



**ACADEMIC SENATE**  
CSU BAKERSFIELD

## Academic Senate Meeting – Spring 2025

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Minutes

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

**Location:** Dezember Leadership and Development Center, Room 409-411

**Zoom Link:** <https://csu.zoom.us/j/89047995676?pwd=VEdFQVJkZTk5UUVzblQyNDR4UkZrUT09>

**Senate Members:** Chair M. Danforth, Vice-Chair D. Solano, Senator A. Hegde, Senator C. Lam, Senator N. Michieka (virtual), Senator T. Tsantsoulas, Senator M. Naser, Senator D. Wu, Senator S. Sarma, Senator L. Kirstein, Senator A. Stokes, Senator Z. Zenko, Senator S. Roberts, Senator K. Holloway (virtual), Senator H. He, Senator A. Grombly, Senator E. Correa (virtual), Senator J. Deal, Senator R. Dugan, Senator T. Salisbury, Senator J. Cornelison, Senator E. Pruitt, Interim Provost J. Rodriguez, Senator J. Dong and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven.

**Guests:** President V. Harper, C. Diniz, D. Boschini, E. Adams, D. Cantrell, and L. Vega.

**Virtual Guests:** E. Knopp, C. Livingston, B. Mendiola, J. Clayton, K. Lopez, J. Mabry, N. Saucedo, Y. Morones, L. Blodorn, S. Marks, S. Gaitan, M. Miller, T. Holliwell, D. Valdez Arranaga, V. Mayorga, D. Stowe, G. Herrera, J. Henley, S. Bozarth, J. Luna, V. Bethea-Amey, J. Paschal, K. Lattimore, E. Barnes, M. Hernandez, O. Ribaya, E. Garibay, E. Poole Callahan, A. Rodriguez, I. Monroy, K. Deford, J. Self, K. Watson, I. Pesco, A. Sanchez, D. Cours, S. Gonzalez, M. Malhotra, T. Hickey, L. Paris, F. Sanchez, E. Sanchez, J. Nmah, D. Wilson, M. Whisler, A. Sixtos, K. Carmona, K. Seward, G. Guizar, L. Hernandez, S. Flores, S. Gamboa, L. Bui, Y. Moreno, S. Marks, and M. Ruiz.

- I. Call to Order and Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement
  - a. Chair Danforth called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM and read the Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement.
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - a. January 30, 2025 (handout)
    - i. Senator Deal motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Senator Kirstein. Minutes approved.

### III. Announcements and Information

#### a. President's Report – V. Harper **(Time Certain: 10:10 AM)**

##### i. Events and Travel Recap:

1. President Harper recently traveled to Utah and Indianapolis.
2. There were many successful events the past few weeks, including the Unity Breakfast, and Gospel Fest.
3. President's Open Forum will be rescheduled from February 17 to a later date.
4. A significant gift announcement will be distributed shortly.
5. Mr. Heath Niemeyer has been directly appointed as Vice-President for University Advancement. Direct appointments such as this are rare and not conducted lightly.
6. Met with the Academic Senate Executive Committee this past week and will be meeting with the CFA soon as well.
7. Spring Budget Forum will be hosted on March 17 by BPC and Interim Vice-President for BAS/CFO and Chief of Staff, Dr. Kristen Watson.
8. The Campus Cultural Assessment Committee will be meeting today to begin their work. The committee has been tasked with developing survey instruments to evaluate campus climate. Senator Salisbury is the co-chair of the committee. The committee's work will help with reshaping the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.
9. Community Leaders: Thanked Mark Martinez, Interim Provost Rodriguez, Nate Olson and Jasmine Padilla. The Kegley speaker will be addressing topics related to undocumented students and knowing your rights.
10. Athletics: Men's Basketball is in 8<sup>th</sup> place and set to be in the Big West Tournament. The game tonight will be honoring the Buffalo Soldiers. He also recently attended wrestling matches. The opening game for baseball will take place tomorrow, February 14. First Lady, Dr. E. Harper, will do the first pitch.

