



ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Nomination for Boards, Commissions & Committees (Rev. 8/29/23)

Agenda Date: 4/14/2026

Item # _____

To: Members of the Orange County Board of Supervisors

cc: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

From: Renee Ramirez, Director, OC Community Services

It is my intent to appoint:

Name: Maria Linares

Address: [REDACTED]

City & Zip: [REDACTED]

Day Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax Number: E-mail address: [REDACTED]

To the: Orange County Workforce Development Board

(Name of Board, Commission or Committee)

Position Slot: Representative of Economic and Community Development

Name of incumbent being replaced or last known member:

Term (Choose One):

- 2 Years Beginning Term Date: 4/14/2026 to Expiration Term Date: 4/13/2028
- Term Concurrent with Supervisor's Term of Office
- Term Concurrent with position

Vacancy occurred due to:

- Resignation (attach letter of resignation)
- Termination (provide reason for termination in remarks) Death
- Expiration of Term Other (provide reason in remarks)

Nomination to: **Appoint** **Reappointment** **Newly Formed Committee**

Qualifications: **Attached (must be attached for appointments and reappointments)**

Remarks: Under federal rules dual representation is allowed, but EDD discouraged it during monitoring so we are appointing a separate member to ensure compliance. Request to change one Representative of Workforce to Representative of Economic & Community Development.

For Clerk of the Board Use Only

Clerk's Initials: _____ File I.D. _____ Needs a COI Send Departure Letter

Contact Name _____ Supporting Agency _____ Mail or Pony

Appoint/Complete: Term Years _____ Term Dates: _____ to _____
 CWS Other _____

Check one: Scheduled Vacancy Unscheduled Vacancy

Posted on _____ to _____

LIST ALL CURRENT PROFESSIONAL OR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIETIES OF WHICH YOU ARE A MEMBER.

<u>ORGANIZATION/SOCIETY</u>	<u>FROM (MO./YR.)</u>	<u>TO (MO./YR.)</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

WITHIN THE LAST FIVE YEARS, HAVE YOU BEEN AFFILIATED WITH ANY BUSINESS OR NONPROFIT AGENCY(IES)? YES NO

DO YOU OWN REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY OR HAVE FINANCIAL HOLDING WHICH MIGHT PRESENT A POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST? YES NO

HAVE YOU BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR CRIME SINCE YOUR 18TH BIRTHDAY? YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: ARRESTS OR DETENTIONS THAT DID NOT RESULT IN A CONVICTION; CONVICTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN JUDICIALLY DISMISSED, EXPUNGED OR ORDERED SEALED; INFORMATION CONCERNING REFERRAL TO AND PARTICIPATION IN ANY PRETRIAL OR POSTRIAL DIVERSION PROGRAM; AND CERTAIN DRUG RELATED CONVICTIONS THAT ARE OLDER THAN TWO YEARS, AS LISTED IN CALIFORNIA LABOR CODE § 432.8 (INCLUDING VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 11357(B) AND (C), 11360(C) 11364, 11365 AND 11550 – AS THEY RELATE TO MARIJUANA)?

YES NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN AND ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, IF NECESSARY.

PLEASE BRIEFLY EXPLAIN WHY YOU WISH TO SERVE ON THIS BOARD, COMMITTEE, OR COMMISSION. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, IF NECESSARY.

Please see attached for explanation.

DATE: January 30, 2026 APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: 

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS USE ONLY – DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Date Received: _____ Received by: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Date referred: _____

- To: BOS District 1 BOS District 2 BOS District 3 BOS District 4 BOS District 5
- All BOS BCC Contact Person Name _____

MARIA LINARES



EDUCATION

DEGREE AWARDED, AUGUST 2023

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON
CONCENTRATION: PUBLIC POLICY

MAY 2019

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON
MINOR: POLITICAL SCIENCE

MAY 2016

ASSOCIATES OF ARTS (A.A.) IN SOCIOLOGY, IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE

Member • Psi Beta Honor Society in Psychology • Irvine, CA.

