



# ACADEMIC SENATE

## CSU BAKERSFIELD

## Academic Senate Meeting – Spring 2026

Thursday, January 30, 2026

### Agenda

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, Vice-Chair D. Solano, CSU Senator C. Lam, CSU Senator N. Michieka, AH Senator T. Tsantsoulas, AH Senator M. Naser, BPA Senator D. Wu, BPA Senator S. Sarma, NSME Senator L. Kirstein, NSME Senator A. Stokes, SSE Senator Z. Zenko (virtual), SSE Senator S. Roberts (alt. for Spring 2026 K. Henderson), AV Senator K. Holloway, At-Large Senator H. He, At-Large Senator A. Grombly, At-Large Senator A. Hays, At-Large Senator A. Lauer, At-Large Senator T. Salisbury, 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, Senator J. Dong – Dean Representative, and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven.

**Guests:** President Harper

- I. Call to Order and Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - a. December 4, 2025 (handout)
- III. Announcements and Information
  - a. President's Report – V. Harper (**Time Certain: 10:10 AM**) (handout)
  - b. Elections and Appointments – D. Solano (handout)
  - c. Upcoming Events: (handouts)
    - i. January 30 – Spring General Faculty Meeting
      1. 8 am – 2 pm; Student Union MPR and Virtual
    - ii. February 4 – CSUB Strategic Plan Town Hall
      1. 11 am – 12:30 pm; Student Union MPR
      2. Strategic Plan Survey: [csub.edu/strategicplan/](https://csub.edu/strategicplan/)
    - iii. February 6 – AV Campus Strategic Plan Town Hall
      1. 11 am – 12:30 pm; Virtual
    - iv. February 20 – Committee on Professional Responsibility Town Hall
      1. 1-2 pm; Humanities 1107 and virtual
    - v. March 16 – Spring Budget Open Forum

1. 2-3 pm; Student Union MPR and virtual
- vi. April 8 – President’s Open Forum
  1. 9 am; Student Union MPR

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

V. Reports

- a. ASI Report – Senator Reyes
- b. Provost’s Report – D. Thien (**Time Certain: 10:25 AM**) (handout)
- c. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka (handout)
- d. Staff Report – Senator Gonzalez
- e. Committee Reports:
  - i. Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Solano (handout)
  - ii. Standing Committees:
    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 Stokes, FAC Vice-Chair (handout)
- f. CFA Report – T. Salisbury, CFA Bakersfield

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

- a. Consent Agenda:
  - i. RES 252623 – Changes to Fall 2026 Academic Calendar – BPC (handout)
- b. Old Business:
  - i. RES 252618 – Special Review Committee for Anthropology – AAC and BPC (handout)
  - ii. RES 252614 – Minor in Creative Writing – AAC and BPC (handout)
  - iii. RES 252615 – Computer Science Cybersecurity Concentration – AAC and BPC (handout)
  - iv. RES 252610 – Unit RTP and PTR Composition- Handbook Change – FAC (HOLD)
- c. New Business:
  - i. RES 252620 – Transitioning to Online SOCIs-Handbook Change – FAC (handout)
  - ii. RES 252621 – Department Chair Terms-Handbook Change – FAC (handout)
  - iii. RES 252622 – Academic Advising Structure Is an Academic Endeavor – AAC and AS&SS (handout)

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

VIII. Adjournment



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 28, 2026

**TO:** Dr. Melissa Danforth, Chair  
Academic Senate

**FROM:** Vernon B. Harper Jr., Ph.D.  
President

**SUBJECT:** President's Report – January 29, 2026

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President Harper intends to discuss the following with the Academic Senate on Thursday, January 29, 2026.

- Board of Trustees recap
- EIB Groundbreaking
- President's Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics
- Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce Installation
- President's Open Forum
  - Wednesday, April 8 at 9am in the Student Union MPR

c: Katherine Van Grinsven



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**BAKERSFIELD**

# Academic Senate: Elections & Appointments

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January 29, 2026

# Important Information & Reminders

- ❖ View the Senate Website for up-to-date information: [csub.edu/senate/elections-and-appointments.shtml](http://csub.edu/senate/elections-and-appointments.shtml)
- ❖ Let the Senate Office know if there are:
  - Vacancies that need to be filled
  - Errors with committee rosters
- ❖ If you do not receive emails regarding calls:
  - College Calls → Contact your College Election Chair & Admin Support
  - University-wide Calls → Contact the Senate Office ([academicsenateoffice@csub.edu](mailto:academicsenateoffice@csub.edu))



# Reminder! Exceptional Service Applications Due 2/2

- All faculty are eligible to apply for assigned time under Article 20.37 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement
- For faculty engaged in exceptional levels of service but not receiving a workload adjustment for their effort

**Due Monday, February 2, 2026, by 5:00 PM** to the Office of the Academic Senate ([academicsenateoffice@csub.edu](mailto:academicsenateoffice@csub.edu))

# Updates on Elected Positions

## Academic Senate Chair and Chair of the Faculty, May 2026-2028 - *Complete*

- **Elected:** Melissa Danforth – Computer & Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (re-elected). Congratulations!