11. Open Forum: No discussion or questions.

#### b. Elections and Appointments – D. Solano (handout)

- i. See attached handout. No discussion.

#### c. Events:

- i. Monday, February 17 at 1:30 PM – President's Open Forum; Student Union MPR and Zoom

- ii. Monday, March 17 – Spring Budget Forum; time and location TBD
- iii. Commencement Dates Finalized:
  - 1. Friday, May 16 at 7:45 AM – Graduate Hooding Ceremony
  - 2. Saturday, May 17 at 8:00 AM – SSE Undergraduate Ceremony
  - 3. Saturday, May 17 at 6:00 PM – A&H, BPA and NSME Undergraduate Ceremony
- d. Amendment: Senate Vote - Proposed Discontinuation of the Anthropology BA and MA Degrees- Vote Needed (handout)
  - 1. Senate Chair Danforth presented the Proposed Discontinuation of the Anthropology MA and BA programs, in which a lecturer has submitted an objection to the discontinuation. The current policy does not give lecturers standing to object; however, Senate does have a standing to object if a majority vote is conducted. Senate Chair Danforth called to vote to if the Senate approves for a Special Review Committee to be convened to review the proposed discontinuation. Vote conducted: 17 in support, 0 against, and 2 abstentions. The Special Committee will be convened. The Academic Senate Executive Committee will issue a memorandum to Interim Provost Rodriguez and will discuss convening the committee.

#### IV. Approval of Agenda **(Time Certain: 10:05 AM)**

- a. Amendments: Senator Zenko proposed for Resolutions to be moved to a time certain of 10:20 AM. RES 242515 prioritized. A. Hegde: Procedurally, RES 242520 Appointment of a Special Review Committee for the Discontinuation of the Anthropology BA and MA Degrees, does not require a resolution. The policy allows for a simple majority vote by the Senate.
- b. Amended agenda proposed by Senator Hedge; seconded by Senator Salisbury. Motion carried; amended agenda approved.

#### V. Reports

- a. Interim Provost's Report – J. Rodriguez (deferred)
- b. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka (deferred)
- c. ASI Report – Senator Pruitt
  - i. Upcoming Event: Students for Solidarity March will take place on Wednesday, February 19 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Student Union Patio.
  - ii. Senator Lam: Requested a reminder to be sent out to the students regarding the upcoming election.

- d. Staff Report – Senator Cornelison (deferred)
- e. Committee Reports: (deferred)
  - i. Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Solano (handout)
  - ii. Standing Committees:
    - 1. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC)– Senator Deal (handout)
    - 2. Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS)– Senator Tsantsoulas (handout)
    - 3. Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) – Senator Wu (handout)
    - 4. Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Senator Zenko (handout)
- f. CFA Report – Senator Salisbury (deferred)

VI. Resolutions (**Time Certain: 10:35 Amended: 10:20 AM**)

- a. Consent Agenda: No items.
- b. Old Business:
  - i. RES 242509 – Search and Screening Procedures for Administrators – FAC and BPC (handout)
    - 1. Senator Zenko and Senator Wu presented the resolution for second reading. No changes were made.
    - 2. Discussion:
      - a. President Harper: Spoke in support of the resolution and believes it is a good example of shared governance policies for moving forward.
      - b. Senator Hegde: 309.9 Administrator titles need to be updated. For example, there is no longer an “Associate Vice President for CSU Bakersfield Antelope Valley.” Senate Chair Danforth: Will add this item to the growing list of updates needed for the University Handbook.
    - 3. The majority voted in support of the resolution. Motion carried; resolution passed.
  - ii. RES 242515 – Bylaws and Handbook Changes in Response to ASCSU Constitution Ratification – FAC (handout)
    - 1. Senator Zenko presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC. No additional discussion ensued.
    - 2. Majority in favor of the resolution; motion carried. Resolution passed.
  - iii. RES 242510 – Process and Timeline of SOCI Administration – FAC and AAC (handout)

