



Academic Senate Meeting – Spring 2025

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Minutes

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

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

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

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

Guests: President V. Harper, J. Self, and K. Warner.

Virtual Guests: E. Adams, J. Ballesterio, E. Barnes, V. Bethea-Amey, D. Boschini, S. Bozarth, D. Cantrell, K. Chavez, L. Clifton, S. Gaitan, A. Gómez-Navarro, N. Harris, T. Hickey, E. Knopp, K. Lattimore, K. Lopez, J. Luna, J. Mabry, M. Malhotra, S. Marks, B. Mendiola, Y. Morones, E. Navarrete Garibay, H. Niemeyer, J. Paschal, E. Poole Callahan, M. Quarles, M. Ramirez, A. Rodriquez, E. Sanchez, and K. Watson.

- I. Call to Order and Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement
 - a. Chair Danforth called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM. Delay due to waiting for quorum.
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. March 13, 2025 (deferred)
- III. Announcements and Information
 - a. President's Report – V. Harper **(Time Certain: 10:10 AM)**
 - i. Report:
 1. Recently attended the ribbon cutting for the opening of the Maker's space with the support of Chevron and thanked Senator Dong, Dean of NSME, for her hard work.
 2. The CSU Bakersfield Energy Innovation Building (EIB) plans were approved by the Board of Trustees.

3. Debrief of the Budget Open Forum: Transparency is the foundation for trust. There were mistakes made regarding the budget deficit. President Harper noted that the information shared at the open forum was not shared in cabinet for 5 years. There is additional data that the EC has requested in response to the Budget Open Forum. The additional data requested will be reviewed and processed. There is still much work to be done in order for CSUB to have a balanced budget by July 1.
4. ASI President Pruitt is an excellent example of what CSUB is as an institution, particularly evident in her advocacy efforts in Sacramento.
5. There are upcoming opportunities for feedback and discussion at the Lecturer Town Hall.
6. There is an investigation underway in Athletics. President Harper confirmed that he will hold people accountable and ensure students are safe.
7. Regarding the recent Board of Trustees meeting, a few great trustees will be leaving the board including Lillian Kimball and Doug Bagan.
8. Attended additional campus events including the theatre performance Anatomy of Gray and will be speaking at the Ethnic Studies Symposium this afternoon. CSUB has also had some athletic success including the wrestling team competing in the NCAA National Tournament.
9. Q&A/ Discussion:
 - a. Senator Pruitt thanked President Harper. The students are appreciative of the transparency and thanked Dr. Watson. The structure was very good, and they are feeling optimistic for the future in seeing this level of transparency. There were audio issues which made it difficult for Zoom attendees to hear, particularly when individuals in the audience spoke without microphones.
 - b. Senator Salisbury: As CFA President, Senator Salisbury shared that CFA was very pleased with how Interim CFO, Dr. Watson, ran the meeting and the level of transparency, which were both huge improvements from previous meetings.
 - c. Senator Correa asked President Harper how his cabinet would be different from the previous cabinet, if many of the same people were on the previous cabinet and now CSUB is dealing with severe budget issues that were not caught over the last 9 years. President Harper responded stating that he would ensure accountability- "greater accountability" as what was done in other cabinets was not as effective. President Harper stated the importance of directness and integrity.
 - d. Senator Sarma asked a question regarding budgetary timelines and if we will be provided the breakdown of the different allocations. President Harper confirmed that yes, the breakdown will be shared

along the NACUBO functional categories (instruction, academic support, institutional support, and athletics) that will allow us to compare to other universities.

- e. Senator Correa voiced concerns regarding faculty support and the opportunities for release time for the faculty to remain current, particularly now that CSUB is a Research 2 institution.