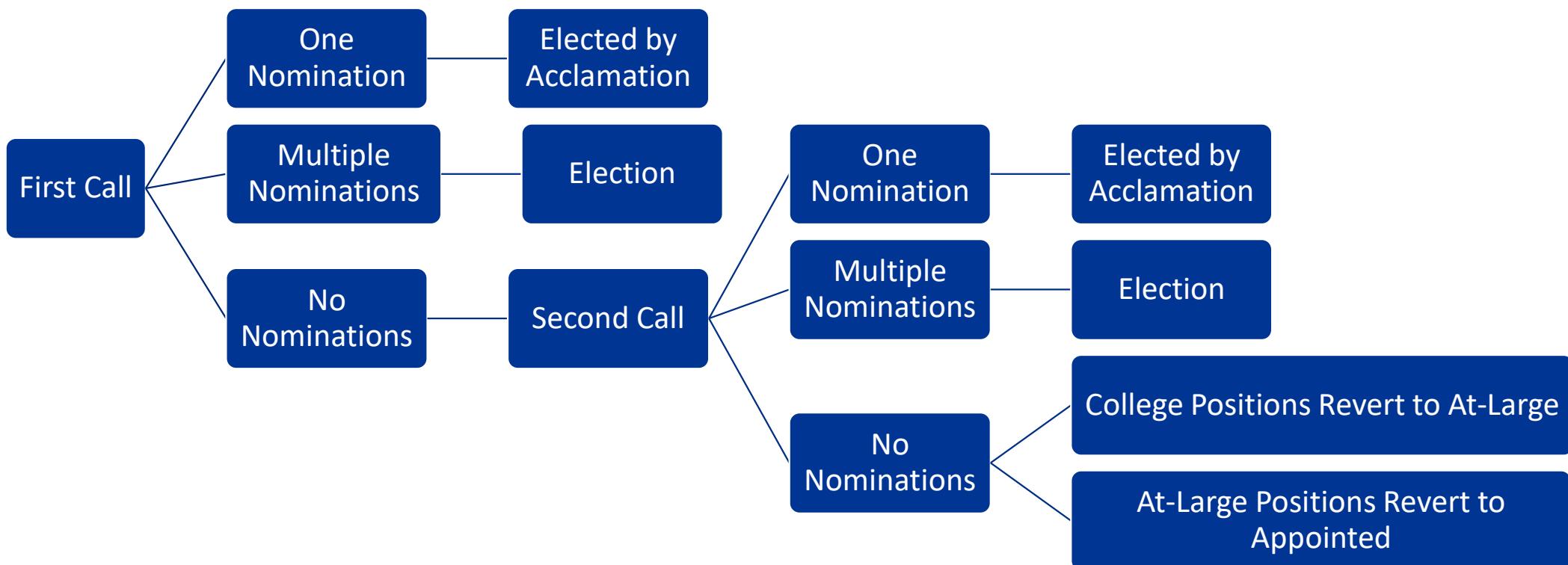
## Academic Senate Vice-Chair and Elections Committee Chair, May 2026 - May 2028.

- Call for Nominations is open!
- Submit nominations to: Katherine Van Grinsven, Academic Senate Analyst at [academicsenateoffice@csub.edu](mailto:academicsenateoffice@csub.edu) no later than **Friday, January 30, 2026, at 5:00 PM.**

# Spring 2026 Call Cycle

1. Senate Chair – **Complete**
2. Senate Vice Chair – **Call in progress**
3. ASCSU Senator
4. Senators for Colleges (*run by colleges*)
5. Senators At-Large
6. College Elected Positions on Committees (*run by colleges*)
7. At-Large Elected Positions on Committees (*and unfilled college positions*)
8. Standing Committees (*Calls for Standing Committee Chairs go out mid-April*)
9. College appointed positions on committees (*run by colleges*)
10. At-Large and unfilled college appointed positions (*including unfilled college positions and elected positions with no nominations after second calls*)

# Process for a Typical Elected Position Call



# 2025-26 College Election Committees

## Arts and Humanities

- **Joel Haney (Chair)**
- Lena Taub
- Sean Wempe
- *Admin Support: Adrianna Hook*

## Business and Public Administration

- **Richard Gearhart (Chair)**
- Mansik Hur
- Jinping Sun
- Dan Zhou
- *Admin Support: Maria Diaz*

## Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering

- **Prosper Torsu (Chair)**
- Alberto Cruz
- Bilin Zeng
- *Admin Support: Maria Chavez*

## Social Science and Education

- **Dirk Horn (Chair)**
- Yeunjoo Lee
- Dahna Stowe
- *Admin Support: Vanessa Mayorga*





ACADEMIC SENATE  
CSU BAKERSFIELD

# GENERAL FACULTY

## *meeting*

SPRING 2026

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026**

TIME: 8 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

### LOCATION

STUDENT UNION MPR AND VIRTUAL

RSVP BY MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026 AT

You're invited!

# CSUB Strategic Plan Town Hall



February 4  
11- 12:30 pm



Connect and  
Participate!



Don't miss our Strategic Plan Town Hall Session! We will be providing updates on our strategic planning process, discuss data collected, and share future directions.

Questions?

Email Dr. Shaylyn Marks

[smarks2@csub.edu](mailto:smarks2@csub.edu)

Location

Student Union MPR

You're invited!

# AV Campus Strategic Plan Town Hall



|||||  
**February 6**  
**11- 12:30pm**

Connect and  
Participate!

