development. She shared that Aztec Baja Racing provides students with valuable technical and professional skills that prepare them for careers across engineering and related industries. Ella graduated from SDSU in May 2026 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Ella acknowledged board member, Mark McMillin, and his generous support of the Baja program.

Presidential Update

President de la Torre opened her remarks by thanking the board for its continued leadership and support, noting that The Campanile Foundation has played a significant role in the university's success through its investment in endowments, faculty, and students.

She provided an update on SDSU's successful WSCUC accreditation review and shared key takeaways from the process. Looking ahead, the university will focus on defining its vision for the next decade through three strategic priorities: investing in SDSU's areas of research excellence and strengthening research infrastructure; expanding the graduate and doctoral programs, including funding opportunities and pathways for student success; and developing strategic plans for each SDSU campus that clearly articulate how each location advances the university's mission.

President de la Torre also shared insights from a recent consortium meeting of Hispanic-Serving Institutions and discussed preliminary conversations regarding the potential development of a future School of Veterinary Sciences.

Get to Know You

Board member Georgia Griffiths shared her personal and professional journey, reflecting on her path from being the first in her immediate family to attend college to building a successful career in technology and entrepreneurship. She described her experiences working throughout high school and college to pay for school, earning a degree in Mathematics from Long Beach State, and advancing through positions at Hughes Aircraft, TRW, and Solar Turbines before founding G2 Software Systems in 1989. Georgia detailed some of the roadblocks she overcame throughout her career and highlighted her commitment to creating opportunities for others through employee ownership, community service, and philanthropy. She concluded by discussing the importance of giving back through scholarships and charitable involvement, emphasizing the impact of philanthropy on future generations and her appreciation for the opportunity to serve on The Campanile Foundation Board.

2026 Football Season

Sean Lewis, Head Coach for Aztec Football, joined to briefly share updates on the SDSU football program, recruitment, and what we can look forward to from the upcoming 2026 season.

He focused primarily on the importance of improving the SDSU game day experience and filling the Snapdragon Stadium for home games. The Athletics department provided QR codes to the entire board for more information on how to purchase season tickets for the upcoming season.

Nominating and Governance Committee

Alan Dulgeroff shared an update from the recent Nominating & Governance Committee meeting, beginning with upcoming board transitions. He noted that Kit Sickels, John Wills, and Dan Gross will complete their third and final terms in December 2026. Discussions are underway with several board members regarding their continued service, and the committee is also in final discussion stages with prospective candidates. The committee is also beginning to focus on individuals from the healthcare sector, for future board recruitment.

The committee will meet again in July and present its final board recommendations at the September meeting. The committee also reported on a transition in student representation following the Associated Students elections. Executive Vice President Milan Rawls was elected A.S. President and will serve as the next TCF Student Representative. Both students were invited to share brief remarks with the board.

On behalf of The Campanile Foundation Board of Directors, Adrienne Vargas presented Kareen with a diploma frame as a thank you for her service.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve **Resolution 26-02: Commending Kareen Holstrom and Electing and Installing Milan Rawls as Student Representative.**

Finance and Investment Committee

John Wills shared highlights from the Finance & Investment Committee meeting the day prior including \$80 million in current funds and the \$575 million endowment which earned 20% over the last year.

Motions were made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve:


1. **Resolution 26-03:** *Approving Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Operating Budget of \$1,477,039.*
2. **Resolution 26-04:** *Approving the Revised Auxiliary Organizations Risk Management Alliance Programs Participation Agreement.*

New Business

No new business was brought forward for discussion.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.


Alan Dulgeroff (Jun 13, 2026 05:41:27 PDT)

Alan Dulgeroff, Acting Chair

Cynthia Swanson
Cynthia Swanson, Secretary