1. Senator Zenko presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC and AAC.
2. Discussion/ Feedback:
  - a. Regarding 305.4.2.6: "33.3% in the evaluation of teaching."
    - i. Senator Hegde proposed amendments to remove the 33.3%. Senator Tsantsoulas and Senator Holloway had additional comments regarding this portion of the resolution and proposed amendments.
    - ii. Senator Deal: San Marcos requires SOCIs to be completed and in the PAF packet and require, as opposed to recommend, that faculty respond and reflect on trends evident in the SOCIs.
    - iii. Senator Stokes voiced concerns that the suggested amendments would encourage more to not complete SOCIs at all.
    - iv. Interim Provost Rodriguez stated that SOCIs are to be used as a tool for continuous improvement.
    - v. Senator Salisbury: For lecturers, SOCIs are one of only two tools used in the evaluation of their teaching effectiveness. Senator Salisbury believes more discussion is needed on this topic and resolution.
    - vi. Senator Naser believes the goal of the resolution is to remove the biases, not remove SOCIs and spoke in support of the 33%.
    - vii. Senator Lam has participated on URC as Chair. Most Unit Review Committees are reasonable, and the suggested changes may cause issues with at the Unit Evaluation and Dean evaluation levels.
    - viii. D. Wu spoke in support of the amendment proposed by Senator Hegde and believes the student perception is that SOCIs are useless.
    - ix. Vice-Chair Solano believes it becomes open to interpretation if the percentage is removed from the proposed resolution.
    - x. Senator Zenko spoke against the proposed amendment. Discussion ensued.

- xi. J. Deal seconded the proposed amendment. Chair Danforth called for the Senators to vote. Results: majority not in support; two abstentions. The amendment did not pass.
- xii. Motion was made to send the resolution back to the subcommittees for further discussion. Motion seconded by J. Deal. All Senators voted in favor; motion carried and sent back to AAC and FAC.

c. New Business:

- i. ~~RES 242520 – Appointment of a Special Review Committee for the Discontinuation of the Anthropology BA and MA Degrees – EC (handout)~~  
(Amendment- moved to Senate Vote)
- ii. RES 242516 – New PG-NEC Certification Program – BPC and AAC (handout)
  - 1. Senator Deal presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AAC and BPC.
  - 2. Discussion:
    - a. Senator Wu: BPC had an additional question that Senator He responded to. The email was attached to the proposal.
    - b. Senator He: Please reach out to Senator He if there are any additional questions or background information needed.
    - c. Appreciation and pride in the Nursing Faculty was expressed by Senator Dong. From a resource perspective, Nursing has a very constraining environment, and this program would be a revenue generating.
    - d. Interim Provost Rodriguez conveyed that there have been extensive discussions and analysis of the revenue and costs for this program.
    - e. Vice-Chair Solano asked a question regarding if the resources were to change, and the certificate could no longer be offered, it would not be an issue for students to be able to graduate?  
Answered by Senator He: No. It would not.
    - f. Senator Salisbury: Speaks in support of this resolution and certificates in general. Thinks certificates are underutilized at CSUB. They attract students and bring students back to the university for further education.
    - g. Senator Pruitt: From the student perspective; the biggest competition is Bakersfield College. This is a good opportunity to grow the Nursing program by drawing students to CSUB from the

Los Angeles area, increased partnerships within the community and healthcare opportunities in Kern County and increase enrollment.