Don't miss our Strategic Plan Town Hall Session! We will be providing updates on our strategic planning process, discuss data collected, and share future directions.

**Questions?**

**Email Dr. Shaylyn Marks**

[smarks2@csub.edu](mailto:smarks2@csub.edu)

**Location**

Zoom Information:

Meeting ID: 612 886 7903



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 27, 2026

**TO:** Dr. Melissa Danforth, Chair  
Academic Senate

**FROM:** Deborah Thien, Ph.D.  
Provost

**SUBJECT:** Provost's Report – January 29, 2026

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Provost Thien intends to discuss the following with the Academic Senate on Thursday, January 29, 2026.

- Faculty Lines x 6
- Admin Searches
- Strategic Plan Engagement
- Course Schedule
- Academic Affairs Staff Changes

c: Katherine Van Grinsven



**Report from ASCSU to CSUB  
Senate Meeting (14/1/2026 – 16/1/2026)**

**I. Guests**

**a. Academic Affairs: Dilcie Perez, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Success and Chief Student Affairs Officer**

1. The Chancellor has created a new division of strategic enrollment management and student success.
2. Their office is working on improving access to data and improve the quality of the data e.g. disaggregate it further, or redefine URM students.
3. Their office will talk to campuses to get each campus's 2-year goals with regards to their 2- and 4-year graduation rates.
4. Working to share data more as a system and improve yield rates across the system.
5. Will have a meeting on January 22 to obtain feedback on improving the application process for CSU (Cal Appy).

**b. Academic Affairs: Junius Gonzales, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs**

1. Their office is undertaking a review of online programs.
2. It is also looking for opportunities for collaboration amongst institutions on various enrollment activities.
3. His office is seeking ways to award faculty for excellence (through awards) without duplicating what currently exists.
4. Baccalaureate Degree duplication by the Community Colleges (CCs): The CCs did research (with an organization called WestEd) to assess the impacts of program duplication. Take aways for the CSU: The CSU will need to assess how it looks at its workforce preparation programs and its accessibility to students. (place based).
5. There is a continued decline in high school student enrollment.
6. There are institutions looking to expand into California e.g. Vanderbilt and Howard are establishing campuses in California.

**c. Academic Affairs: Nathan Evans, Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs**

1. Academic Affairs is working on a strategic enrollment plan.
2. Developing a more responsive adult learner model at the CSU.
3. Working to provide Adobe to all CSU's. Adobe will also support/fund some faculty development programs under this initiative.

**d. Adrian Harrell, Alumni Council President,**

1. Alumni council has been working on the new strategic plan put out by the Chancellor's office.

**e. Margarita Berta-Ávila, CFA President, Liaison Report**

1. No visit this time

**f. Katie Karroum, CSSA Vice President of Systemwide Affairs, CSSA Liaison Report**

1. Bills: The CSSA is working on SB 323 which seeks to make the dream act clear and easy to use.
2. The next CSSA systemwide student plenary will be held at Sonoma State
3. CSSA will be in attendance at the Board of Trustees meeting
4. Will be attending the California Basic Needs Alliance Conference in Sacramento

## **II. Resolutions**

1. Approved resolutions
  - i. AS-3763-25/JEDI Support for Minority Serving Institutions
  - ii. AS-3764-25/FGA Change in the Advocacy Position Categories Taken on Academic Senate of the California State University Monitored Legislative Bills
  - iii. AS-3765-25/FGA 2025-2026 Academic Senate of the California State University Policy Agenda Priorities and Goals
  - iv. AS-3765-25/AA Academic Senate of the California State University Disciplinary Councils
  - v. AS-3773-25/Exec Apportionment of Academic Senate CSU Seats
2. First Readings
  - i. AS-3772-25/Exec Supporting the Establishment of a Systemwide Staff Representative Body
  - ii. AS-3774-25/Exec Academic Senate of the California State University 2025-2026 Meetings
  - iii. AS-3775-25/Exec Amending the Academic Senate of the CSU Bylaws to Address Campus Closure and Integration
  - iv. AS-3776-25/AA Consultation Regarding CSU Chancellor's Office Policies
  - v. AS-3777-25/APEP Update to ASCSU Bylaws: Responsibilities of The Academic Preparation and Education Programs Committee
  - vi. AS-3778-25/APEP Process for Appointment of Area 6 Ethnic Studies Disciplinary Faculty Reviewers
  - vii. AS-3779-25/FA Restoration of Sane and Efficient Plenary Session Hours to Boost ASCSU Senate Health and Wellness

**III. Upcoming ASCSU Meetings**

1. Next ASCSU Interim Standing Committee Meetings on February 13, 2026
2. Next ASCSU Plenary Meeting on March 4-6, 2026

**IV. Prepared by CSUB Representatives to the ASCSU**

- a. Charles Lam, Professor of Mathematics and ASCSU Legislative Specialist
- b. Nyakundi Michieka, Associate Professor of Economics and Chair, Faculty Affairs Committee of the ASCSU

**AY 2025-2026 Academic Senate**  
**Staff Report - Thursday, January 29, 2026**

**CSUEU Bargaining Team Begins Contract Negotiations with Proposal of Demands**

We've delivered our opening proposal to kickstart contract negotiations with CSU Management. Called the "Sunshine Proposal," posted [here \[click.ngpvan.com\]](https://click.ngpvan.com), it is our Union's initial proposal outlining the issues we want to bargain over this year.

