

**Academic Senate
MINUTES**

Monday, February 23, 2026
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Room 1101

Executive Committee Members Present					
x	Cathy Anderson		Kari Aranbul	x	Chase Brown
x	Jennifer Costillo	x	Scott Croes	x	Cheryl Cruse
x	Leo Fong	x	Chelsea Hendershot	x	Jacquelyn Horton
x	Leslie Hyatt	x	Jason Judd	x	Jun Ma
x	Sara McCurry	x	Andrew Nail	x	Lisa Riggs
x	Chris Rodriguez	x	Carie Rosensteel	x	Alan Spivey
x	Joanne Tippin	x	Robert Waldren	x	Lenore Watson
x	Mike Mari (N/V)	x	Scott Yates (N/V)		Rebecka Renfer (N/V)
Other Faculty Present					
x	Kimberly Carlson				
Guests					
x	Will Breitbach	x	Tim Johnston	x	Mark Klever
x	Jamie Spielmann	x	Buffy Tanner		

1. Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes—February 9, 2026 (1 attachment): Chelsea Hendershot moved to approve the February 9th minutes; seconded by Jacquelyn Horton. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Informational Reports from Guests and Executive Committee Members

- Facilitator: Cathy Anderson
- Purpose and Expected Outcome: These agenda items are for invited reports from guests and Executive Committee Members. No action will be taken under these agenda items.
- a. Shasta College Basic Needs Report 2025 (1 attachment)
 - Presenter: Will Breitbach
 - Purpose and Expected Outcome: This report is based on the Shasta College Basic Needs Survey. It is meant to help Shasta College employees understand students' non-academic needs and experiences.

Will Breitbach explained that the Shasta College Basic Needs Survey was done in Spring 2025, with 1,838 responses received, and the analysis of the responses was completed in Fall 2025. The key findings identify the main themes in the survey responses, and the last part of the report covers the next steps that Student Services will take to address the needs identified.

- b. Worksite Observation—Online Instructor Form (1 attachment)
 - Presenter: Will Breitbach
 - Purpose and Expected Outcome: Form a small workgroup to review the form and make recommendations to bring the form into alignment with the RSI guidelines.

Will Breitbach explained that the Worksite Observation form for online instructors needs to be updated to more accurately and clearly reflect ACCJC guidelines for Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) required for online courses, so he is recommending that a workgroup be formed to work on this. Chelsea Hendershot and Joanne Tippin expressed interest in participating.

- 4. Action Items from Our Subcommittees, Joint Committees, the Office of Instruction, the Office of the Superintendent/President, and others
 - Facilitator: Cathy Anderson
 - Purpose and Expected Outcome: These agenda items are for business that the Academic Senate must discuss and vote on at each meeting.

- a. From the Curriculum Committee

New, Revised, or Reactivated Courses and/or Competencies: None at this meeting

New, Revised, or Reactivated Programs: None at this meeting

- b. From the Office of Instruction

Tenure Review Committees/Mentors: None at this meeting

Fulltime Temporary Evaluations: None at this meeting

Peer Evaluators: None at this meeting

- c. Board Policies and Administrative Procedures from the Office of the Superintendent/President

Review and Approve Category: This category includes APs and BPs with mandated revisions, minor corrections, or no changes. These may be presented and voted on in the same meeting; however, a second reading is possible upon request.

None at this meeting

Revisions Category: This category consists of APs and BPs with substantive content changes. APs and BPs in this category are scheduled for first and second readings.

First Readings: First readings are an opportunity to review, clarify, and suggest changes. We do not make motions or vote on a first reading.

None at this meeting

Second Readings: Second readings are an opportunity to make motions to approve with minor changes. If significant changes are needed, then there will not be a vote and the BP/AP will be brought back for a third reading. (1 attachment)

- i. **AP 5050** – Student Success and Support Program [Revised, Legally Required]
Tim Johnston explained that the changes are minor ones, with the largest one being the addition of a section reflecting regulatory changes involving the MESA Program. Cathy Anderson noted that there were no recommended changes from our first reading. Alan Spivey moved to approve AP 5050; seconded by Jason Judd. Motion carried unanimously.

Third Readings: If significant changes were made during the second reading, then a third reading is necessary.

None at this meeting

d. Professional Development Committee Appointment

- The PDC bylaws state that in addition to a faculty member appointed by the FEC, "additional faculty members may be requested and shall be appointed by the Academic Senate." Troy Towery (Heavy Equipment faculty) has requested to serve on the PDC, and the PDC co-chair is requesting that we make an appointment.

