

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT SENATE

SHIRLEY SARGENT BOARDROOM, PSUB

7:00 PM

OCTOBER 29th, 2025

- I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 PM
- II. ROLL CALL
 - a. 12 Senators present.
 - b. Also present: Also present: Dr. Matt Daily, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Student, Theresa Brissette, Student Leadership and Engagement Center Program Specialist, and Val Davids, Student Leadership and Engagement Center Coordinator.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 22nd, 2025
 - a. Motion to approve the minutes from October 22nd, 2025: Lopez/Smith
 - b. Unanimous
 - c. Motion: **CARRIED**
- V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 29th, 2025
 - a. Motion to approve the agenda for October 29th, 2025 with the friendly amendment to add Appointment Approval of Graduate Studies Senator, Anna Reside under Other: Saunders/Lopez
 - b. Unanimous
 - c. Motion: **CARRIED**
- VI. GALLERY QUESTION AND ANSWER
- VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE
 - a. Young Democratic Socialists of America – New Club, Amber Olin; Val Davids, Student Leadership and Engagement Center Coordinator
 - i. Val Davids shared that the purpose of the Young Democratic Socialists of America as a club on campus is to pursue and promote a democratic socialist's education for members. As well as provide a space for members to practice democratic engagement while providing support, advocacy, and education.
 1. Amber Olin shared that the YDSA club currently has 12 official members, with 68 people on the club mailing list and more than 12 attendees at meetings. Their tabling events have resulted in an average of 17 new sign-ups per event. Senator Saunders asked about upcoming club events. Amber shared that the club has already hosted several socials and is planning campaigns focused on textbook access and affordability while promoting open educational resources. They are also looking to partner with on-campus resources, including Benny's Pantry, for volunteer opportunities and food drives. Additionally, the club is collaborating with the community chapter, Southeast Idaho YDSA, to support a

boycott campaign related to Palestine issues. Senator Vargas Barbosa asked whether there is a membership fee for the club. Amber shared that if the club becomes a nationally recognized organization, there would be chapter dues; however, all students are welcome to attend social events regardless of membership status.

- a. Motion to approve the Young Democratic Socialists of America as a new club on campus: Vargas Barvosa/Lopez

- i. ROLL CALL

SAUGAT ACHARYA – YES

AIDAN HALL – YES

RAKESH ITANI – YES

BRYSON KING – YES

PAIGE LITTLE – YES

CJ LOPEZ – YES

DIYA PANDEY – YES

ROBERT SAUNDERS – YES

PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES

SILAS SMITH – YES

HANNAH VAN METRE – YES

DENIS VARGAS BARVOSA – YES

- ii. Motion: **CARRIED**

- b. Turning Point USA – Club Reactivation, Trevor Hammond; Val Davids, Student Leadership and Engagement Center Coordinator

- i. Val Davids shared that Turning Point USA has been inactive on campus for the past tow years but had been active on campus since 2017 before that. Currently they have 8 members, but that number is expected to continue to grow.

1. Trevor Hammond, President of the Turning Point USA club, shared an overview of the club, which focuses on promoting free speech, open and honest debate, the Constitution, and conservative values. The club is nonpartisan and does not require any voter registration to join. There has been strong interest in the club, with approximately 30 to 40 members on the college roster and around 50 affiliated with the national Turning Point organization. While the club has not yet hosted many events, they recently held a watch party for Charlie Kirk’s Medal of Honor event, which drew 15 to 16 attendees despite being organized on short notice. The club’s primary goal is to get people talking and bring students together around shared discussions and activities.

- a. Senator Vargas Barbosa asked about the types of activities the club participated in before it became inactive. Trevor shared that the club previously organized tabling events, hosted guest speakers, and held trips to the gun range

- i. Motion to move to committee for 30 minutes: Lopez/Smith

- ii. Unanimous
- iii. Motion: CARRIED
- iv. Motion to move out of committee: Saunders/Van Metre
- v. Unanimous
- vi. Motion: CARRIED
- 1. Motion to approve Turning Point USA as a reactivated club: Smith/Lopez
 - a. ROLL CALL
 - SAUGAT ACHARYA – YES
 - AIDAN HALL – YES
 - RAKESH ITANI – YES
 - BRYSON KING – YES
 - PAIGE LITTLE – YES
 - CJ LOPEZ – YES
 - DIYA PANDEY – YES
 - ROBERT SAUNDERS – YES
 - PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES
 - SILAS SMITH – YES
 - HANNAH VAN METRE – YES
 - DENIS VARGAS BARVOSA – YES
 - b. Motion: **CARRIED**

VIII. PRESIDENT REPORT

- a. President Halter shared that he participated in the Homecoming Parade on Saturday, noting strong involvement and positive interactions. The Homecoming Tailgate during Parents Weekend drew approximately 300 to 400 attendees. Overall, he described it as a great weekend.

