



Academic Senate Meeting – Fall 2025

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Minutes

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

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

Zoom Link: <https://csub.zoom.us/j/84669370314?pwd=gmLoywwMxQR4k7G0hUhv25vs0N8xr8.1>

Senate Members: Chair M. Danforth (virtual), Vice-Chair D. Solano, CSU Senator C. Lam (alt. E. Montoya), CSU Senator N. Michieka (virtual), AH Senator T. Tsantsoulas, AH Senator M. Naser (F2025 alt. D. Stockwell), BPA Senator D. Wu, BPA Senator S. Sarma (virtual), NSME Senator L. Kirstein, NSME Senator A. Stokes, SSE Senator Z. Zenko, SSE Senator S. Roberts, AV Senator K. Holloway (virtual), At-Large Senator H. He, At-Large Senator A. Grombly (virtual), At-Large Senator A. Hays, At-Large Senator A. Lauer, At-Large Senator T. Salisbury (alt. D. Solis, virtual), At-Large Senator R. Dugan, Lecturer Electorate Senator D. Horn, Senator H. Gonzalez – Staff Representative, Senator A. Reyes – ASI President, VP AA & Provost D. Thien (alt. E. Adams), Senator J. Dong – Dean Representative, and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven.

Guests: President Harper, K. Grappendorf, K. Watson, E. Adams, and K. Warner.

Virtual Guests: See attached list.

- I. Call to Order and Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement
 - a. Vice-Chair Solano called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM. Chair Danforth is out sick; therefore, attending virtually. Vice Chair Solano will chair the meeting, and Senator Zenko will keep the speakers list.
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. October 23, 2025 (handout)
 - b. November 6, 2025 (handout)
 - i. Senator Kirstein motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Senator Hayes. Majority in favor; October 23 and November 6 minutes approved.
- III. Announcements and Information
 - a. President's Report – V. Harper (**Time Certain: 10:10 AM**)
 - i. President Harper provided a brief report including reminding Senators of the upcoming holiday party on December 16, encouraging all to provide feedback for the Strategic Plan, and briefly recapping the Presidents Open Forum where the state of the university was discussed, as well as a successful foundation meeting and holiday party. President Harper also introduced the Shafter Research Station project, which they have spoken with Foundation about and they will have more details in the spring when a decision is made. President Harper also introduced and thanked The President's Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics

for their hard work in addressing issues and best ways to move forward in terms of having an outstanding athletics program. President Harper mentioned that more information will be shared in the spring as well as there are some limitations due to conversations with lawyers.

- ii. The President's Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics – Co-Chair, K. Grappendorf
 - 1. Co-Chair K. Grappendorf introduced co-chair of the commission, Shelly Carlin. K. Grappendorf is currently in Academic Programs and has over 28 years of history at CSUB, as well as personal experience as a coach and athlete. S. Carlin has an extensive professional background in HR and successful athletic career at UCLA. They are working together to develop a comprehensive review of athletics and focusing on the charge provided by President Harper. They meet regularly with the commission members individually to acknowledge concerns and difficulties and focus on meaningful, positive changes moving forward. The first meeting of the full commission is scheduled for January 20, 2026. A summary report will be provided at the end of their work. Potential strategies discussed include scheduling open forums for students, faculty and staff, as well as developing a website so that all members of the community can be kept up to date on their work and progress.
 - 2. No questions or additional discussion.
- iii. Shafter Research Station – VP for BAS and CFO, K. Watson (handout)
 - 1. Dr. K. Watson provided information on the Shafter Research Station and the proposal written by Dr. Aaron Hegde. The county reviewed the proposal and unanimously expressed appreciation for the vision presented. The county indicated its preference for CSUB to purchase the property and has declined all other offers. There are significant opportunities and potential impacts for the university if this property is acquired, including positioning CSUB as a regional hub for agricultural education, innovation, research, and workforce development in Kern County. See attached slide deck.
 - 2. Questions/ Feedback:
 - a. Biology Department: Senator Stokes shared that Professor Isolde Francis assisted Dr. Hegde with the proposal and that the Biology Department supports this endeavor.
 - b. Chancellor's Office: Senator Lauer asked about the level of support from the Chancellor's Office (CO). President Harper responded that he would be meeting with the CO next week. He stated that the Foundation is supportive and that he is confident the CO will be as well; however, the results of the assessments will be critical.
 - c. CSUB and Agronomy: Senator Zenko commented on the past decision for CSUB not to pursue agriculture and asked whether there is a plan to pursue agronomy in the future. Dr. Watson responded that conversations have occurred with CSU Fresno and CSU Cal Poly, and that they have no objections. She added that as more information becomes available and time allows, additional details regarding regional needs in the west can be shared.
 - d. Maintenance Costs: Vice-Chair Solano asked about ongoing maintenance costs and plans to address them, particularly given that many of the buildings are older. Dr. Watson stated that the team is awaiting completion of the assessments. The intent is to undertake major capital improvements and

raise significant funds, potentially including the creation of an endowment to support operations and minimize maintenance costs. This information will be shared once due diligence assessments are completed.