**Lobby Day 2026**

Lobby Day is April 13-14, 2026. Join CSUEU members at California's capitol where we'll meet with state legislators to advocate for the rights and interests of CSU employees.

Do you want to come to Sacramento with your union? Fill out this [short survey \[click.ngpvan.com\]](https://click.ngpvan.com) to apply.

**Teamsters to Strike Feb. 17-20**

Teamsters Local 2010 will conduct an [unfair labor practice strike \[click.ngpvan.com\]](https://click.ngpvan.com) Feb. 17-20 at 22 campuses and the Chancellor's Office in protest of numerous unfair labor practices committed by the CSU.

The right to strike is one of the most important tools a union and its members have to secure better working conditions. Honoring a picket line demonstrates labor solidarity, which improves wages and working conditions for all workers. Read our [FAQ \[click.ngpvan.com\]](https://click.ngpvan.com) regarding what CSUEU members should know about honoring another union's picket line.

**Bargaining Unit Meetings**

[BU 9 Meeting – February 10<sup>th</sup> 7PM](https://click.ngpvan.com)

# Vice-Chair Report to the Academic Senate

## Senate Executive Committee Meeting – December 9, 2025

In addition to the regular business of approving the agenda, EC discussed the following:

- **Spring General Faculty Meeting (GFM):** Currently scheduled for Friday, January 30, 2026. The President and Provost will split the cost to host the meeting in a hybrid format. EC discussed the agenda and will finalize it in January.
- **Items from Provost Thien:** The Provost addressed the following topics:
  - **CS Numbers:** There have been concerns with CS numbers and how they affect course caps. E. Adams will attend a future EC meeting to talk about the implications of these numbers.
  - **Course Scheduling:** There have been concerns from students about courses being offered at the same time. The Provost recommended addressing the clustering of courses on popular days and times.
  - **Faculty Advising:** There is a need to clarify the role of faculty advisors now that staff advisors have switched to a case management model.
  - **Assessment:** The Provost suggested identifying a point person that reports to the AVP for Academic Programs. We briefly discussed the history of assessment at CSUB as well as the current software (Taskstream) and whether it is still appropriate and/or in use.
  - **CSU Provost's Gathering:** The Provost attended the CSU Provost's gathering and highlighted a couple of things that were discussed including "systemness" and software that all campuses use. The goal would be to move toward systemwide contracts rather than individual campus contracts. There was some discussion on the term "systemness" which the Provost defined as the power of our system to get things done (e.g., the librarians share resources very well). ASCSU Senator Michieka noted that Sonoma, East Bay, and San Francisco are currently sharing some academic administrators (such as the CFO).
  - **RSCA:** Support for research, scholarly, and creative activity is needed, particularly for early-career faculty. The Provost's Office currently supports travel. EC recommended using some of that funding for other research support. The Provost agreed we should consider using the funds for other ways to support RSCA besides travel.
  - **Faculty Lines:** Six faculty lines have been authorized contingent on the Governor's January budget: Communications – Digital Media Specialist; Management and Marketing – Management Information Systems/Analytics; Mathematics – Pure/Theoretical Mathematics; Nursing – Pediatrics or Gerontology; Psychology – Counseling Psychology or Neuroscience; and Teacher Education – Early Childhood Education.

- **Email Limits for Faculty:** Discussed whether we should set an email limit for faculty. Thoughts included that we should have a discussion board for faculty. Also discussed the possibility of developing an acceptable use policy. There currently is an ITS policy on “Broad Distribution and Mass Email Guidelines”. EC decided not to develop a policy, but will pursue better communication platforms, a topic already referred to AS&SS.
- **Policy for General Faculty to Bring a Resolution to the Senate:** EC discussed whether there should be a formal process for general faculty to bring a resolution to the Senate. There seemed to be some general agreement that this should not be for any resolution, but there was some support for developing a process for a vote of no confidence. Policies at other campuses will be explored before we move forward.
- **Request from ITS to be added to AS&SS:** ITS requested a non-voting representative to serve on AS&SS. The request was referred to AS&SS.
- **Updates from Advising Council:** Staff advisors will be storing outlines on OnBase, which raises significant concerns because faculty generally do not have access and there are several forms required to obtain access, presenting a significant barrier. There are plans for a CSU-wide degree-audit and planner tool called uAchieve (software the Chancellor’s Office has chosen); we are on the uAchieve implementation list, but E. Adams indicated that this is about two years out. Concerns were expressed by the EC faculty on the Advising Council that the Advising Council has turned into a place where information is delivered rather than solicited.