IX. CHAIR/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Senate Pro Tempore Committee, Senator Smith
 - i. Senator Smith shared that he met with President Halter to continue work on the HEYSISU initiative. He asked senators to reach to their club contacts to let them know that incentive points are due by November 14th. He also reminded the Senate that the selection of a new Senate Pro Tempore will occur next month. Lastly, he reminded members that their timecards and checklists are due tomorrow, October 30th by 5:00 PM.
- b. Finance Committee, Senator Saunders
 - i. Senator Saunders is coordinating with Jen Steele, Vice President of Finance and University Planning, who will be coming next Wednesday to meet with senators. Senators are encouraged to send any questions to him in advance. Jen Steele is a valuable resource, and this is an opportunity to take full advantage of her expertise. Senator Saunders is also working to meet with Benny's Pantry to discuss their funding request for this year and to discuss making them a line item in future budgets.

- c. Senate Rules and Appointments Committee, Senator Smith
 - i. Senator Smith shared that he will continue meeting with Val Davids regarding club membership. He also reminded members that Bill 624 is on the agenda for discussion today. Lastly, he reminded his committee that they meet the first and third weeks of the month.
- d. Student Involvement Committee, Senator Van Metre
 - i. Senator Van Senator Van Metre reported that the Homecoming Tailgate went very well, with smooth setup and takedown. She thanked all those who participated in the setup and takedown. For upcoming tailgates, extra help will be needed for moving heaters.
- e. Health, Wellness, and Sustainably Committee, Senator Pandey and Senator Vargas Barvosa
 - i. Health, Wellness, and Sustainably Committee nothing to report.

X. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Benny's Funding Request
 - i. First Generation Club, \$2,000
 - 1. Motion to approve the Benny's Funding Request for the First-Generation Club for \$2,000: Vargas Barvosa/Saunders
 - a. ROLL CALL
 - SAUGAT ACHARYA – YES
 - AIDAN HALL – YES
 - RAKESH ITANI – YES
 - BRYSON KING – YES
 - PAIGE LITTLE – YES
 - CJ LOPEZ – YES
 - DIYA PANDEY – YES
 - ROBERT SAUNDERS – YES
 - PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES
 - SILAS SMITH – YES
 - HANNAH VAN METRE – YES
 - DENIS VARGAS BARVOSA – YES
 - b. Motion: **CARRIED**

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Bill 624
 - i. Motion to move to committee for 30 minutes: Smith/Lopez
 - ii. Unanimous
 - iii. Motion: **CARRIED**
 - iv. Motion to move out of committee: Smith/Lopez
 - v. Unanimous
 - vi. Motion: **CARRIED**

XII. GALLERY QUESTION AND ANSWER

XIII. OTHER

- a. Appointment Approval of Graduate Studies Senator, Anna Reside
 - i. Vice President Medema shared that Anna Reside is a graduate student in the College of Science and Engineering and has been involved in a lot of team learning and leadership.
 - 1. Motion to move to committee for 10 minutes: Smith/Saunders
 - 2. Unanimous
 - 3. Motion: **CARRIED**
 - 4. Motion to move out of committee: Smith/Lopez
 - 5. Unanimous
 - 6. Motion: **CARRIED**
 - a. Motion to approve Anna Reside for the Graduate Studies Senator position, with the prorated scholarship amount to begin once she is officially sworn in: Vargas Barvosa/Pandey
 - i. ROLL CALL
 - SAUGAT ACHARYA – YES
 - AIDAN HALL – YES
 - RAKESH ITANI – YES
 - BRYSON KING – YES
 - PAIGE LITTLE – YES
 - CJ LOPEZ – YES
 - DIYA PANDEY – YES
 - ROBERT SAUNDERS – YES
 - PRAJAKTA SHARMA – YES
 - SILAS SMITH – YES
 - HANNAH VAN METRE – YES
 - DENIS VARGAS BARVOSA – YES
 - ii. Motion: **CARRIED**

XIV. ISU FIGHT SONG

XV. ADJOURNMENT

- a. 12 Senators present.
- b. Also present: Also present: Dr. Matt Daily, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Students and Theresa Brissette, Student Leadership and Engagement Center Program Specialist.
- c. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

ASISU VICE PRESIDENT

CHARLIE MEDEMA

ASISU SECRETARY

ELIANA MADISON