CUYAMACA
·COLLEGE·

ACADEMIC•SENATE

Minutes

Thursday, September 24th, 2026
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Karen Marrujo, Roula Aoneh, Annalinda Arroyo, Nancy Bahena, Fabienne Bouton, Frantz Farreau, Ross Takasugi (as proxy for Rita Ghazala), Natalia Sigala (as proxy for Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks), Amy Huie, Rachel Polakoski (as proxy for Tania Jabour), Camille Jack, Karla Gutierrez (as proxy for Rachel Polakoski), Christopher Torres, Asma Yassi

Absent: Rita Ghazala, Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks, Debra Hills, Tania Jabour, Olga Sukhanova, Heidi WIlson

Guests: Brieanna Cuellar, Rachel Jacob-Almeida, Katie Cabral, Bri Hays, Miguel Alvarez

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 2:07pm.

2. **Introductions –** Senators shared their "scent of the week"

3. **Public Comments** –

4. **Announcements** –

   A. Unofficial Shared Notes from 9/10
   Karla took the unofficial notes for the last meeting and Karen asked for another volunteer to take notes for this meeting. Rachel Jacob-Almeida volunteered to take notes up until 3:30 when she needs to leave.

   B. Phone System Department Requirements Questionnaire
   Karen linked the phone system questionnaire in the agenda for people to answer if they want.

C. Chancellor's Planning Forum: Building the Future
An email was sent out regarding the Chancellor's Forum happening on Tuesday, October 6th, from 2pm-3:30pm in the I-building Student Center (I-207, 208, and 209). Faculty engagement is important for these forums to show that we're active and giving feedback. Karen noted that there will be a more in-depth discussion about this topic in the information section of today's meeting.

D. Other
Tabled.

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 05-28-2026 Minutes:
The Senate reviewed the minutes from 05-28-2026. Approved by consent.

B. Approval of 09-10-2026 Minutes:
The Senate reviewed the minutes from 09-10-2026. Approved by consent.

6. **Action Items –**

A. Pulled Items:
None.

7. **Information Items** –

A. Updates about engagement events for students:
Brieanna Cuellar, Dean of Counseling, shared counseling updates with senators. The slides will be available on the Academic Senate webpage. This is the first year with focused program-planning that has an emphasis on being intentional in bringing awareness to events. There has been a lack of consistency with counseling being on the same page in some aspects, and the goal is to bridge some of those consistency gaps. Brieanna shared counseling services' goals with senators as well as upcoming activities and events.

B. Credit for Prior Learning Roadmap:
Miguel Alvarez, Dean of Career Education, shared context and the initiative behind Credit for Prior Learning with senators. The slides will be available on the Academic Senate website. This is a campus-wide pilot that is incubating in CE. CPL (Credit for Prior Learning) awards course credit when a student demonstrates mastery of learning outcomes through an approved assessment. This helps serve working adults, experienced industry workers, veterans, and individuals with international experience, to move through certifications and degrees faster by removing unnecessary introductory courses that they already have the skills to do. Miguel recognized that

this is a 10+1 purview matter and would need collaboration and buy-in from other areas to have this initiative flourish as intended. Miguel also touched on the CPL experience that our own faculty have had as well as the military component of CPL. There is currently an AP that determines who governs what CPL is, but it is up to faculty to determine how it would be implemented. The pilot would start in Spring of 2027 with CWS, AUTO, EHSM, and CIS. Miguel also shared what the student-to-transcript workflow would look like.

C. Teaching and Learning Discussion and Request for Faculty Feedback:
Bri Hays, Katie Cabral, and Rachel Jacob-Almeida shared updates with senators as well as Communities of Practice around the college such as: SEED, CRAB, DEN, EPPA, POCR, and EMTLI. There was a common sense from faculty that work was siloed from each other, and the goal of these CoP's is to unify this work. These CoP's will usually take place on Tuesdays from 4-6pm, with upcoming dates on October 6th, November 3rd, and December 1st. Senators were asked questions to gather some feedback. Rachel Polakoski noted that the humanizing of STEM online PD from the state was helpful to improve her online teaching and gave her tangible skills. Karla noted that EMTLI has helped a lot and created an appetite for more training. Roula noted that POCR helped her design her online courses better. Fabienne noted that the workshop that Rachel Polakoski attended on course syllabi to make it more equity minded was very helpful. Amy Huie noted that EPPA was helpful, work-based learning that helped students be more aware of opportunities. Asma Yassi noted that EMTLI and EPPA were beneficial to constantly improving her syllabus. For future PD topics, senators noted that RSI, online-assessment in an AI work that focuses away from catching AI use and more on better assessment, AI in general, how to instill academic confidence in students, how to incorporate more resiliency in our students, how to help show students that they already are the subject matter experts that they are being taught, and grading are all important and relevant. Katie asked what modalities are preferred. Rachel Polakoski noted that in-person training is great. Camille Jack noted that hybrid in-person and online training would be beneficial for a lot of adjuncts. Bri Hays noted that accessibility is a big project that is currently being worked on and offered to come back at the next meeting and share more. Bri also shared a quick debrief with senators on RSI, feedback from the recent site visit, and offered to return to Academic Senate and speak for in-depth on RSI as the semester continues.

D. Faculty Discussion Topics:
Senators discussed annual goals and the Chancellor's Forum. The Chancellor asked for feedback on what faculty need from the forum and what would be most useful/effective. Senators shared feedback and noted that clearer and more intention communication is crucial. Karen noted that the faculty relationship with the Chancellor and the district needs to be an important focus.

8. Reports –

A. Committee and Coordinator Reports:

i. Updates from Curriculum:
None.

ii. Additional Committee Updates:
None.

B. Academic Senate President's Report:
None.

C. Vice President's Report:
None.

D. Part-Time Faculty Report:
None.

E. Other:
None.

9. Adjourn – Karen Marrujo adjourned the meeting at 4:02pm.