- iii. RES 242517 – Proposal for Elevation of a Concentration to Degree- BA in Ethnic Studies – BPC and AAC (handout)
  - a. AAC Chair, Senator Deal, presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of BPC and AAC. Senator Wu, BPC Chair added that the proposed degree would be supported by the existing resources and that additional communication took place between Senator Salisbury and BPC to clarify a few items. Senator Deal: The supporting documents for the resolution will be updated when the resolution comes back to Senate for second reading.
- 2. Discussion:
  - a. Senator Hedge: Suggested adding language in the resolved portion of the resolution to clarify that this degree would be housed in the Department of Ethnic Studies. From a resource perspective, Ethnic studies is the only program with a line item in the budget provided by the CSU Chancellor's Office.
- iv. RES 242518 – Academic Advising Structure Is an Academic Endeavor – AS&SS (handout)
  - 1. Senator Tsantsoulas presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AS&SS.
  - 2. Discussion/ Feedback:
    - a. Senator Cornelison: The Professional Academic Advisors Collaborative (PAAC) have written a statement providing feedback to AS&SS regarding this proposed resolution (PAAC Memo 1-see attached handout).
      - i. Summary of the statement read by Senator Cornelison on behalf of the PPAC: With the reorganization of Academic Advising under the Division of Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Support, they understand and support the need for collaboration with faculty to ensure the best outcome for students. The advisors believe that they are often excluded from important developmental policies and procedures that are directly related to academic advising, which reflects a lack of respect for their expertise and critical role in student success. They

recognize that growth and development is an important aspect of ensuring the students receive the support they need and that consistency can be improved in advising practices. The success of any advising model depends on all parties, including academic advisors, staff, faculty, students and administrators, be willing to listen, reflect, and adapt to what is needed to serve and support the students best. A collaborative approach will lead to more effective structures and supports, ultimately benefiting the students.

- b. Senator Salisbury spoke in support of the Academic Advisors' stance and believes there is significant inequity regarding faculty advising and how it varies amongst departments.
- v. RES 242519 – Interim Director of Academic Advising Report Extension – AS&SS (handout)
  - 1. Senator Tsantsoulas presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AS&SS.
  - 2. Discussion/ Feedback:
    - a. Senator Cornelison: The Professional Academic Advisors Collaborative (PAAC) have written a statement providing feedback to AS&SS regarding this proposed resolution (PAAC Memo 2-see attached handout).
      - i. Summary of statement read by Senator Cornelison on behalf of PAAC: The Academic advisors find the requirement for the Interim Director of Advising to submit a report within 30 days of returning to campus to be unfair and inconsistent. They do not believe the previous interim director had the same deadline, which raises equity concerns. Upon her return, the Interim Director will need to focus on preparing for the NACADA's visit—an external and well-respected organization that will be evaluating advising practices and providing comprehensive feedback. Requiring a separate report seems redundant when NACADA's findings will offer an objective and research-based assessment of advising at CSUB. The Senate should consider accepting NACADA's recommendations as the guiding framework for improving advising policies and



practices to allow for all efforts to be aligned with national best practices and what benefits the students the most.

- ii. Senate Chair Danforth: In response to the concerns raised by the Academic Advisors, the report and deadline are not new expectations of the Interim Director.
- b. Senator Dugan spoke in support of additional time as thirty calendar days is a short timeline.
- c. Senator Naser asked when the Interim Director will be back from leave, as this may determine if an extension is appropriate.
- d. Senator Grombly spoke in support of additional time. Thirty days is too short, for example, she recently came back from sabbatical, and it has taken quite a bit of time to get caught up.
- e. Vice-Chair Solano: The NACADA will likely have different expectations, and different focuses of what they want in a report versus what CSUB is requesting. Also, with the recent reorganization of Academic Advising to be under Enrollment Management, it may be beneficial for there to be a separate CSUB report to see how that reorganization is working. Also asked when the deadline is for the NACADA report, as that may also influence the timeline.
- f. Senator Zenko: The Senate and campus are slow moving and he would rather the report be done well and effectively.

VII. Open Forum (**Time Certain: 11:15 AM**)

- a. No items.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Chair Danforth adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.