## Senate Executive Committee Meeting – January 20, 2026

In addition to the regular business of committee reports and approving the agenda and meeting minutes, EC discussed the following:

- **Spring General Faculty Meeting (GFM):** The GFM is scheduled for Friday, January 30, 2026. EC discussed the agenda items and strategies to keep the meeting on time. Chris Diniz will be present to discuss the Instructional Materials Accessibility Deadline coming this April, and some discussion ensued on that.
- **Faculty Ombudsperson:** The new faculty ombudsperson, Dr. Aaron Hegde, met with EC to discuss the role of the faculty ombudsperson and the composition of the annual report to the Senate. Dr. Hegde will be speaking at the GFM to share differences in his role versus the Committee on Professional Responsibility (CPR).
- **Items from Provost Thien:** The Provost addressed the following topics:
  - **Faculty Lines:** Based on the budget not being as dire as feared, the six faculty lines that were authorized are officially moving forward. Some positions are already posted, and the others will be posted soon.
  - **Strategic Plan:** There have been about 1,000 surveys completed, about half from alumni, and approximately 140 from faculty. To improve faculty involvement, four dates are being set up for faculty focus groups.
  - **Follett Total Access Program:** Follett has proposed a program in which required course materials are provided through a textbook access fee automatically applied to

student accounts, with an opt-out option for students who prefer to purchase materials separately. Chair Danforth indicated that this would need Senate approval before it moves forward. There is a meeting on February 5 at 1:00 p.m. that Chair Danforth and Senator Kirstein will attend. Extensive discussion on textbooks and syllabi ensued.

- **Develop Formal Policy for General Faculty to Bring a Resolution to the Senate:** EC previously decided to focus on the process of proposing a vote of no confidence. Feedback was received from several campuses, and there is wide variation across campuses. A summary of the research will be presented at the GFM; subsequent work will focus on developing a policy.

## Senate Executive Committee Meeting – January 27, 2026

In addition to approving the agendas for the EC meeting, the upcoming Senate meeting, and the GFM, EC discussed the following:

- **Meeting with Interim AVP of Academic Programs E. Adams:** EC discussed the following issues with E. Adams:
  - **CS Numbers:** E. Adams shared the history of CS Numbers and that there is significant confusion around C1–C6. Chair Danforth noted that some of these may have been improperly assigned during Q2S. The Provost suggested that university-wide oversight of CS numbers may be valuable to ensure consistency across colleges. E. Adams also mentioned that new software for scheduling classrooms is coming. The issue was discussed at length, including the possibility of a task force, but more data is needed.
  - **WSCUC Working Groups:** Information is needed for the call for five faculty co-chairs of WSCUC working groups. E. Adams will be sending this information soon.
  - **Title 5 Catalog Issue:** Title 5 is a law that previously required 40 upper-division units for baccalaureate degrees and was changed to apply to BA degrees only. Discussion occurred regarding whether our catalog should be updated to address the change.
- **Items from Provost Thien:** The Provost addressed the following topics:
  - **Course Scheduling:** Many students raised concerns about not getting into classes they needed at ASI. The Provost noted that registration peaks the first week of classes, and there was discussion as to why students register so late.
  - **RTP:** The Provost asked why Box is used and Interfolio was not adopted despite a taskforce recommendation. EC shared the history and brief discussion ensued.
- **Fong and Fetterly Award Committee:** L. Blodorn asked for two committee members for the Fong and Fetterly award. Chair Danforth will respond asking for the meeting date/time and clarify if L. Blodorn is requesting two faculty or two senators.
- **Add “Statements of the Senate” Process and Develop Formal Policy for General Faculty to Bring a Resolution to the Senate:** Senator Zenko shared a draft of a University Handbook change to add “Statements of the Senate” and a policy for a “vote of no confidence”. EC discussed the draft and provided feedback. It will be revised before going to full Senate.

## Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) Report to the Academic Senate

Thursday, January 22, 2026

The Academic Affairs Committee meeting was chaired by Vice Chair He. AAC noted that there were no comments received from the Senate floor during first reading of RES 25218, 252614, 252615, and so agreed to submit unchanged resolutions for second reading at the next Senate meeting. AAC held a third discussion on the proposal to elevate the concentration of CIS to a degree program (2526 REF #06) in light of some updated student demand data and information provided by the Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. The Committee appreciates the updated information but would like to see additional updated student and workforce demand data. Chair Tsantsoulas will communicate with the department.

AAC also held a second discussion on the draft resolution provided by the Academic Support and Student Services committee regarding 2526 REF #03: Academic Policies and Academic Advising in Student Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management. Members agreed that there are concerns about reduced faculty involvement in the shared governance processes pertaining to academic advising. As such, AAC approved of the proposed joint resolution from AS&SS, making minor editorial changes. This resolution will be presented for first reading at the next Senate meeting.

Moving on to new business, AAC discussed Catalog Language Inconsistency with Title 5 (2526 REF #16). Dean Adams shared that in previous years Title 5 dictated that all Bachelor's degrees in the CSU must have 40 upper division units. A few years ago the Board of Trustees revised this requirement to only apply to BA degrees. CSUB's catalog policies were not updated to reflect this change. We are, however, permitted to have more stringent requirements than Title 5 specifies. All current Bachelor's degree programs at CSUB have at least 40 upper division units. Committee members discussed the potential impact of this policy on programs that may have a large number of required lower division courses. AAC was in general agreement that the current policy should remain. But, will first engage in further consultation before deciding a course of action.

AAC also discussed Teaching Modality – Handbook Change (2526 REF #19). The discussion centered on the question of who determines the teaching modality (ex. hybrid, F2F) of a faculty member's courses. Members reviewed the relevant sections of the University Handbook, 203.11 Distributed Learning Committee, 203.12 Distributed Learning Policy, and 303.1.1 Teaching Assigned Courses. These seem to indicate that the program or department makes the final decision on teaching modality. The current Distributed Learning Policy on this topic was produced by the Distributed Learning Committee in 2013 and reflects that the final decision is ultimately up to the College Dean. There is an obvious need for an updated and consistent policy. In discussion, AAC members raised concerns

about accreditation and a desire to maintain that CSUB is a campus offering primarily in person instruction. We also wanted to ensure that program and Dean's office decisions were achieved collaboratively and with pedagogy and curricular integrity as top priorities. We concluded that the DLC should be involved in any policy changes. Chair Tsantsoulas, working with Chair Zenko of the Faculty Affairs Committee, will reach out to the DLC for further discussion.

