



ACADEMIC • SENATE

Minutes

Thursday, May 8th, 2025

2:00 – 3:45 p.m.

Present: Karen Marrujo, Hanaa Alkassas, Fabienne Bouton, Tania Jabour (as proxy for Bri Brown), Annalinda Arroyo (as proxy for Dan Curtis), Rita Ghazala, Jonathan Martin (as proxy for Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks), Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks, Karla Gutierrez, Debra Hills, Amy Huie, Rachel Jacob-Almeida, Khrystyn Pamintuan (as proxy for Raad Jerjis), Liza Kakos (as proxy for Rachelle Panganiban), Joan Rettinger, Miriam Simpson, Jennifer Tomaschke, Asma Yassi

Absent: Bri Brown, Sasha Carter, Dan Curtis, Raad Jerjis, Sahar King, Rachelle Panganiban

Other: Jessica Robinson, Octavio Leal, Bri Hays, Jeanie Machado Tyler, Jessica Hurtado, Victoria Marron, Amaliya Blyumin

Recorder: Aiden Lovewell

The Senate minutes are recorded and published in summary form. Readers of these minutes must understand that recorded comments in these minutes do not represent the official position of the Academic Senate. The Academic Senate expresses its official positions only through votes noted under "Action." In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act guidelines, Senators voting "nay" or abstaining will be identified. All other present members will be assumed to have voted "aye."

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1. **Call to Order** – Karen Marrujo, the Academic Senate President, called the meeting to order at 2:10pm.
 2. **Approval of Minutes: April 24th, 2025** – The Senate reviewed the minutes from April 24th, 2025. The senate motioned to approve the minutes. **Motion/Second:** Joan Rettinger/Rita Ghazala. **Nays:** None. **Abstentions:** Tania Jabour, Rachel Jacob-Almeida, Khrystyn Pamintuan, Liza Kakos. **Motion Passes.**
 3. **Public Comments** –

Marcelia, a student at Cuyamaca College, and a few other students came to Academic Senate to bring attention to an immigrant advocacy event called Immigrant Voices Shared Space which highlights stories from our community. The event will hopefully take place in fall 2025. The students are asking Academic Senate to spread the word. Rita expressed support for this event and let Marcelia and the other students know that if they needed anything that they could reach out to her. Joan shared that there are plans to launch an immigration law course and wanted to let the students know they are welcome

and encouraged to come for discussion and support. Karen let the students know that Academic Senate will support them in any way they need.

Debra reminded faculty to check in with students. Some students are experiencing ICE interactions off campus so checking in with them would be very helpful as we are often the frontline for resources.

4. Announcements –

A. Updates on Academic Senate Election of Part Time Senators:

Karen Marrujo gave an update on the Academic Senate elections. Octavio Leal is an incoming senator starting in the fall. Karen welcomed Octavio and thanked him for serving. The results are on the agenda and the website.

B. Transfer Center Updates:

Amaliya Blyumin shared updates from the Transfer Center. We are recognizing the regional meeting with the state. Cuyamaca College was rated the highest percentage of admitted students to SDSU from Region X. This highlights our strong efforts to support students. On Monday, May 19th, there will be an event to come and celebrate. The event is open to faculty, staff, and admin in the B-Building theatre at 5:30pm. Karen thanked Amaliya for coming to share.

C. Practice Using AI Tech:

Karen Marrujo shared the Teaching Dialogues event on using AI tech. The next event will be on Thursday, May 22nd, from 4-5:15pm in H-119 and on Zoom.

D. Voices for Palestine Campus Film Screening:

Karen Marrujo shared the Voices for Palestine Campus Film event taking place on Monday, May 12th, in the Digital Theater of the B-Building with light refreshments at 5pm and the film starting at 5:30pm. Partnered with distributor to screen this very important and timely film highlighting student activism.

E. AFT Social Event:

Karen Marrujo shared the AFT Social event taking place on May 29th, from 1-3pm on the quad between the H-Building and the I-Building with tacos and piñatas.

F. Game Night ThRIVE Event:

Karen Marrujo shared the ThRIVE game night event happening tonight after this meeting between the I-Building and the G-Building.

