Academic Senate
MINUTES
Monday, October 12, 2026
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Room 1101

Executive Committee Members Present					
x	Cathy Anderson		Kari Aranbul	x	Chase Brown
x	Erick Calderon	x	David Cooper	x	Jennifer Costillo
x	Scott Croes	x	Cheryl Cruse	x	Bethany Davis
x	Leo Fong	x	Chelsea Hendershot	x	Jacquelyn Horton
	Jason Judd	x	Jun Ma	x	Andrew Nail
	Lisa Riggs		Chris Rodriguez	x	Alan Spivey
x	Joanne Tippin	x	Robert Waldren		
x	Mike Mari (N/V)	x	Scott Yates (N/V)		Rebecka Renfer (N/V)
	Kimberly Carlson (N/V)				
Other Faculty Present					
Guests					
x	Will Breitbach	x	Tim Johnston	x	Carie Rosensteel
x	Buffy Tanner	x	Amy Thompson	x	Craig Thompson
x	Heather Wylie				

1. Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes—September 28, 2026 (1 attachment): Scott Croes moved to approve the September 28th minutes; seconded by Jennifer Costillo. 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. None at this meeting

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: (1 attachment)

    i. There are two new courses that have been approved by the Curriculum Committee:
        - **CHIN 2 Mandarin Chinese 2** – New Course w/DE, 5 units
        - **CHIN 3 Mandarin Chinese 3** – New Course w/DE, 5 units

    Scott Yates explained that World Languages has been working on expanding its Chinese language program with these new courses. Chase Brown moved to approve the two new courses listed above; seconded by Jun Ma. Motion carried with one abstention (David Cooper).

    ii. There are five new courses with competencies that have been approved by the Curriculum Committee:
        - **AGAT 351 Agriculture Technical Literacy**
            - **AGAT 351A.CB Digital Literacy**
            - **AGAT 351B.CB Applied Technical Reading**
            - **AGAT 351C.CB Applied Technical Writing**
        - **AGAT 352 Agricultural Systems**
            - **AGAT 352A.CB General Agricultural Systems Fundamentals**
            - **AGAT 352B.CB Animal Production Systems**
            - **AGAT 352C.CB Crop Production Systems**
        - **AGAT 353 Agricultural Safety**
            - **AGAT 353A.CB Basic Safety**
            - **AGAT 353B.CB Tool Operation**
            - **AGAT 353C.CB Food Safety**
        - **AGAT 354 Equipment Operation, Configuration, and Troubleshooting**
            - **AGAT 354A.CB Basic Equipment Operation**
            - **AGAT 354B.CB Basic Equipment Configuration**
            - **AGAT 354C.CB Basic Equipment Troubleshooting**
        - **AGAT 355 Workplace Effectiveness**
            - **AGAT 355A.CB Industry Communications**
            - **AGAT 355B.CB Employability Skills**

Buffy Tanner explained that these are courses that include multiple competencies, and she briefly described how competency-based courses work. These courses and competencies comprise the Agriculture Systems non-credit certificate program described below in item 4.a.iii. Alan Spivey moved to approve the five new courses and competencies listed above; seconded by Andrew Nail. Motion carried unanimously.

New, Revised, or Reactivated Programs: (1 attachment)

iii. There is one new noncredit certificate program that has been approved by the Curriculum Committee:

- **AGRICULTURE SYSTEMS - AGRICULTURE FOUNDATIONS NCR.1009**

Buffy Tanner explained that this noncredit, competency-based certificate program was established two years ago by six different community colleges; the program was developed recognizing that farmworkers have certain skills already and this competency-based certificate program is designed to supplement these by providing training in additional skills. Although this is currently a noncredit, competency-based certificate program, it will later be also offered as a for-credit certificate program. Buffy noted that the program will be based out of our Tehama campus. Instruction will be online, with content in both English and Spanish; assessments and labs will be in-person. Chelsea Hendershot moved to approve the Agriculture Systems—Agriculture Foundations noncredit certificate program; seconded by Chase Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

b. From the Office of Instruction

Tenure Review Committees/Mentors and Fulltime Temporary Evaluations: (1 attachment)

i. There are proposed changes to two Tenure Review Committees:

- Proposed TRC for Brian McElhenny (Physics)—Tenure-Track:
  - Chair: Heather Wylie
  - TRC Member: David Carico
  - TRC Member: Randy Reed
  - TRC Member: Jaime Larson (replacing Alan Beamer)
  - Mentor: Jen McCandless
- Proposed TRC for Savannah Houston (Engineering)—Tenure Track:
  - Chair: Heather Wylie
  - TRC Member: Cathy Anderson
  - TRC Member: Matt Evans
  - TRC Member: Jessica Colwell (replacing Alan Beamer)

Scott Croes moved to approve the proposed changes to the TRCs listed above; seconded by Jun Ma. Motion carried unanimously.

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]
Amy Thompson noted only one change since our first reading. Alan Spivey moved to approve AP 5050; seconded by Jacquelyn Horton. Motion carried unanimously.

ii. **AP 5055** – Enrollment Priorities [Revised, Suggested as Good Practice]
Amy Thompson noted that there were no changes made to this AP since our first reading. Chase Brown moved to approve AP 5055; seconded by Scott Croes. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Sample Syllabus Template—Mike Mari (1 attachment)
- It was noticed that the template does not include "Course Content". Do we want to add "Course Content" to the template?