Finally, in consultation with Dean Adams, it has been decided that AAC will welcome a new at-large representative from enrollment systems, Angelica Mendoza. We thank Tommy Holiwell for his service to the committee last semester.

**Academic Support & Student Services Committee (AS&SS)**  
**Report to the Academic Senate**

Thursday, January 22, 2026

**Old Business:**

1. Academic Standing Policy- Summer Disqualification :
  - a. Joint Referral with AAC, AS&SS draft to be sent to AAC for review.
2. Readmission Policy- Separated from Summer Disqualification:
  - a. Joint Referral with AAC, AS&SS draft to be sent to AAC for review.
3. Canvas Banner Space Resolution:
  - a. Final draft completed and to be sent to Senate.
4. PERC Timing and Process Resolution
  - a. Joint Referral with AAC, AS&SS draft to be sent to AAC for review.
5. Inventory of Automated Decision Making (Ref # 26) and Academic, Curricular, and Student Support Software (Ref #33):
  - a. Committee chair reaching out to EC for clarification on the ask of the committee.  
Work to be continued at next meeting with clarification.

**New Business:**

1. AS&SS Membership-Bylaws Change Referral #41
  - a. Committee members felt it was important to adopt the request from Information Technology Services (ITS) to add the Chief Information Officer as an ex-office non-voting member to AS&SS. A resolution to change the bylaws with rationale is currently being drafted and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Kirstein, Chair  
Academic Support & Student Services Committee

## Report from the Budget and Planning Committee of the Academic Senate

The Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) met January 22, 2026. In that meeting, the committee discussed the Governor's budget proposal released earlier in the month, areas of the campus budget book, and discussed questions for administration in relation to the upcoming Budget Forum.

The committee addressed the backlog in meeting minutes and will review and approve those at the next meeting.

The committee also addressed the following referral:

2025-2026 REFERRAL #15: Proposal for New Minor in Early Childhood Development

The committee will continue to review curriculum proposals this semester.

## **Report from the Faculty Affairs Committee of the Academic Senate**

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026**

The FAC continues to devote substantial time and careful attention to clarifying the Unit RTP and PTR committee composition and election processes. Based on extensive feedback received from faculty across campus, including perspectives from both small units with limited eligible reviewers and larger units with many faculty and high review volume, the committee is working to develop language that is both contractually aligned and practically workable. Our deliberations are focused on balancing transparency, meaningful faculty participation, independence of review, and workload equity, while also minimizing unnecessary administrative burden where feasible.

At this time, the FAC is not yet ready to advance the Unit RTP/PTR composition proposal to Academic Senate. We are intentionally allowing additional time for the committee to digest the feedback, explore reasonable options, and improve the proposed policies.

The FAC is deeply appreciative of the constructive input and contributions provided to date, which have strengthened the quality of our discussions and draft language. We anticipate bringing forward a completed resolution in the future.

In addition to its ongoing work on Unit RTP and PTR committee composition, the Faculty Affairs Committee approved and advanced several other items:

- The FAC voted to forward resolutions on SOCI Modality and Department Chair/Program Director Term Limits to Academic Senate for First Reading. These resolutions are in response to referrals 2025-2026 36 and 2025-2026 28, respectively.
- The committee also reviewed proposed language addressing Teaching Modality and the role of the Distributed Learning Committee and voted to send this item to the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) for joint consideration, recognizing the shared committee responsibilities in response to referral 2025-2026 19.



# ACADEMIC SENATE

## CSU BAKERSFIELD

### Changes to Fall 2026 Academic Calendar

**RES 252623**

BPC

**RESOLVED:** That the Fall 2026 Deadline to Apply for Fall 2026 Graduation date listed on May 1 be omitted.

**RATIONALE:** The deadlines for Fall 2026 graduation are listed, in error, twice in the calendar: first on May 1 and again on July 3. July 3 has been confirmed as the correct deadline.

**Attachment:** *Revised Academic Calendar 2026-2027*

**Distribution List:**

President  
Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs  
Vice-President for Student Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management  
AVP for Faculty Affairs  
AVP Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs  
College Deans  
Associate Deans  
Dean of Libraries  
Dean of Antelope Valley  
Dean of Extended Education and Global Outreach  
Department Chairs  
General Faculty

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Approved by the Academic Senate:

Sent to the President:

President Approved:

**Academic Senate**

California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Hwy. • 22 EDUC • Bakersfield, CA 93311

**Other units for consideration for distribution list:**

Vice-President for Business and Administrative Services and Chief Financial Officer  
Vice-President for University Advancement  
Vice-President for People and Culture  
Chief of Staff to the President  
AVP for Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment  
AVP for Grants, Research and Sponsored Programs  
AVP for Information Technology Services and Chief Information Officer  
AVP for Student Affairs and Dean of Students  
AVP for Enrollment Management  
Director of Enrollment Management Systems (formerly Academic Operations)  
Director of Undergraduate Advising  
Executive Director of Associated Students, Inc.  
Director of the Center for Accessibility and Essential Needs (formerly SSD)  
Director of Athletics