- b. Elections and Appointments – D. Solano (handout)
 - i. Vice-Chair Solano provided updates on elections and appointments. See attached handout.
 - ii. Feedback/Discussion: Senator Dong shared that the deans would like to request a copy of the call so they can encourage their faculty to participate.
- c. Upcoming Events:
 - i. Tuesday, December 16 – Faculty and Staff Holiday Party
 - 1. 3- 4:30 PM in the Admin Quad
 - 2. Register by December 11: <https://events.csub.edu/e/csub-faculty-staff-holiday-reception-2025/>
 - ii. Spring General Faculty Meeting – Friday, January 30
 - 1. Student Union MPR and virtual
 - 2. Zoom link: TBA
 - 3. Senate Webpage – General Faculty Meeting: <https://www.csub.edu/senate/general-faculty-meeting.shtml>

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

- a. Senator Tsantsoulas motioned to amend the agenda to move RES 252616 to before “Old Resolutions”; seconded by Senator Zenko. Motion carried; agenda amended.
- b. Senator Reyes motioned to approve the amended agenda; seconded by Senator Dugan. Majority in favor; amended agenda approved.

V. Reports

- a. ASI Report – Senator Reyes, ASI President deferred)
- b. Provost’s Report – E. Adams on behalf of Provost Thien
 - i. On behalf of Provost Thien, AVP E. Adams encouraged faculty to participate in the Strategic Plan through completing the survey and attending the town halls to ensure the faculty voice is a strong one. In addition, Provost Thien would like to express her enormous gratitude to Interim Dean Luis Vega for his years of service as he will be retiring at the end of this year. There will be a formal announcement distributed soon.
- c. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka (handout) (deferred- see attachment)
- d. Staff Report – Senator Gonzalez (handout)
 - i. See attached handout. Senator Gonzalez highlighted the holiday event, updates on bargaining discussions and the next Bargaining Unit Council meeting which will take place December 9. There is also a video link celebrating the CSU EU turning 20 years. Lastly, Senator Gonzalez encouraged participation in the CSUB Strategic Plan Survey. Senator Lauer asked if community members are able to participate in the Strategic Plan Survey? Senator Gonzalez confirmed that yes, there are various areas of outreach focus, which include existing community partners, high school students, and alumni.
- e. Committee Reports:
 - i. Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Solano (handout) (deferred- see attachment)
 - ii. Standing Committees: (deferred- see attachments)
 - 1. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) – Senator Tsantsoulas (handout)

2. Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS) – Senator Kirstein (handout)
3. Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) – Senator Grombly (handout)
4. Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Senator Zenko (handout)

f. CFA Report – D. Solis, CFA Bakersfield Vice-President (handout) (deferred- see attachment)

VI. **Resolutions (Time Certain: 10:30 AM)**

- a. Consent Agenda:
 - i. RES 252617 – Academic Master Plan 2026-27 through 2035-36 – AAC and BPC (handout)
 1. Approved with the agenda.
 - ii. RES 252619 – Commencement – Fall 2025 – EC (handout)
 1. Approved with the agenda.
- b. Old Business:
 - i. RES 252611 – Minor in Applied Mathematics – AAC and BPC (handout)
 1. Senator Tsantsoulas, Chair of AAC, presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of AAC and BPC.
 2. Senator Stokes motioned to vote on the resolution; seconded by Senator Gonzales. Motion carried; majority voted in favor of the resolution. Resolution approved.
 - ii. RES 252612 – Concentration in Nonprofit Management in MPA Degree – AAC and BPC (handout)
 1. Senator Tsantsoulas, Chair of AAC, presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of AAC and BPC.
 2. Senator Gonzalez motioned to vote on the resolution; seconded by Senator Kirstein. Motion carried; majority voted in favor of the resolution. Resolution approved.
 - iii. RES 252613 – Concentration in Healthcare Administration in MPA Degree – AAC and BPC (handout)
 1. Senator Tsantsoulas, Chair of AAC, presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of AAC and BPC.
 2. Senator Grombly motioned to vote on the resolution; seconded by Senator Gonzalez. Motion carried; majority voted in favor of the resolution. Resolution approved.
 - iv. RES 252609 – Clarifying ASCSU Lecturer Electorate Procedures – FAC (handout)
 1. Senator Zenko, Chair of FAC, presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC.
 2. Senator Kirstein motioned to vote on the resolution; seconded by Senator Hayes. Motion carried; majority voted in favor of the resolution. Resolution approved.
 - v. RES 252608 – Sabbatical Rubric and Feedback- Handbook Change – FAC (handout)
 1. Senator Zenko, Chair of FAC, presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC.
 2. Senator Dugan proposed a friendly amendment to Appendix A; seconded by Senator Hayes. Amendment passed.
 3. Majority voted in favor; no objections or abstentions. Amended resolution approved.
 - vi. RES 252610 – Unit RTP and PTR Composition- Handbook Change – FAC (handout)
 1. Senator Zenko, Chair of FAC, presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC.
 2. Feedback/ Discussion:

- a. Senator Wu raised concerns regarding “F. Committee Size and Composition” and challenges with the four-member composition and need for Minority Report.
- b. Senator Dugan identified inconsistencies in language for ineligibility for service and AVP for Faculty Affairs.
- c. Senator Tsantsoulas asked for clarification on “D. Eligibility to Serve” section V and attempts to address quid pro quo and interpretation of the final clause. Senator Tsantsoulas proposed to make a friendly amendment to remove the final clause; seconded by Senator Roberts.
- d. Senator Dong requested additional information and background on the discussion regarding the nomination for who is eligible to serve and the efforts to distribute fair workload across the department.
- e. Senator He addressed “B. Candidate-Specific Committees” and striking of “separate” Unit RTP Committee for each candidate and exceptions. Senator Wu had a slightly different perspective, which is that there would be a distinct committee election for each candidate. Senator Zenko discussed how the intent of this portion is to protect the privacy of the individual faculty members under review if there is an issue and that it would stay within committee.
- f. Discussion continued regarding “IV. Chair Restrictions” and Department Chair Evaluations and Unit RTP Chair. Senator Tsantsoulas “A Unit Chair may serve on a candidate’s committee, unless they chose to submit a separate chair evaluation.” In the same section, Senator Gonzalez brought up the use of the word “may” versus the use of “shall” and how a restriction should not be discretionary.

3. Due to extensive discussion, the Senate voted in favor of returning the resolution to FAC. Senator Zenko encouraged faculty to send their feedback to FAC.

c. New Business:

- i. RES 252616 – Academic Calendar 2026-2027 and Summer 2027 – BPC (handout)
 1. Senator Grombly introduced the resolution on behalf of BPC and the Calendar Committee.
 2. Senator Kirstein motioned to waive first reading, seconded by Senator Grombly. Motion carried; moved to second reading.
 3. Discussion/ Questions: Some discussion ensued regarding the consideration to shorten University Week for future calendars to accommodate challenges and issues for the fall semester with the number of instruction days.
 4. Senator Gonzalez motioned to approve the resolution; seconded by Senator Dugan. Resolution approved.
- ii. RES 252618 – Special Review Committee for Anthropology – AAC and BPC (handout)
 1. Senators Tsantsoulas and Grombly, introduced the resolution on behalf of BPC and AAC. BPC and AAC thanked the Special Review Committee for Anthropology for their work and the Anthropology faculty. No further feedback or discussion ensued.
- iii. RES 252614 – New Minor in Creative Writing – AAC and BPC (handout)
 1. Senator Grombly, Chair of BPC, introduced the resolution for first reading on behalf of BPC and AAC. No feedback or discussion ensued.

- iv. RES 252615 – Renaming of Computer Science Cybersecurity Concentration– AAC and BPC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Grombly, Chair of BPC, introduced the resolution for first reading on behalf of BPC and AAC. No feedback or discussion ensued.

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

- a. Senator Dong thanked the Faculty Affairs Committee for their work on RES 252610 and incorporation of all the comments and feedback provided.
- b. Senator Gonzalez shared that the CSUEU is having a holiday event on Wednesday, December 10th for staff members, as well as their CFA allies. Senator Gonzalez also expressed appreciation for all members of the Senate, particularly during a difficult semester.

VIII. **Adjournment**

- a. Vice-Chair Solano adjourned the meeting at 11:27 AM and encouraged review of the various reports included in the packet.