Mike Mari explained that the Course Content section was inadvertently left off the latest sample syllabus template. Chase Brown moved to add Course Content to the sample syllabus template; seconded by Alan Spivey. Motion carried unanimously.

e. The Future of AI Tools on the College Dashboard
- The IT Department is seeking guidance from the Academic Senate on the future deployment of AI tools to students. This is a continuation of our discussion at the last meeting. We will be discussing the pros and cons of adding AI apps to the student dashboard. We have the goal of making a recommendation to IT by the end of this semester.

David Cooper stated that he shared this with the AI Community of Practice, which will be meeting this Thursday, and he plans on bringing any feedback to share at our next Senate meeting. Chelsea Hendershot noted that Business faculty support including the AI tools but with safeguards, such as perhaps having a brief, mandatory orientation or tutorial before students can use any of the AI tools, as well as a clear, explicit statement that students need to follow the AI use policies in their syllabi. Jennifer Costillo also reported that the feedback that she received from two DAPS faculty was in favor of adding the AI tools but with clear guidelines for responsible use. Cathy Anderson

encouraged everyone to seek more input from their colleagues so that we can continue our conversation and be able to offer IT our recommendations at the end of the semester.

5. Project-Based Discussion/Action Items
   - These agenda items will vary to reflect the current projects that the Academic Senate is working on.

   a. AI Project (2 attachments)
      - To Do List:
        - Develop a Philosophy Statement for faculty (done)
        - Review and update AP/BP 5500 (a workgroup has been established with a goal of fall)
        - Develop suggested guidelines for course syllabi (done)

      Chase Brown presented the recommended changes to AP 5500 and BP 5500 that were developed by the workgroup. With BP 5500, changes were minor ones consisting of grammatical corrections and changing the bulleted list to a numbered list. Chase explained that changes to AP 5500 were aimed at addressing the "human side" of academic dishonesty and discipline, and he reviewed the procedural details that were added. Some of the changes were updates that reflected changes in technology and a move away from a general dishonesty policy to one that highlighted AI. This updated language will need to be incorporated into syllabi. This could be added to the recommended syllabus language for AI use policy that was developed earlier by the AI Task Force, and division offices can check for these in syllabi. Tim Johnston recommended keeping the final sentence in the section "Academic Honesty Violation Procedure Recommended for Faculty" that was deleted: "If the instructor is not requesting additional action be taken, it is recommended that they submit the form anyway so that a centralized file of academic dishonesty incidents can be kept and further action can be taken if deemed appropriate." David Cooper suggested changing "centralized file" to "documentation" or perhaps something more specific. Erick Calderon suggested adding in reminders in Canvas to reinforce student awareness of AI use policies. Alan Spivey moved to send the revised AP 5500 and BP 5500 through the approval process with the restoration of the final sentence in the section "Academic Honesty Violation Procedure Recommended for Faculty" that was deleted, along with the change from "centralized file" to "documentation"; seconded by David Cooper. Motion carried unanimously.

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 reported that College Council has completed revisions to the annual planning template. Cathy Anderson stated that she will start forwarding agendas for

College Council meetings to faculty to raise awareness of the work that College Council does; she will also include a brief introduction to College Council's role and purview.

c. Reports from Standing Subcommittees (Reports are given by the Co-Chairs or members as needed)

i. Curriculum Committee (Co-Chairs: Scott Yates, Mike Mari)
Mike Mari reminded everyone that the deadline to the extension for submission of five-year reviews is coming up.

ii. Scholastic Standards Committee (Co-Chairs: Lenore Watson, Jamie Spielmann)
No report.

iii. Faculty Excellence Committee (Co-Chairs: Valerie Ambrose, Will Breitbach)
Will Breitbach reported that planning continues for Welcome Back Day for the spring. There is also a new professional development portal that will open soon.

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

v. SLO Committee (Co-Chairs: Kimberly Carlson, Will Breitbach)
Will Breitbach reported that the committee will be reaching out to faculty who have not been reporting SLO results to offer them flex-eligible training.

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

i. Student Success Committee (Tri-Chairs: Kate Mahar, vacant, and vacant)
No report.

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

f. Office of Instruction (Mike Mari)
Mike Mari reported that Faculty Hiring Priorities Committee met today and will bring their final ranking to Senate.

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: Get input on the addition of AI tools on the student apps dashboard; the new Agriculture Systems non-credit certificate program.

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. Alan Spivey reported on the Area A meeting of ASCCC that was held on October 9th. He also sent out an email on the proposed resolutions for the Fall Plenary. A major issue is transferability to CSU and UC of general education coursework completed at California Community Colleges. This was triggered mainly by CSU math departments making a non-binding resolution requiring proctoring of exams for online courses at community colleges; this resolution would void articulation agreements that would impact transfers, and it is also a matter of academic freedom. Alan explained that there are two resolutions on this that will be brought to Fall Plenary, and he encouraged everyone to read them and advise him on which one to support.
b. Chase Brown noted that Justina Meeder sent out a call for nominations for Excellent Educator. The deadline for nominations will be February 28, 2027.
c. Jacquelyn Horton announced that the Bistro is now open and will feature a buffet format this week.

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 4:36 p.m.

11. Next Meeting: Monday, October 26, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 1101

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