



ACADEMIC • SENATE Minutes

Thursday, December 11th, 2025
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Karen Marrujo, Elizabeth Fontaine (as proxy for Fabienne Bouton), Dan Curtis, Frantz Farreau, Rita Ghazala, Nancy Bahena (as proxy for Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks), Karla Gutierrez, Debra Hills, Amy Huie, Octavio Leal, Rachel Polakoski, Joan Rettinger, Wayne Ross, Miriam Simpson, Christopher Torres, Heidi Wilson, Asma Yassi

Absent: Bri Brown, Rachelle Panganiban

Guests: Sahar Abushaban, Jessica Robinson, Annalinda Arroyo

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."

1. **Call to Order** – Karen Marrujo, the Academic Senate President, called the meeting to order at 2:10pm.
2. **Introductions** – None
3. **Public Comments** – Karen thanked senators for the semester of meetings.
4. **Announcements** –
 - A. Cuyamaca Rising Scholar Program flyer:
Karen shared the Cuyamaca Rising Scholar Program flyer. We want to spread the word to help students connect with this important program.
 - B. Other:
Karen noted there are cat buttons courtesy of the library for anyone that wants one. Karla shared the information for the THRIVE welcome event on Jan 26 from 12pm-2:30pm. The flyer will go out tomorrow and the Convocation flyer will go out later today. The Teaching and Learning is partnering with our college president to prepare for convocation. Convocation will be starting at 8am with a light breakfast with the program beginning at 8:30am.

5. Adoption of Unanimous Consent Items – *Grouped items for unanimous approval or endorsement without discussion. Any item can be pulled from unanimous consent. In the case an item is pulled, it will be individually considered later in the meeting under “Action Items.”*

A. Approval of 11-20-2025 Minutes:

The Senate reviewed the minutes from 11-20-2025.

B. Academic Rank Applications:

The Senate reviewed Academic Rank applications for My-Linh Nguyen, Donna Hajj, and Kathryn Nette. The workgroup met and recommended all three applications move forward. If these are approved they will go to the board next.

C. Facilities and Sustainability Committee (FSPC) revised Charge and Composition:

The Senate reviewed the FSPC revised Charge and Composition.

The Senate voted to approve the Consent Calendar by unanimous consent.

6. Action Items –

A. Items pulled from Unanimous Consent:

None

7. Information Items –

A. Options for Public Safety:

The senate reviewed the options for public safety at Cuyamaca College. Jessica Robinson, the Cuyamaca College president, and Sahar Abushaban from the district shared their presentation. This document has been shared at several committees and groups to get input, feedback, and questions. There is a lot of feedback already, but not all of it is reflected in this document yet. Sahar gave context to the public safety issue. In spring 2025, the Chancellor convened a taskforce to examine our current public safety structure. This document reviews campuses unmet needs, current CAPS staffing, their duties and responsibility, schedules, and multiyear cost, as well as our current sheriff staffing, schedules, and costs. The next step is brainstorming our options as there are growing concerns about the safety of the campuses. There are 2 options. The first option is to have our own campus police force, which most colleges in the state have, and the second option is to expand our current sheriff count from 2 to 5 with a Sergeant. The senators discussed questions around how these options would be implemented and how the hiring would work. Senators also discussed concerns over paying our current sheriffs and purchasing their vehicles for them when their community interactions have been inconsistent and, at time, lacking. Additionally, mental health is a significant concern and having non-officer mental health crisis responders would be extremely helpful. The senators also discussed what the timeline looks like for this.

B. Recommended Practices to Increase Student Evaluation Participation:

The senate reviewed the recommended practices to increase student evaluation participation. AS presidents have been asked to present proposed language for this. Title 5 does require any bargaining unit to confer with AS before any negotiations. It's imperative to have collaboration with AFT and both Academic Senate's. This will come back as information at the next meeting in the spring.

C. Cuyamaca College Council (CCC) 2025/26 Goals Form:

The senate reviewed the CCC 2025/26 Goals Form. A lot of work in this space has been centered around clarity of processes. Anything approved by CCC is given to the president as the official recommendation. The goals are being shared to inform senators of how the governance leadership space is working.

D. Updates regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District and National University:

Karen reviewed the MOU. We are still waiting for clarification on the process and what the benefit to students is.

E. Proposed revisions to the Cuyamaca College Academic Senate Constitution and Bylaws:

Karen reviewed the proposed revisions to the AS Constitution and Bylaws. This will continue to be addressed in the future and there is now an official budget for Academic Senate.

8. Reports –

A. Updates from Curriculum:

Annalinda updated senators on curriculum activites. There is an updated 5-year review cycle list. Curriculum suspended the rules and formally endorsed the recommendation to consider MATH 171 as a prerequisite for MATH 180 and the syntax adjustment has been made. Annalinda is partnering with her counterpart at Grossmont to do a joint CCN training in the VCR around professional development week.

B. Additional Committee Updates:

Karen has joined ROC as the co-chair as well as FSPC. The co-chair of FSPC is the director of facilities and, unfortunately, Bryce Storm has left the position so we will need to find someone to fill that role ASAP. We are trying to find a way to merge ROC and FSPC. This will continue to be updated next semester.

C. Academic Senate President's Report:

Karen thanked various people for helping navigate some of the emergencies and difficult situations that have arisen this semester. The Chancellor and the board have questions about ENGL C1000. Karen noted that she will return with an update on this at our next meeting.

D. Vice President's Report:

Rachel shared that there are two hiring committees that need faculty, BIO and AUTO. BIO needs two biology faculty and one non-biology faculty. AUTO needs one auto faculty, one CE faculty, and one non-CE faculty.

E. Part-Time Faculty Report:

None.

F. Other:

None.

9. Adjourn – Karen Marrujo adjourned the meeting at 3:48pm.