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

- i. Vice-Chair Solano presented the attached elections and appointments updates. See the attached slide deck.
- ii. Q&A/ Discussion:
 - 1. Senator Correa mentioned that there may be some confusion regarding elections as the various calls and status. Quite a few emails have been going out, which has added to the confusion.
 - 2. Vice-Chair Solano confirmed that there was an error in the At-Large election ballot. An email went out correcting the election announcement. There may still be reminders in the Simply Voting system that are still going out. Vice-Chair Solano and Senate Analyst Van Grinsven will further review the settings of the elections in Simply Voting.

c. Events:

- i. Friday, April 4 – Lecturer Town Hall
 - 1. Time: 1:00 – 2:00 PM; Location: DLC 401 D.
 - 2. Interim Provost Rodriguez confirmed the location and that there will also be an option for virtual attendees. A reminder will go out to campus with the updated location and zoom link.
- ii. Wednesday, April 9 – Special Review Committee for the Discontinuation of Anthropology Campus Open Forum
 - 1. Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
 - 2. Location: BDC 154 B and virtual ([Zoom Link](#)).
- iii. Wednesday, April 23 – President’s Open Forum
 - 1. Time: 9:00- 10:30 AM
 - 2. Location: Student Union MPR and virtual ([Zoom Link](#)).

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

- a. Senator Zenko motioned to approve the agenda; Senator Naser seconded. Agenda approved.

V. Reports

- a. Interim Provost’s Report – J. Rodriguez
 - i. Report:

1. There has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes regarding the changes in Academic Affairs and the instructional budget, as well as the fall 2025 schedule. They are working to communicate with the various constituencies on campus including the ASI Executive Board, CFA, and department chairs. They are also working with the Budget Office to ensure there are accurate and precise records of which positions have been captured and which will move forward. They are working on revising and updating the Academic Affairs organizational chart, which will be shared once all the information has been verified.
 2. Interim Provost Rodriguez provided an update on the Arts and Humanities Dean Search. The provost thanked the search committee for their hard work. Three finalists have been identified, and their campus visits are scheduled for April 1, April 4, and April 11.
- b. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka (handout) (deferred)
 - c. ASI Report – Senator Pruitt
 - i. Report
 1. ASI has been busy lobbying in Sacramento. They have been advocating for proper notification for students regarding when there is an ICE presence on campus, and discussion regarding the budget and impact on students.
 2. Registration; appreciated the video posted by President Harper and Interim Provost Rodriguez regarding registration changes. Has seemed to be successful.
 3. The ASI President also thanked Dr. Cantrell and Dr. Rodriguez for their efforts regarding communicating to students about the changes in registration.
 4. The ASI Board Meetings are held every Friday from 3-5 PM. If there are any request for the agenda, please send them before Tuesday morning. Items cannot be added to the agenda after 3 PM on the Tuesday before.
 - d. Staff Report – Senator Cornelison (deferred)
 - e. Committee Reports: (deferred; see handouts)
 - 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)
 - a. Memo regarding Referral 2024-2025 #29 Canvas Course End Date
 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 AM)**

- a. Consent Agenda:
 - i. RES 242526 – Changes to the Spring 2026 Academic Calendar– EC (handout).
 - ii. Motion carried with the agenda approval; resolution passed.
- b. Old Business:
 - i. RES 242521 – Composition of the Search and Screening Committees for Academic Administrators– FAC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Zenko, chair of FAC, presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC.
 - 2. Chair Danforth called for a vote on RES 242521. The majority of Senators voted in favor. Motion carried; resolution passed.
 - ii. RES 242523 – Faculty are Humans (AS&SS and FAC) (handout)
 - 1. Senator Tsantsoulas, chair for AS&SS, presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of AS&SS and FAC.
 - 2. Amendment:
 - a. Senator Tsantsoulas proposed an amendment to move the bolded text under “108 Faculty” to the middle of the paragraph. Senator Deal and Senator Zenko seconded the proposed amendment.
 - b. Chair Danforth called for a vote on the amendment to RES 242523. The majority of Senators voted in favor. The amendment passed with one abstention.
 - 3. Discussion:
 - a. President Harper spoke in support of this resolution and asked if this resolution was the first in the CSU system? Senator Zenko responded saying not that he is aware of, however, considering the level of interest surrounding AI, it seemed to be an important resolution to have. Senator Tsantsoulas said that she believes that CSU Cal Poly Pomona has a similar resolution they are working on but does not believe it has passed yet. Senator Lam confirmed that AB 2370 was passed to state explicitly that the instructor record for the course of instruction shall be a person who meets the minimum qualifications to serve as a faculty member.
 - 4. Chair Danforth called for a vote on RES 242523. The majority of Senators voted in favor of the resolution with two abstentions. Motion carried; amended resolution passed.
- c. New Business:
 - i. RES 242524 – Committee on Professional Responsibility, Revisited – FAC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Zenko, chair of FAC, presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of FAC and thanked Dr. Rebecca Weller.
 - 2. Q&A/ Discussion:

- a. Senator Salisbury expressed concern that the proposed resolution will not address the larger issues within faculty affairs and grievances.
 - b. Senator Tsantsoulas thanked FAC for their work and wanted to confirm the intent of the resolution to charge the committee with creating opportunities for education on the climate of professional responsibility, such as trainings, professional development, town halls, etc.
 - c. Chair Danforth spoke regarding the various individuals and areas of campus that address these types of concerns including the Faculty Ombudsperson, CFA, Faculty Affairs, and Title IX. This resolution would have CPR be more proactive in providing trainings and forums to hopefully prevent issues before they happen.
 - d. Senator Salisbury suggested that the resolution be shared with the current Committee on Professional Responsibility.
 - e. Senator Dugan made suggestions regarding the membership of CPR and having the Faculty Ombudsperson as ex-officio, as well as the other members not under Academic Affairs.
 - f. Senator Michieka suggested FAC review the new CSU policy "Other Conduct of Concern" for behaviors that do not violate State or Federal laws or warrant disciplinary action.
 - g. Chair Danforth confirmed that CPR does not meet frequently or regularly.
- ii. RES 242525 – Evaluation of Academic Administrators, Part II – FAC (handout)
- 1. Senator Zenko, chair of FAC, presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of FAC.
 - 2. Q&A/ Discussion:
 - a. Vice-Chair Solano believes that the AVP for Enrollment Management should be not removed as it is still academic in nature and would also suggest including the VP. President Harper understands and respects the review process and feedback. The President supports and encourages the formalization of a structure or process so that the Senate may communicate concerns, critiques, or commendations regarding cabinet level administrators.
 - b. Senator Wu brought attention to 311.2 with the listed associate positions and how some positions have been captured or removed.
 - c. Chair Danforth: suggested updating the language to include the library dean and associate deans.
 - d. Senator Grombly: Library Associate Dean position has not been eliminated but captured and asks that the position remain in the handbook. Senator Grombly also expressed the strain on the library

with the reduction in MPP positions. Interim Provost Rodriguez acknowledged Senator Grombly's comment and is conscious of the strain.

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

- a. Senator Correa will be a keynote speaker at CSU Dominguez Hills at their annual Open Educational Resources (OER) event and thanked President Harper for making CSUB the first to have an OER degree pathway.
- b. Senator Tsantsoulas: Two upcoming events: Thursday, April 3 – Sexual Ethics fair, and Friday, April 4- Gender Matters Symposium.
- c. Senator Deal: Sip 'n Scholarship will be held on Friday, March 28, 2025, and will raise money for scholarships in Agricultural Business.
- d. Senator Dong:
 - i. The CSUB Golf Classic will be held on March 31, which is a fundraising event to sponsor the global outreach program for the NSME Nursing department.
 - ii. April 23 – Kern Medical Collaborative.
- e. J. Paschal invited any interested faculty to attend one of the focus groups that will be held on April 3 and April 11 regarding ITS resources and instructional technology.
- f. Senator Pruitt:
 - i. Women's History Month event taking place tonight, March 27. There will be a speaker and a floral bouquet activity. The event will be held in the Student Housing MPR from 6-7 PM.
 - ii. Grimm Center will be hosting Sip and Scholarship, as all as the Student Research Symposium on April 4.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Chair Danforth adjourned the meeting at 11:32 AM.