G. 5/22 AS Meeting Location Change:

Karen Marrujo reminded senators that the next meeting will be held in H-114 at the normal time.

H. Other:

Rita there will be a story time today at 5:30pm in the library.

5. Action Items –

A. Distance Education Coordinator:

Academic Senate reviewed the Distance Education Coordinator job description revisions.

The senate motioned to approve the Distance Education Coordinator job description.

Motion/Second: Tania Jabour/Rita Ghazala. **Nays:** None. **Abstentions:** None.

Motion Passes.

B. Program Review, Instructional Faculty Coordinator:

Academic Senate reviewed the Program Review, Instructional Faculty Coordinator job description revisions.

The senate motioned to approve the Program Review, Instructional Faculty Coordinator job description. **Motion/Second:** Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks/Amy Huie.

Nays: None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion Passes.**

6. Committee and Coordinator Reports –

A. Updates from Curriculum:

TABLED

B. Teaching and Learning:

TABLED

C. Additional Committee Updates:

None

7. Information Items –

A. Updates related to Facilities and Campus Conversations:

Jessica Robinson shared updates with Academic Senate.

For the facilities update there are two big things. A building, which used to be student services, has been vacant for almost 2 years and the new plan is to have District Services occupy the building with the timeline for the move being 1-2 years.

For the F-building, we have been having thorough conversations for a long time. Prop V in 2012 was voted on and we benefited from it with improvements to athletics, the veterans center, and construction of the G-Building. The money for these comes from tax-payer money and state bonds with the state bond requiring matching funds.

Originally, we received \$16 million dollars in state bonds and the chancellor matched it with district funds. Since then, the district has looked at options for their spaces which ended up forcing the district to take back \$4 million back of their funds. There

has also been a data center issue regarding the realistic cost being close to \$6 million dollars instead of the original estimate. We are now looking at our options as the original total of \$32 million is not a realistic amount of money to build the new f-building. On top of this, the lab spaces were also top-coded incorrectly. We also did a space use analysis to look at the migration plan viability which ended up revealing a domino effect of necessary space reshuffling. While this was happening, the district started looking at spaces for their move which ran into several roadblocks. The district has investigated several options at Grossmont, here at Cuyamaca, and an independent option off-campus. Additionally, there are several critical needs here at Cuyamaca including: air conditioning in the gym, making auto lifts safe in the AUTO department, shortfall for the data center of about \$3 million dollars, flooding neighboring spaces, creating a teaching and learning center, ADA concerns, and more. These costs would total about \$22 million dollars. Jessica emphasized that being fiscally responsible is one of the most important aspects of her job and tough decisions are going to be made to do what is responsible. There has been several discussions in regard to returning the state matched funds to the state and that is now a formal request made by Jessica. Jessica noted that there will be other bond options in later years. May 20th board meeting is going to be where the board would vote to approve or deny requesting the return of those state funds. If approved, there would be further collaboration and conversation around how exactly to use the funds that we do have. This is all to ensure that our decisions are long-term focused.

Tania asked if giving back the state funds would free up money to complete the high priority objectives. Jessica said yes it would. Tania noted that she is very proud of leadership and of Jessica for making this difficult decision.

Tania asked if there is any chance that the state will say no to us returning the funds and Jessica said no, these are allocated funds from the state and shared that other colleges are doing the same thing because costs are extremely high right now.

Rita asked if Grossmont already gave their money back. Jessica shared that Grossmont's request will also come to the May 20th board meeting.

Rita asked what the chances are that the board will deny returning the state funds. Jessica noted that she is unsure but as of now, there is not a bad feeling or concern around the request.

Jessica thanked everyone for listening and providing feedback. Karen thanked Jessica for coming and expressed her gratitude for the openness, the communication, all the work, and the commitment to the long-term outlook of our college.

B. Updates from Victoria Marron:

Victoria Marron. Shared flyers for mental health services. There are three adjunct mental health counselors. The open house for our campus was amazing with more than 80 visitors to their tables. There will be a debrief conversation today with the organizers of the Spring Garden and Butterfly Festival to talk about next year.