# California State University, Bakersfield Academic Calendar 2026/2027

## Fall Semester, 2026

March 09	.....	<b>Academic Advising</b> for Continuing Students Begins (for Summer 2026 & Fall 2026)
April 06	.....	<b>Registration</b> for Continuing Students Begins (for Summer 2026 & Fall 2026)
<del>May 01</del>	<del>.....</del>	<del>Deadline to Apply for Fall 2026 Graduation</del>
May 18	.....	Last Day to Register to Vote for Primary Election
June 01	.....	<b>Academic Advising</b> for New Transfer Students Begins (for Fall 2026)
June 01	.....	<b>Registration</b> for New Transfer Students Begins (for Fall 2026)
June 01	.....	<b>Registration</b> for New Postbaccalaureate Students
June 02	.....	CA Statewide Primary Election
June 18	.....	<b>HOLIDAY</b> – Juneteenth – Campus Closed
June 29	.....	<b>Academic Advising</b> for First-Time First-Year Students Begins (for Fall 2026)
June 29	.....	<b>Registration</b> for First-Time First-Year Students Begins (for Fall 2026)
July 03	.....	Deadline to Apply for <b>Fall 2026</b> Graduation
July 06	.....	Orientation for New Undergraduate Students Begins (for Fall 2026)
August 17	.....	<b>ALL FACULTY DUE ON CAMPUS</b>
August 24	.....	<b>First Day of Classes</b>
September 02	.....	Last Day to Add Classes
September 02	.....	Last Day to Change between Audit and Letter Grading
September 07	.....	<b>HOLIDAY</b> – Labor Day – (Campus Closed)
September 21	.....	Census Day
September 21	.....	Last Day to Change between Credit/No-credit and Letter Grading
September 21	.....	Last Day to Withdraw from Classes without a "W" being recorded
September 25	.....	Last Day for Faculty to Order Course Materials Through Campus Bookstore (for Spring 2027)
September 28	.....	<b>Academic Advising</b> for Continuing Students Begins (for Spring 2027)
October 15	.....	Campus-wide Emergency Evacuation Day
October 19	.....	Last Day to Register to Vote for the General Election
October 26	.....	<b>Registration</b> for Continuing Students Begins (for Spring 2027)
October 26	.....	Last Day for Department Chairs/Program Directors to Confirm All the Course Materials Have Been Ordered Through Campus Bookstore (for Spring 2027)
November 03	.....	CA Statewide General Election
November 11	.....	<b>HOLIDAY</b> – Veteran's Day – Campus Closed
November 13	.....	Last Day to Withdraw from Classes for a Serious and Compelling Reason
November 16	.....	<b>Academic Advising</b> for New Students Begins (for Spring 2027)
November 16	.....	<b>Registration</b> for New Students Begin (for Spring 2027)
November 23 – December 3	.....	SOCI Period (for both Online and Paper SOCIs)
November 25	.....	<b>No Classes</b> - Campus Open
November 26 – 27	.....	<b>HOLIDAY</b> - Thanksgiving - Campus Closed
November 30	.....	Deadline to Apply for <b>Spring 2027</b> Graduation
December 07	.....	<b>Last Day of Classes</b>
December 08	.....	Study / Reading Day
December 09 – 15	.....	Examination Period
December 11	.....	Last Day to Submit Completed Thesis / Dissertation
December 12	.....	Commencement
December 16 – 17	.....	Evaluation Days
December 18	.....	Grades Due

Winter Break: December 19, 2026 - January 19, 2027

Graduation deadlines: <https://www.csusb.edu/registrar/> or call (661) 654-3036

Commencement: <https://www.csusb.edu/commencement/> or email [commencement@csusb.edu](mailto:commencement@csusb.edu)

Winter Session: <https://extended.csusb.edu/> or call (661) 654-2441

Winter Session courses begin December 21, 2026, and end January 14, 2027.

Campus closed December 25, 2026 – January 1, 2027.

