

**UNIVERSITY CENTER GOVERNANCE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, February 27, 2026**

Voting Members Attending: Tiffany Jordan, Oralia Vega, Jose Montano, Brynn Iby, Nathalie Ramos, Kaustav Banerjee.

Voting Members Not Attending: Yeshua Rodriguez, Skylar Burke, DeAnna Rodriguez.

Ex-Officio Members Attending: Hugo Rios, Nestor Covarrubias, Willie Brown, Nick Engebrits

Ex-Officio Members Not Attending: Carol Destre.

Advisors Not attending: Joaquin Becerra, Afiya Browne, Kris Ehrman, Marylu Diaz.

Additional Attendees: Arlene Contreras, Paul Kouns, Cece Tran, Cristal Bach.

1. Meeting Called to order by Tiffany at 1:05PM.

2. **Motion to approve previous meeting minutes (02/13/26):** Due to the absence of quorum, approval of the previous meeting will be conducted via email.

3. Committee Updates:

- a) **Campus Store:** The team is currently focused on preparing materials for the Grad Fair in the UCen lobby. Relevant details will be provided.

- b) **Budget and Finance:** The primary focus is on the preparation of budgets for the upcoming year in the new campus financial management system. Step one, the

conversion of all staffing information into the new system, has nearly been completed. Campus guidance on how budget figures for the next year are to be entered is now being awaited. These changes are occurring campus-wide, and the process is being navigated accordingly.”

4. Guest Updates and Proposal

- a) “Creative Use for All”: Casey Tran, a second-year Environmental Science major, presented the “Creative Use for All (CUFA)” proposal for the UCen, seeking board approval for a cabinet with free creative materials for student use. Board members asked about similar models, long-term maintenance, and precedent for small-scale projects, noting its similarity to “little free libraries.” Sustainability was emphasized, with a suggestion to consider a permanent makerspace with dedicated oversight. Potential collaboration with Associated Students Zero Waste to support the project after graduation was also mentioned.
- b) R&CL temporary offices: Paul Kouns Jr. presented the renovation of 1,700 sq. ft. of underutilized third-floor UCen space for staff relocating from the Res Life trailer due to the East Campus Housing Infill Project. Updates include modern networking, furniture, paint, carpet, doors, and a reception area. The project bid came in at \$440,000, with work expected March–June, funded by HDA. RNCL staff will occupy the space temporarily until fall 2028, paying a rental fee, and the board will determine long-term use, which could include a makerspace.
- c) McCutchen Art Project: Paul Kouns Jr. shared plans for a donor-funded installation by David McCutcheon on the second-floor hallway mural. Updates include an automated moving spotlight synced to music, audio directed only to viewers, and fold-down bench seating. Two bronze panels will display controls and historical project details. The total budget is \$79,000, fully supplied by the donor.
- d) UCen Fire Alarm System Replacement: Paul Kouns Jr. presented plans to replace the UCen’s fire alarm system, updating obsolete components to current code standards and ensuring maintainability. The project is in advanced design, with bidding expected soon and construction anticipated to last about 10 months, starting from the ground floor up. A side-by-side installation will allow a clean cutover with minimal downtime and no need for Firewatch. The existing system, dating to the 1994 renovation, cannot be maintained with available parts, prompting the replacement.

5. Comments/Questions/Concerns: Members thanked Casey Tran for the presentation and noted that the proposal will go out to board members for voting. Casey will be informed of the outcome. Paul mentioned he has art supplies he could donate if the project moves forward.

6. Future Meetings: Friday, March 13 at 1:00 PM and Friday, March 20 at 1:00 PM.

7. Adjourn Meeting at 1:36PM

c) **SB Printer:** The SB Printer project is expected to be completed by Tuesday, December 16, at which space should be fully accessible. No additional projects were reported. Further project discussions are anticipated next quarter.

5. Comments/Questions/Concerns: No additional comments or concerns were raised.

6. Adjourn Meeting: At 2:40PM