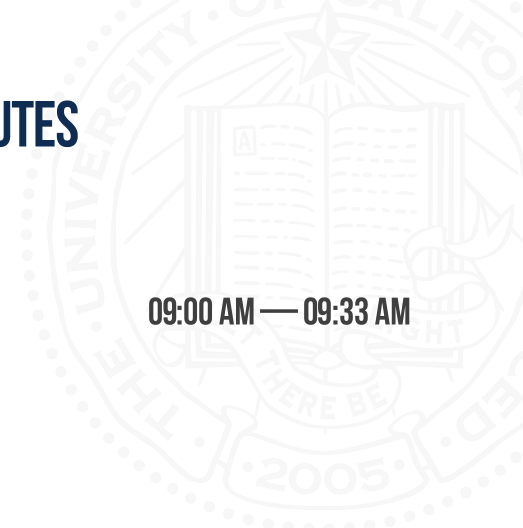




UCMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 16, 2025 | 09:00 AM — 12:00 PM (PDT)

ZOOM TELECONFERENCE | MEETING ID: 209-228-4484



09:00 AM — 09:33 AM

01 WELCOME & CULTURE BUILDER

• Attendance

- Executive Committee

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. Miguel Lopez | President |
| 2. Steven Barillas | Vice President |
| 3. Jonathan Ly | Secretary |

- Board of Directors

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Olivia Alvarez | 6. Kimberly Farias | 12. Bob Lopez |
| 2. Devon Antonio | 7. Mindy Fernandez | 13. Mina Tawfick |
| 3. Christy Celis | 8. Sam Fong | 14. Cristian Vargas |
| 4. Gehad Elhanafy | 9. Vanessa Hernandez | 15. Violet Walker |
| 5. Keith Ellis | 10. Bob Lopez | 16. Angela Yang |
| 6. Corbin Farias | 11. Gameelah Mohamed | |

- External Relations Staff

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Magdalena Castañeda | Director, Alumni Engagement |
| 2. Gabrielle "Gaby" Orduna | Alumni Relations & Events Specialist |

- Guest

1. Josiah Beharry

• Culture Builder: Community Norms

- Summary: The board focused on establishing community norms for the year ahead. President Miguel led the exercise for board members to contribute ideas onto a mural board.

- Activity Brainstorm/Discussion

1. Keith, Olivia, Gehad, Cristian, Vanessa, Steven, Kimberly, and Mina shared ideas for community norms.
2. Community norms will continue to be referenced at future meetings and should evolve with the needs of the group.

* Community norms will be revisited in October.

02 ALUMNI RELATIONS REPORT

09:33 AM — 10:05 AM

• Alumni Relations Updates | Maggie Castaneda

- Alumni At-A-Glance: 20,448

1. Gender:
 - a. 52.4% Alumnae (Female)
 - b. 46.9% Alumni (Male)
 - c. 0.6% Alums (Non-Binary)
2. Average Age: 30 years
3. 95% of Alumni Live in California (19,154)
4. Alumni by Primary School Affiliation:
 - a. Social Sciences, Humanities & Arts: 10,468
 - b. Natural Sciences: 4,955
 - c. Engineering: 3,879
 - d. Graduate Division: 1,146
5. Fast Facts:
 - a. 867 Alumni graduated with a Ph.D. from UC Merced
 - b. 799 Alumni graduated with a master's degree from UC Merced
 - c. 432 Alumni graduated with two (2) degrees from UC Merced
 - d. 45 Alumni graduated with three (3) degrees from UC Merced



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- Reflections & A Look Ahead

1. Board Retreat: In partnership with the UCMAA Executive Officers, the UCMAA Board hosted the first retreat at Yosemite Field Station to build community and develop new objectives and key results.
2. Alumni Leaders:
 - a. Keith Ellis '12 served as the first UC Merced Alumni Regent (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024)
 - b. Josiah Beharry '22, served as the first UC Merced Student Regent (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025)
 - c. Miguel Craven '25 named the next Student Regent (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027)
3. 20 Years: September 5, 2025 will mark 20 years since UC Merced first welcomed the inaugural cohort of students. The campus community will be celebrating at a kick-off soccer game to commemorate 20 years and celebrate UC Merced's athletic launch into NCAA division II.
3. UCOP: In collaboration with UCOP, the 10 campus associations are hosting an alumni reception in the Central Valley on August 20 and is bringing the HireUC Alumni Career Summit to Fresno on August 21. Keynote panelists include Chancellor Muñoz and alumni Josiah Beharry '22 and Linda Barreto '08.
4. Regional Events: UC Merced will be hosting a regional event, "Bobcats x Grizzlies" on August 29. More regional events are in the works with details to be shared as they are confirmed.