There are slides to share on the Academic Senate website. We are currently assessing the needs around campus. There are now extra-large and ADA compliant Mamava pods on campus for mothers to nurse privately. There are also assessments being done for the needs of Outreach and Student Affairs which is being renamed to Student Engagement and Belonging. There is a need for computers and printers in the Coyote Den and for space optimization. Mental health awareness week is next week and there will be a flyer detailing the events coming tomorrow.

C. Updates on AB1111:

Jeanie Machado Tyler shared updates on AB 1111. The CCN promised allocation funds have arrived. There was \$913,000 to do the CCN implementation. About half of this was kept from both colleges to do behind-the-scenes work. For us, the rest of the funds are prioritized for faculty who are doing this work.

Reassigned time. Jeanie thanked the coordinators that helped SOC review the descriptions for RT. There have been significant updates to some of these job descriptions in part due to the immense amount of work being done with some of these AB's. Knowing this, we are going to take the curriculum co-chair up to a 1.0 LED for at least two years and then reassess.

With RT overall, we need to thoroughly assess the work that's being done and make sure it's properly compensated and supported.

Moriah asked for how compensation works for clarity. Being reassigned from the 1.0 is your contract work and anything beyond that is at the non-classroom hourly rate.

D. FHPC Document Revisions:

Karen shared that the content for the form and the rubric is the same but they are being cleaned up to address accessibility issues and to clean up the questions for clarity. This is a first read so Karen is asking senators to please share and gather feedback for the next meeting. This will be up for endorsement.

E. College Technology Committee (CTC) 2024-2025 Ranked Technology Request List:

Jessica Hurtado shared the CTC 2024-2025 Ranked Technology Request List with Academic Senate. These are the officially completed rankings of the requests that came through. The document does list at the very top what was ranked and at the bottom, what was not ranked and why. If there are any questions, please let Jessica Hurtado know. If approved, the next step will be communicating back with authors.

F. Program Review Templates and Timelines for 2025-2026:

Bri highlighted revisions made to the templates. The goals are streamlining the, already robust, templates and keeping them in line with Title V. We also want to ensure the accreditation standards are being addressed on each of these. The documents are all available on the Academic Senate websites. The plan is to open Nuventive in July. This will come back for approval at our next meeting. The timeline

for program review has some options that are available given the restraints. Proposing 3 options for the timeline, the first option would be to have them due December 1st, the second option would be December 22nd, and the third option would be mid-January.

G. Updates on Spring 2025 Plenary Resolutions:

Tabled

H. Statement Upholding Academic Freedom:

Tabled

I. Updates on Discretionary Reassigned Time Review and Recruitment Process:

Karen shared that this is the messy version of the Hyflex job description. There will be a polished up draft for the next meeting. It would need to be endorsed at the next meeting as well.

The Faculty Resources Coordinator is a pilot that is up for recruitment but there wasn't a good chance to engage in conversation around tutoring on our campus. Karen requested to extend it one more year and start focusing on meaningful review of tutoring. Will not come back up for endorsement at this time.

J. Proposed Revisions to the ROC Charge and Composition:

There is a new vision for ROC with a focus on being more integrated, transparent, and more problem solving. Moriah noted that these are big change and we really want to endorse them. There is an internal grant process but few faculty know about it and there are unfortunate barriers to people applying for these grants with no documentation. We want to change this process by having all grants be brought as information items to this group for increased transparency. Reviewing the faculty involvement in budget matters to have conversations earlier on in order to be involved in these decisions.

K. Call for Feedback for Review of our Cuyamaca Academic Senate Constitution and Bylaws:

Tabled

L. Employee Needs Assessment and Satisfaction Survey:

Tabled

8. President's Report –

A. Academic Senate May (5/20) Board Meeting Constituent Report Comment on Facilities:

Karen shared her intent to speak at the next board meeting in order to express support for the facilities recommendation and thank our college's leadership for transparency. It is important to protect our campus culture, and the district needs to see this on the record.

B. Draft of GCCCD Governance Handbook:
Tabled.

9. Vice President's Report –

None

10. Part-time Faculty Report –

None

11. Adjourn – Karen Marrujo adjourned the meeting at 3:51pm.