SKILLS

- Donor Engagement, Strategic Leadership, Presentations, Public Policy, Internal and External Communications, Policy Writing, Community Engagement, Attention to Detail, Time Management
-

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2022/2023 Bob Linscheid Trustee of The Year Award
- California State University, Fullerton 2022-2023 Spirit of Public Service Award – April 2023
- 2023 Women of Distinction Assembly 67 Issued By Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva - Mar 2023
- Associated Students Inc, Advocate of the Year 2019
- CSUF Chicana & Chicano Resource Center Premios de las Estrellas for 2018 Outstanding Advocate Award

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

March 2024 – Current

Orange County Business Council

Manager, Business Initiatives

- Primarily responsible for the execution of the California Jobs First Initiative in the Orange County region. The California Jobs First Initiative was created to support new plans and strategies to diversify local economies and develop sustainable industries that create good paying and broadly accessible jobs for all Californians.
- Responsible for reporting back to the appropriate state agencies to ensure proper execution.
- Convene public, private, academic, industry, workforce, labor and community leaders around a singular vision for an equitable and environmentally sustainable economic transition.

- Support regular collaborative meetings both in person and virtually through coordination of calendar scheduling, email invitations, agenda preparation, recap notes and Zoom management.
- Maintain and update contact sheets for frequent communication with the collaborative.
- Maintain the California Jobs First webpage for the Orange County region.
- Represent the initiative through public speaking engagements, promoting California Jobs First and educating communities about funding and partnership opportunities.
- Support the hiring and oversight of contractors and subcontractors necessary to execute the \$14 million planning grant.
- Present and represent the Business Council at public events and meetings regarding California Jobs First Initiative
- Support the Leading Educational Attainment (LEA) for Families Initiative, a family involvement program working directly with non-profit organizations and local school districts for the purpose of ensuring Orange County has a locally trained and highly skilled workforce with home-grown talent.
- Manage editing of the curriculum's workbook, training manual, PowerPoint, grant writing and/or the creation of resources
- Manage the Leading Educational Attainment (LEA) for Families committee meetings through coordination of calendar scheduling, email invitations, meeting preparation, and Zoom management

January 2024 – March 2024

- Emergency Hire

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Admissions Representative

- Provided comprehensive application and admissions information to prospective students, parents, high school counselors, and university guests.
- Managed training, assignments, evaluation, coaching, and mentorship of Admissions Ambassadors (student assistants).
- Communicated admissions-related policies and procedures to prospective students, applicants, and the campus community.
- Applied knowledge of academic qualifications for undergraduate and graduate applicants, utilizing established guidelines, regulations, and precedents in admissions processes.
- Delivered outstanding customer service and streamlined document processing to meet Admissions office goals.
- Developed creative approaches to meet the needs of prospective students, applicants, and the campus community.
- Represented the Office of Admissions at university events to promote the institution and engage with stakeholders.
- Maintained cooperative working relationships and ensured the highest level of professionalism in all interactions.
- Thrived in a highly automated environment, consistently performing at an exceptional level.
- Demonstrated proactive work ethic and ability to work effectively with limited supervision.
- Provided support as counselor of the day, offering guidance and assistance to student employees and deescalating challenging situations.
- Ensured confidentiality and security of records in compliance with university policies.
- Proficient in CSU application processes and software systems, facilitating efficient admissions procedures.
- Reviewed and provided input to program training materials, student employee manuals, and presentation outlines to ensure effectiveness and adherence to policies.
- Experienced in data entry and database record management, maintaining accuracy and integrity of information.

- Utilized ServiceNow to create and track tickets, facilitating streamlined resolution processes by assigning to appropriate departments.

