



ACADEMIC SENATE – SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 2, 2025
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION: LRC 250 COMMUNITY ROOM

Guests may attend on Zoom: <https://cccd-edu.zoom.us/j/89547456221> | Meeting ID: 895 4745 6221
Meeting documents are also available in the [AS SharePoint](#) (CCCD login required)

Mission: The Golden West College Academic Senate’s mission is to serve its faculty, promote the best interests of higher education, and to represent the faculty in campus, district, and state-level senate charges by carrying out the primary functions as delineated in the CA Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 53200, which includes both academic and professional matters, and consulting collegially with the local campus and district governing boards. For additional information on the Academic Senate and its mission, please visit the [Academic Senate for California Community Colleges](#).

Vision: The GWC Academic Senate represents all faculty in the shared governance process. We are deeply committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for faculty to express their diverse viewpoints and concerns while maintaining focus on curricular and professional activities. Our campus culture serves to express the collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, innovation, self-expression, and talent that our faculty invest in their work. The GWC Academic Senate will continue to focus on promoting excellence, access, opportunity, and inclusion on our campus and in our programs.

Please note: All GWC Academic Senate meetings are subject to audio and/or video recording at the Academic Senate’s discretion to maintain a record of the proceedings. Agendas and minutes will be archived in [the Academic Senate’s SharePoint](#).

| ACADEMIC SENATE ROLL CALL | |
|---|---|
| Bold = Executive Board ■ Strikethrough = absent ■ <i>Italics</i> = Zoom ■ Zoom guest = not counted towards quorum | |
| Jennifer Bailly – CCI Chair | Phuong Nguyen – Nursing/Health Professions |
| Amanda Best – Arts | Teresa Nguyen – ELL/ESL/GED |
| <i>Pete Bouzar</i> – Mathematics & Engineering (<i>Zoom guest</i>) | Joel Powell – Social Sciences (ECON, PSCI, SOC, ES) |
| Dawn Brooks – Performing Arts | Tiffany Ruggeri Delillo (Comm Studies) – Part-time Faculty At-large |
| Annamaria Crescimanno – Vice President Biological Sciences | Matthew Shimazu – Physical Sciences |
| Laura Duvall – Psychology | Justin Smith – President History & Education |
| Sharon Fabian – ASGWC (<i>non-voting</i>) | Julie Terrazas – Library |
| Kate Green (Chemistry) – IPD Chair | Tammie Tran – World Languages (SIGN, INTR, SPAN, VIET) |
| Connie Heavener – Cosmetology (PT) | Aleksandra Uchlik – Business, Account, Computer Science (MNGT, MKTG) |
| Damien Jordan – Vice President Counseling & EOPS | Michelle Veyette (English PT) – Distance Education Coordinator (<i>non-voting</i>) |
| <i>John Kasabian</i> – Auto Tech, Digital Arts, Drafting | VACANT – Classified Senate (<i>non-voting</i>) |
| John Lervold – Communication Studies | VACANT – Criminal Justice |
| Theresa Lavarini – English | VACANT – Kinesiology, Health Ed, Athletics |
| Noah Levin – Liberal Arts & Culture (ANTH, GEOG, GLST, PHIL) | |

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- A. Call to order – Justin Smith, AS President
President Smith called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.
- B. Welcome Guest
 1. Meridith Randall, GWC President (1:10 pm)
- C. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes
- D. Agenda – December 2, 2025. President Smith requested to amend the agenda to designate the Kinesiology, Health Education, and Athletics position as vacant following Senator Flesher’s resignation due to class scheduling conflicts. **MOTION** by VP Jordan to approve the amended agenda. Seconded by Senator Lavarini. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.
- E. Announcements, Congratulations, and Appreciation
- F. Opportunity for Public Comment (*3 minutes per speaker*) - *Members of the public have the opportunity to address the Academic Senate on any item that has been described in this notice, before or during consideration of the item. We ask that you keep your comments to three minutes. Thank you.*

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Appointment of the following faculty members to the following committees:
MOTION by VP Jordan to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Senator Brooks. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

| | FACULTY | DISCIPLINE | COMMITTEE | POSITION | TERM |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| 1 | Rachel Wegter | Communication Studies | Honors Program Work Group | Full-time Faculty | F2025 |

Fall 2025 Faculty Requests: Search Committees - *Approval is contingent upon the college president's final hiring decision.*

| | FACULTY | DISCIPLINE | COMMITTEE | POSITION | TERM |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| 2 | AJ Edmonds | Computer Science (MS Engineering) | Search Committee – Engineering | (3) Full-time Discipline Faculty | F2025 |
| 3 | Angelo Esposito (OCC) | Engineering | | | |
| 4 | Gita Alemansour | Mathematics (BS Engineering) | | | |
| 5 | Joel Powell | Political Science | Search Committee – Political Science | (3) Full-time Discipline Faculty | F2025 |
| 6 | Herman Singh | Economics | | | |
| 7 | Vesna Marcina Kuo (OCC) | Political Science | | | |

III. NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Full and Part-Time Faculty members are encouraged to nominate themselves.