# MEMO

**TO:** Academic Senate  
**FROM:** Professional Academic Advisor Collaborative (PAAC)  
**RE:** RES 242518 - Academic Advising Structure is an Academic Endeavor

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With the reorganization of academic advising under the Division of Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Support, it is essential to reaffirm the vital connection between advising and faculty. While academic advisors understand that we will remain within the new division, we are committed to collaborating with faculty to ensure the best outcomes for students.

Currently, advisors are often excluded from developing policies and procedures related to academic advising, which reflects a lack of respect for our expertise and the critical role we play in student success. The reality is that regardless of our input, decisions seem to be made without truly considering the insights of those who engage with students on a daily basis all year round.

Academic advisors recognize that we can improve consistency in our advising practices to better support students. We are committed to ongoing growth and development to ensure that every student receives the guidance they need to succeed. If students are expressing concerns that faculty advising is not meeting their needs, then it is clear that the current model must be reevaluated. The success of any advising model depends on a willingness to listen, reflect, and adapt based on what truly serves students best. Our focus has always been, and must continue to be, on what best supports students. That means listening to their feedback and ensuring that advising policies are informed by those who have firsthand experience with their needs—academic advisors.

A collaborative approach will lead to more effective structures and supports, ultimately benefiting the students we all serve.

## **PAAC Members**

Melissa Miller, Janine Cornelison, Misty Croney, Annabelle Sanchez, Adriana Sixtos, Yvette Archuleta, Claudia Cuevas, Luis Hernandez, Gabriela Herndon, Belen Mendiola, Maricela Ramírez, Jeannie Ballesteros, Rainer Cuadras, Jeff Deguia, Glenda Guizar-Majano, Jackeline Luna, Yolanda Moreno, Elizabeth Sanchez, Helen Li, Odessa Ribaya, Jisel Barrios, Jennifer Henley, Gilverto Herrera, Irene Monroy, Yvette Morones, Feliza Sanchez, Noemy Saucedo, Dulce Valdez Arrañaga, Karen Ziegler-Lopez, Araceli Esparza, Sonia Gonzalez, Kristine McDonald

# MEMO

**TO:** Academic Senate  
**FROM:** Professional Academic Advisor Collaborative (PAAC)  
**RE:** RES 242519 - Interim Director of Academic Advising Report Extension

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Academic advisors find the recent requirement for the Interim Director of Advising to submit a report within 30 days of returning to campus to be unfair and inconsistent. The previous interim director was not held to this standard, raising concerns about the equity of this expectation.

Additionally, upon their return, the Interim Director will need to focus on preparing for NACADA's visit—an external and well-respected organization that will be evaluating advising practices and providing comprehensive feedback. Requiring a separate report seems redundant when NACADA's findings will offer an objective and research-based assessment of advising at CSUB. Instead of duplicating efforts, the Senate should accept NACADA's recommendations as the guiding framework for improving advising policies and practices.

We urge the Senate to reconsider this requirement and allow the focus to remain on NACADA's evaluation, ensuring that our efforts are aligned with national best practices and truly beneficial to students.

## **PAAC Members**

Melissa Miller, Janine Cornelison, Misty Croney, Annabelle Sanchez, Adriana Sixtos, Yvette Archuleta, Claudia Cuevas, Luis Hernandez, Gabriela Herndon, Belen Mendiola, Maricela Ramírez, Jeannie Ballesteros, Rainer Cuadras, Jeff Deguia, Glenda Guizar-Majano, Jackeline Luna, Yolanda Moreno, Elizabeth Sanchez, Helen Li, Odessa Ribaya, Jisel Barrios, Jennifer Henley, Gilverto Herrera, Irene Monroy, Yvette Morones, Feliza Sanchez, Noemy Saucedo, Dulce Valdez Arrañaga, Karen Ziegler-Lopez, Araceli Esparza, Sonia Gonzalez, Kristine McDonald