Cathy Anderson explained that she received this request from Bex Davis. Carie Rosensteel moved to appoint Troy Towery to the Professional Development Committee; seconded by Jacquelyn Horton. Motion carried unanimously.

e. AI Philosophy Statement—First Reading—Lenore Watson (1 attachment)

Cathy Anderson reminded everyone that the latest draft of the AI Philosophy Statement was sent out to all faculty for review and that any feedback be directed to area representatives. Jacquelyn Horton reported that she received three responses from ACSS faculty, but they were mostly statements opposing the use of AI in the classroom. Lenore Watson noted that there is a statement affirming "instructor authority and

autonomy over AI use,” and this would apply to an instructor’s decision to not use AI in the classroom. Robert Waldren received a suggestion to change the statement in the opening paragraph “where the use of AI improves student learning and skills acquisition” by adding “may” to make the statement better recognize that the effects of AI use are still not fully known and proven, so the statement would be: “Where the use of AI may improve student learning and skills acquisition....” The same change should be made for the statement “where AI use obstructs student learning...,” so it would state, “where AI use may obstruct student learning....” Cathy suggested changing the Philosophy Statement title to “Shasta College Faculty AI Philosophy Statement” to emphasize that this is meant to reflect the views of faculty; another option for this would be naming it “Academic Senate AI Philosophy Statement.” Sara McCurry proposed adding in the phrase “equal access and inclusive practices” to the “Student Empowerment” section to acknowledge these particular goals. Jacquelyn Horton noted that the AI Task Force has been looking at other areas where AI policy statements are being developed, and Will Breitbach shared that there is a legal statement on AI use being developed, and it will cover areas such as privacy and data security. Cathy stated that she will send the updated statement to College Council, Instructional Council, the AI Task Force, and all faculty for review.

5. Project-Based Discussion/Action Items

- These agenda items will vary to reflect the current projects that the Academic Senate is working on.

None at this meeting

6. Standing Reports from Subcommittees, Joint Committees, and Related Groups

- Facilitator: Cathy Anderson
- Purpose and Expected Outcome: Subcommittees, Joint Committees, and related groups are invited to update the Executive Committee about their current work. No action will be taken under these agenda items.
 - a. Report from the Academic Senate President (Cathy Anderson)
No report.
 - b. Report from College Council (Will Breitbach or Cathy Anderson)
Will Breitbach thanked faculty who provided feedback on the draft of the combined Educational Master Plan and Strategic Plan.
 - c. Reports from Standing Subcommittees (Reports are given by the Co-Chairs or members as needed)
 - i. Curriculum Committee (Co-Chairs: Scott Yates and Mike Mari)
Scott Yates reminded everyone that the new curriculum year has started. Also, CurricUNET will be replaced with a new system called Maverick in the Fall. Will Breitbach stated that he would have the FEC save a spot on the Fall Welcome Back Day schedule that could be dedicated to training faculty on this new system.
 - ii. Scholastic Standards Committee (Co-Chairs: Lenore Watson and Jamie Spielmann)
No report.

iii. Faculty Excellence Committee (Co-Chairs: Valerie Ambrose and Will Breitbart)
No report.

iv. General Education Committee (Co-Chairs: Rebecka Renfer and Stacey Bartlett)
No report.

v. SLO Committee (Co-Chairs: Kimberly Carlson and Will Breitbart)
Kimberly Carlson reported that the committee has developed a survey that will be sent to part-time faculty to help determine why there has been low reporting rates among part-time instructors for SLO results.

d. Reports from Joint Committees (Reports are given by the Co-Chairs or delegate as needed)

i. Student Success Committee (Tri-Chairs: Kate Mahar, Bex Davis, and Heather Wylie)
No report.

e. Professional Development Coordinator (Valerie Ambrose)
No report.

f. Office of Instruction (Mike Mari)
Mike Mari reported that Jessica Knight has been appointed interim Dean of SLAM. Three more hiring committees have been announced, and there will likely be a new faculty hiring priorities ranking needed soon.

7. Items to Communicate

- Facilitator: Cathy Anderson
- Purpose and Expected Outcome: This agenda item is an opportunity for members to collectively summarize the important outcomes from the meeting. This will encourage communication between representatives and faculty in their areas.

The following items were recognized as important to share with colleagues: Basic Needs Report; CurricUNET transitioning to Maverick (Curriculum Committee representatives will be sending out information about this); updated AI Philosophy Statement.

8. Other

- Facilitator: Cathy Anderson
 - Purpose and Expected Outcome: This agenda item is for members to bring up topics not on the agenda. This is also an opportunity to determine interest in a possible future agenda item topic. No action will be taken under this agenda item.
- a. Carie Rosensteel reminded everyone that the deadline for submitting nominations for the Excellent Educator Award is at the end of this week.
 - b. Lenore Watson reminded everyone that the AI Community of Practice will be holding its first meeting of the semester this Thursday at 3:30 in room 1109.
 - c. Jamie Spielmann encouraged instructors who are considering cancelling one of their class meetings to instead schedule a Transfer Center presentation for their class.

9. Opportunity for Public Comment

- Facilitator: Cathy Anderson
- Purpose and Expected Outcome: This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Executive Committee on any matter not on the agenda. No action will be taken under this agenda item. Speakers are limited to three minutes.

10. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

11. Next Meeting: Monday, March 9, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 1101

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