August 2021 - June 2023

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Emerita

- Advocated for the needs and interests of approximately 480,000 CSU students in the system's highest governing body.
- Demonstrated natural problem-solving abilities and a quick-thinking, adaptable approach to governance.
- Efficiently managed governance of the California State University, overseeing 23 campus presidents.
- Engaged in the selection, appointment, and evaluation processes for key CSU leadership positions, including the Chancellor, Vice Chancellors, General Counsel, and Chief Audit Officer.
- Served as Vice Chair of the Government Relations Committee, sponsoring, supporting, opposing, and tracking legislation impacting higher education.
- Collaborated with the California State Student Association (CSSA) to advocate for student-friendly legislation.
- Participated in presidential hiring committees, contributing to the selection and hiring of university presidents.
- Played a key role in the Interim Chancellor search process, conducting interviews and facilitating the hiring of the Interim Chancellor.
- Advocated at the state and federal levels to the legislature in support of student interests.
- Conducted in-person trustee campus visits across California to engage with stakeholders and address campus-specific issues.
- Voted on regulations and policies governing the CSU system, encompassing educational policy, finance, campus planning, and facilities.
- Conducted management effectiveness reviews of campus presidents.
- Oversaw and approved the annual \$7.4 billion-dollar budget of the California State University.
- Collaborated with key stakeholders to address system-wide issues in higher education.
- Presented to Associated Students across all 23 CSUs as a representative of the Board of Trustees.
- Contributed to the selection process for the 2022 CSU Trustees' Award Scholarship recipients.
- Engaged with legislators at the Panetta Institute Of Public Policy seminar, advocating for higher education funding and policies.
- Successfully advocated for a \$20 million budget allocation for Basic Needs support initiatives.
- Served as a community liaison, connecting vulnerable populations with resources both internal and external to the CSU.

JUNE 2020-JUNE 2021

CHAIR, ASSOCIATED STUDENTS INC. (ASI)

- Elected by the Board of Directors to serve as Chair, providing strategic leadership and direction.
- Facilitated and presided over all board meetings, ensuring efficient decision-making and consensus-building.
- Represented the board as a voting member on key committees including the Titan Student Center Board of Trustees, the Student Fee Advisory Committee, and the CSUF Academic Senate.
- Acted as a standing liaison member on all ASI special, ad hoc, and standing committees, fostering collaboration and alignment across initiatives.
- Supervised and delegated responsibilities to reinforce office hours and ensure effective team functioning.
- Orchestrated ASI promotional events, coordinating board efforts to enhance campus engagement and awareness.

- Appointed sixteen directors to committees and councils, strategically aligning talents and expertise with organizational needs.
- Directed the Vice Chair and Treasurer/Secretary, overseeing their work and ensuring alignment with organizational objectives.
- Held directors accountable for goal achievement through regular check-ins and performance evaluations.
- Collaborated on the development of curriculum for Board of Directors retreats, training sessions, and internal initiatives, enhancing board effectiveness and cohesion.
- Managed a \$20 million operational budget and corporate practices, ensuring financial stability and compliance with organizational policies.
- Approved budget expenditures and time off requests for the ASI Executive Director, maintaining fiscal responsibility and operational efficiency.

JUNE 2018 – JUNE 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATED STUDENTS INC. (ASI)

- Elected by students of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Attended weekly Board of Director meetings
- Approved recommendations of resolutions, bylaws and policies
- Served as ASI liaison for the College of Humanities and Social sciences
- Served as liaison between Associated Students Inc and University Administration
- ASI liaison for Black Student Union
- ASI liaison for Mesa Cooperativa
- Maintained weekly office hours
- Advocated for approximately 40,000 students
- Ensured regular contact with college deans and constituents
- Prepared and provided college reports and presentations to the Board of Directors
- Mentored and advised students
- Utilized research, writing abilities, and organizational skills to facilitate communication within the board
- Graded ASI scholarship applications every semester

JANUARY 2021 – MAY 2021

GRADUATE ASSISTANT - DIVISION OF POLITICS, ADMINISTRATION & JUSTICE

- Attended course lectures
- Preparation of supplemental materials
- Held weekly office hours
- Read and evaluated student exams and papers
- Maintained student records
- Organized study/review sessions
- Interacted and worked effectively with a wide and culturally diverse range of students, including first-generation college students

AUGUST 2018 – MAY 2020

VICE CHAIR, ASSOCIATED STUDENTS INC.