Visit the [Academic Senate’s Faculty Service Opportunities webpage](#) to view committee openings, review committee descriptions, meeting information, and to submit your nomination. (PATHWAY: GWC Homepage > Quick Links > Academic Senate > Committees – Vacancies & Nominations)

- A. Call for terms starting Fall 2025 - Academic Senate and standing committees.
 Vacancies will remain open until filled. Nominations submitted by noon on the Friday before a Senate meeting will be included on the agenda for committee appointment. Refer to the [Committee vacancies and nomination spreadsheet](#) to access the nomination forms.
- Academic Senate | Term: three years (2025-28) unless otherwise specified
 - Classified Senate | 2025-27
 - Criminal Justice | Fall 2025
 - Council for Curriculum & Instruction (CCI) | Term: three years
 - Kinesiology, Health Ed, Athletics | 2025-28
 - Part-time Faculty Member At-Large |
 - Distance Education Advisory Committee (DEAC) | Term: three years unless otherwise specified
 - Computer Science | 2023-26
 - Criminal Justice | 2024-27
 - Social Sciences
 - Institute for Professional Development (IPD) | Term: three years unless otherwise specified
 - Automotive Technology, Digital Arts, Drafting | 2024-27
 - Criminal Justice | 2025-28
 - Library | 2024-27

IV. GUEST REPORTS & UPDATES (max 5 minutes per item; 5-10 minutes total)

- A. ASGWC Report – Sharon Fabian, ASGWC President (no report)
 B. Faculty Hiring Update – Meridith Randall, GWC President (1:10 pm) [\[Faculty Hiring for 2026-27 Memo\]](#)
 President Randall reported that the three college presidents were asked to bring forward their hiring requests directly to the Chancellor’s Cabinet. Four positions were submitted, all from the top six in the AS prioritization list: Ethnic Studies/Chicano Studies, Communication Studies, Political Science, and an

Engineering/Physics/Mathematics combination position, with final emphasis to be determined by the hiring committee. She stated that the Transfer Counselor position was not resubmitted because it had been previously denied at the district level, and no new justification was available.

- All four requested faculty positions were approved, contributing to key transfer-supporting areas. District-wide, 15 faculty positions were approved; OCC expects 10–12 retirements. The AS Office will share President Randall’s “Faculty Hiring for 2026-27” memo with the Senators.
- Preapproved hiring committees allow announcements potentially before winter break; early spring hiring is possible if committees start promptly. HR will be asked to convene committees next week; President Smith will confirm the Communication Studies search committee and include it on the next consent agenda.
- No dedicated funding for future new positions; growth driven by demand. February allocations may allow a one-year Transfer Counselor position. High-demand areas like Ethnic Studies, Communication Studies, and Political Science are expected to generate enrollment to support positions.
- One-time statewide allocation of \$150,000 per college, plus a district pool of \$1.5M, to be divided among colleges. Allocation debate ongoing; funding may support a one-year full-time transfer counselor. Transfer Counselor position may be resubmitted next year if prioritized.
- Chancellor’s Cabinet requests hiring recommendations by November 9 next year; the AS was asked to adjust prioritization timelines accordingly. VP Jordan noted the new Program Review cycle begins next year; department meetings were recommended to be scheduled during Flex Day.
- Interest in reducing/not increasing FON as the District exceeds obligations. No state-mandated limits for managers; college presidents decide numbers, with Cabinet approval for new positions. Recent college management reductions strengthened the faculty hiring case.
- District costs (~\$50M) vs. college allocation (~\$60M) raise concerns. Faculty generate FTES and enrollment (“productive positions”); President Randall emphasized that funding must prioritize faculty over non-productive positions.
- President Smith thanked President Randall for advancing the hiring requests and collaborating closely throughout the process. President Randall acknowledged that the Senate’s thoughtful prioritization made a strong impression on the Chancellor and significantly simplified her work. She contrasted this with another college that lacked a coherent prioritization list, emphasizing her gratitude for the clarity and support provided.

V. NEW DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS *(max 5 minutes per item; 5-10 minutes total)*

- A. Role of AS in addressing systemic inequity and institutional barriers as it pertains to academic and professional matters - Acknowledgement * Accountability * Action
 1. Faculty Prioritization Feedback – Justin Smith, AS President *(removed from the agenda)*
- B. Other Agenda Requests

VII. STANDING DISCUSSIONS & ACTION ITEMS *(max 5 minutes)*

- A. Program Review
- B. AI (Artificial Intelligence)
- C. 10 + 1

VIII. REPORTS & UPDATES *(max 3 minutes per report; total time 15 minutes (@ 2:45 pm)*

Electronic copies of written reports are due to the Senate Office by Thursday at 5:00 pm the week preceding the meeting for which the report is attached to the agenda.

- A. AS President’s Report – Justin Smith
 - The link in the informational items provides notes from the ASCCC Fall Plenary. The next agenda will include the voting results for the resolutions.
- B. AS Vice Presidents’ Reports – Damien Jordan (no report) and Annamaria Crescimanno (no report)
- C. Council for Curriculum & Instruction (CCI) – Jennifer Bailly, Chair (N/A)
- D. Institute for Professional Development (IPD) – Kate Green, Chair (no report)
- E. Distance Education Advisory Committee (DEAC) – Michelle Veyette, DE Coordinator (N/A)
- F. Union Update – Theresa Lavarini, GWC Executive Director (no report)
- G. Special Reports (as requested by Academic Senate)

H. Information Item

1. [ASCCC 2025 Fall Plenary Notes](#)

X. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Move to Adjourn. Thank You! – Senate President
President Smith adjourned the meeting at 1:23 pm.

XI. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Senate Scholarship Fund Balance: Endowed balance: \$7,417. Recommended 2025-26 scholarship: \$370 (*Contact the Foundation Office to submit donations*)
- B. Senate Sympathy and Salutations Fund – (*Senators may contact the Foundation Office to submit donations*)
- C. 10+1 Senate Purview
 1. Curriculum including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines (*rely primarily*)
 2. Degree and certificate requirements (*rely primarily*)
 3. Grading policies (*mutually agree*)
 4. Educational program development (*rely primarily*)
 5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success (*rely primarily*)
 6. District and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles (*mutually agree*)
 7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports (*rely primarily*)
 8. Policies for faculty professional development activities (*rely primarily*)
 9. Processes for program review (*rely primarily*)
 10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development (*mutually agree*)
 11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate (*mutually agree*)