- UCMAA Journey Fund Report

1. Fund Overview:
 - a. Last known Market Value (June 30, 2024): \$35,560.77
 - b. Available Payout: \$1,293.06
 - c. Gifts Received (7/1/23—6/30/24): \$1,527.19
2. Expenses:
 - a. Bobcat Day (Estimated): \$1,700
 - b. UCMAA Retreat (Estimated): \$1,831.96
 - c. Gifts Received (Dec. 2024—June 2025): \$1,800
3. Projected Balance (Aug. 2025): \$33,828.81
4. Open Discussion:
 - a. Keith highlighted previous efforts and goals to grow the UCMAA Journey Fund to \$50k by 2025, noting current progress is slightly behind and encouraging individual board members to consider modest monthly contributions to help close the gap and support essential alumni activities.
 - b. Keith expressed appreciation for Angela and Olivia, recognizing their leadership in shaping and prioritizing the board's giving strategy.

• **Student Relations Report Updates | Gaby Orduna**

- Upcoming Events & Engagement Opportunities:

1. August 2025
 - a. Monday, August 25 at 6:30 PM | SAA Bobcat Bonfire (3-6 alums)
2. September 2025
 - a. Thursday, September 4 | SAA General Meeting
 - b. Thursday, September 18 | SAA Chill & Chat (3-6 alums)
 - c. Thursday, September 25 | SAA General Meeting (1-2 alums)
 - b. Saturday, September 27 | SAA Retreat
3. October 2025
 - a. Thursday, October 9 | SAA General Meeting (1-2 alums)
 - b. Thursday, October 23 | SAA Chill & Chat (3-6 alums)
 - c. Friday, October 31 | SAA @ Boys & Girls Trunk-or-Treat

• **Comments/Questions**

- Christy inquired whether the current UCMAA Journey Fund balance is held in a high-yield savings account, noting that such an account could generate monthly interest and help grow the fund, while also raising questions about any limitations on using funds in this capacity.



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1. Keith confirmed the UCMAA Journey Fund is invested through the UC Regents, yielding between 4.5% and 5%, and emphasized that this arrangement offers significantly better returns than other campus foundations have achieved independently, making it the most effective option for fund growth.
- Christy inquired about the tax status and potential marketing strategies for donations, to which Keith responded that while the foundation is 501c3, the tax benefits are not as advantageous under current tax laws.

03

UCMAA RETREAT DEBRIEF & DISCUSSIONS

10:05 AM — 12:13 PM

• Overview

- President Miguel recapped the design-thinking strategies implemented during the retreat to achieve a draft of the UCMAA Board's "north star."
- Following suggestions for positive and mindful language from Devon, Cristian, Vanessa, and Christy, President Miguel presented the north star draft:

"This year we are centered on supporting and enhancing our alumni engagement so that we can uplift and amplify our community and resources."

• Activity & Next Steps

- UCMAA Board members were assigned into 4 breakout rooms for a brainstorm session to set specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and timely goals (SMART goals) to develop key results for the north star.

• Mural Board Activity

- Breakout groups briefly shared ideas from the previous activity:
 1. Launch alumni podcast (2 episodes by June 2026)
 2. Host three (3) regional in-person events
 3. Achieve 100% board participation in LinkedIn group
 4. Pilot two (2) virtual events
 5. Increase board social media engagement (70-80% reshares)
 6. Create a coffee chat and/or networking day
 7. Create an easy mentorship program/platform
- Board members voted on key initiatives by assessing the perceived effort and value to the alumni community.
- * To include members who left early, the mural board vote will be sent as a post-meeting action item.
- * A follow-up discussion will be held as part of a special board meeting.

04

UCMAA OPERATIONS

12:13 PM — 12:21 PM

• Compliance Resolution

- Vote to approve compliance resolution:
 1. Motion: Christy
 2. Seconded: Cristian
 3. Vote: Motion passed

05

A LOOK AHEAD & CLOSING REMARKS

12:21 PM — 12:25 PM

• Upcoming Events

- A reminder of upcoming events from August to October shared with additional information to be emailed once details are confirmed.

• Closing Remarks

- Secretary Jonathan thanked the board members for their time and engaging dialogue both on the chat and the zoom.
- Vice President Steven emphasized Jonathan's remarks and highlighted the importance of the assessments in understanding how to improve board meetings and member involvement.
- President Miguel thanked everyone for their participation in the design thinking exercises and in the recent board retreat. He committed to donating \$1,000—matched by IBM—if board members each contribute \$100 as part of the Giving Tuesday campaign.