- Evaluated and made recommendations on resolutions, bylaws, and policies
- Served as Chair of the Governance Committee
- Served as the Chair of the Children's Center committee
- Maintained and implemented previous resolutions
- Submitted weekly reports to the board
- Presided over board meetings in the absence of the Chair of the Board of Directors
- Interviewed qualified candidates for board vacancies
- Set agenda items to be reviewed and discussed by the committee on a weekly basis

- Worked directly with professional staff to improve student life at CSU Fullerton
- Worked closely with Governance Committee members to help them reach their professional goals, such as developing and implementing resolutions

SEPTEMBER 2009 – FEBRUARY 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, ALLSTATE INSURANCE

- Designed electronic file systems
- Managed day to day calendar for upper management
- Coordinated inventory orders and office supplies
- Scanned, emailed, and faxed documents
- Managed all forms of payment transactions

AUGUST 2005 – FEBRUARY 2007

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, QUICK LOAN FUNDING

- Provided administrative support utilizing Excel, Microsoft Outlook, and Microsoft word
- Scheduled meetings and organized conference rooms
- Carefully handled confidential data pertaining to company employees and borrowers
- Generated emails and transcribed notes

FELLOWSHIPS

NASPA Undergraduate Fellows Program – *Fellow* JUNE 2018 – MAY 2019

-Selected to be part of a cohort of historically marginalized students to gain knowledge on the field of student affairs

-Attended meetings to gain insight on graduate programs, student affairs, and initiatives to positively impact students

MEMBERSHIPS

- Elected School Site Council Representative for the Tustin District 2020-2024
- Children’s Center Parents and Pals – **President** 2018-2019
- Latinx Student Psychological Association – **Executive board member** 2017-2018
- M.E.Ch.A – Movimiento Estudiantil Chicax de Aztlan - **Member**
- Abled Advocators - **Member**

GUEST & MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER OPPORTUNITIES

Latina Grad Guide - 2023

- Motivational speaker – addressing barriers and closing the equity gap in higher education

Orange County Hispanic Youth Chamber of Commerce – 2023

- Women in Power Event
 - Moderated by Gaddi H Vasquez, Former U.S. Ambassador

CSU Fullerton, Division of Politics, Administration, & Justice - 2022

- Presentation for Equity and Social Justice Cohort, Political Science and Public Administration transfer students

CSU Fullerton, Project upGRADS - Masters Early Transition and Access Program (META) – 2022

- Graduate school journey and advice, CSU Board of Trustee overview, and resources

Latina Grad Guide - 2020

- Latinas in Graduate and Professional School
 - School application process, writing a compelling statement of purpose, applying for funding, and studying for graduate school entrance exams

Student Panelist for Incoming EOP Students - 2019

- Discussed the benefits of being involved on campus and my personal leadership experience
 - Educational Opportunity Program: For low-income and educationally disadvantaged undergraduate students

COMMITTEES and COMMISSIONS

- California State University, Government Relations Committee Vice Chair – 2022/2023
- California State University, Sacramento State Presidential Search Committee – 2023
- California State University, Monterey Bay Presidential Search Committee - 2022
- Vice President of Student Affairs Interviewer - 2020
- ASI Executive Director Evaluation Committee - 2019, 2020, 2021
 - Evaluating the Executive Director
- Graduate Education Curriculum Committee – *Student Representative* – 2020-2021
- Presidential Appointee Commission – *Student representative* - 2018-2019
- Outstanding Professor Committee – *Student representative* - 2018-2019

VOLUNTEER

- Prison Education Project, Course Facilitator – 2021 – present
 - Provide education to currently incarcerated youth about higher education and professional development through course facilitation in an engaging environment
- Pioneer Middle School, Chair of the School Site Council – 2022/2024
 - Obtain recommendations for, and review of, the proposed School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) from all school advisory committees
 - Develop and approve the SPSA and related expenditures in accordance with all state and federal laws and regulations
 - Recommend the SPSA and expenditures to the Board of Education for approval
 - Provide ongoing review of the implementation of the SPSA with the principal, teachers, and other school staff members
 - Make modifications to the SPSA whenever the need arises
 - Submit the modified SPSA for Board of Education approval whenever a material change (as defined in District Board policy) is made in planned activities or related expenditures
 - Annually (and at each semester, trimester, etc.) evaluate the progress made toward school goals to raise the academic achievement of all students
 - Carry out all other duties assigned to the SSC by the District Board of Education and by state law
- Beckman High School, School Site Council Officer – 2020/2022