# California State University, Bakersfield

## Academic Calendar

### 2026/2027

#### Spring Semester, 2027

September 28	.....	<b>Academic Advising</b> for Continuing Students Begins (for Spring 2027)
October 26	.....	<b>Registration</b> for Continuing Students Begins (for Spring 2027)
November 16	.....	<b>Academic Advising</b> for New Students Begins (for Spring 2027)
November 16	.....	<b>Registration</b> for New Students Begins (for Spring 2027)
November 16	.....	<b>Registration</b> for Postbaccalaureate Students Begins (for Spring 2027)
November 30	.....	Deadline to Apply for <b>Spring 2027</b> Graduation
January 18	.....	<b>HOLIDAY</b> – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Campus Closed
January 20	.....	<b>ALL FACULTY DUE ON CAMPUS</b>
January 25	.....	<b>First Day of Classes</b>
February 03	.....	Last Day to Add Classes
February 03	.....	Last Day to Change between Audit and Letter Grading
February 19	.....	Census Day
February 19	.....	Last Day to Change between Credit/No-credit and Letter Grading
February 19	.....	Last Day to Withdraw from Classes without a "W" being recorded
March 05	.....	Last Day for Faculty to Order Course Materials Through Campus Bookstore (for Summer 2027 and Fall 2027)
March 08	.....	<b>Academic Advising</b> for Continuing Students Begins (for Summer 2027 & Fall 2027)
March 31	.....	<b>HOLIDAY</b> - Cesar Chavez Day- Campus Closed
	.....	<b>Spring Semester Break: March 22, 2027 – March 28, 2027 (Easter is March 28, 2027)</b>
April 05	.....	Last Day for Department Chairs/Program Directors to Confirm All the Course Materials Have Been Ordered Through Campus Bookstore (for Summer 2027 and Fall 2027)
April 05	.....	<b>Registration</b> for Continuing Students Begins (for Summer 2027 and Fall 2027)
April 07	.....	Campus-wide Emergency Evacuation Day
April 16	.....	Last Day to Withdraw from Classes for a Serious and Compelling Reason
April 19 – 30	.....	SOCI Period (for both Online and Paper SOCIs)
April 30	.....	Deadline to Apply for <b>Summer 2027</b> Graduation
May 03	.....	Deadline to Apply for <b>Fall 2027</b> Graduation
May 14	.....	<b>Last Day of Classes</b>
May 15 – 21	.....	Examination Period
May 19	.....	Last Day to Submit Completed Thesis / Dissertation
May 22	.....	Commencement
May 24 – 25	.....	Evaluation Days
May 26	.....	Grades Due
May 31	.....	<b>HOLIDAY</b> - Memorial Day –Campus Closed
July 5	.....	<b>Orientation</b> for New Undergraduate Students Begins (for Fall 2027)

**Graduation deadlines:** <https://www.csub.edu/registrar/> or call (661) 654-3036

**Commencement:** <https://www.csub.edu/commencement/> or email [commencement@csub.edu](mailto:commencement@csub.edu)

**Summer Session:** <https://extended.csub.edu/> or call (661) 654-2441



# ACADEMIC SENATE

## CSU BAKERSFIELD

### Special Review Committee Recommendations for Anthropology

**RES 252618**

AAC, BPC

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate accepts the recommendation of the Special Review Committee for Anthropology to discontinue the Anthropology program.

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate recommends a teach-out plan of four semesters, per the initial request, for students in the major to complete their degrees at California State University, Bakersfield.

**RESOLVED:** That funding in the instructional budget model for General Education courses in Subject Area 4 / Area D (both Lower and Upper Division), for which Anthropology offered courses, be equitably distributed to departments which also support these areas.

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate values the accomplishments of faculty in the Anthropology program since CSUB's founding. Additionally, we appreciate the value of Anthropology courses as part of General Education. We recommend similar course offerings focused on global cultural awareness be made available for all students.

**RATIONALE:** The Special Review Committee documented systemic issues within the program which continued to impede program growth, student and faculty recruitment, and faculty retention.

Attachment: Referral 2025-2026 18\_Special Review Committee for Anthropology

**Distribution List:**

President  
Provost and VP for Academic Affairs  
VP for Student Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management

**Academic Senate**

California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Hwy. • 22 EDUC • Bakersfield, CA 93311

AVP for Faculty Affairs  
AVP Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs  
College Deans  
Associate Deans  
Dean of Libraries  
Dean of Antelope Valley  
Dean of Extended Education and Global Outreach  
Department Chairs  
General Faculty

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Approved by the Academic Senate:  
Sent to the President:  
President Approved:



# ACADEMIC SENATE

## CSU BAKERSFIELD

### 2025-2026 REFERRAL #18

#### Special Review Committee for Anthropology

**Date:** September 17, 2025

**From:** Melissa Danforth, Academic Senate Chair

**To:** Tiffany Tsantsoulas, Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) Chair  
Amanda Grombly, Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) Chair

**cc:** Katherine Van Grinsven, Academic Senate Administrative Analyst

---

At their meeting on September 9, the Academic Senate Executive Committee requested that the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) and Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) review and address the recommendations provided by the Special Review Committee for Anthropology with respect to the proposed discontinuation of the Anthropology programs.

During your discussions, please consider:

- Recommendations from the Special Review Committee.

Please take up this matter with your committees and get back to me with your recommendations.

Please note that this program is under the old CSUB Policy on Program Discontinuation. In accordance with that Program Discontinuation Policy, the Academic Senate must make its recommendations to the President no later than 60 days after receiving this referral.

If your recommendation requires Senate action, please prepare a resolution and the rationale for the resolution. Thank you.

Attachments:

- (1) Special Review Committee Report for Anthropology\_Spring 2025.pdf
- (2) CSUB\_Policy\_on\_Discontinuation\_of\_Academic\_Programs.pdf
- (3) Memorandum-ANTH-MA-BA-Degrees-Discontinuation\_Revised Feb 2025.pdf
- (4) Memo\_Objection to Proposed Discontinuation of the MA and BA in Anthropology\_20250214.pdf
- (5) Email\_Feedback from Patrick O'Neill\_20250917.pdf

**DR. MELISSA DANFORTH, CHAIR, ACADEMIC SENATE**

California State University, Bakersfield  
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# ACADEMIC SENATE

## CSU BAKERSFIELD

### New Minor in Creative Writing

**RES 252614**

AAC, BPC

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate approves the proposed new Minor in Creative Writing.

**RATIONALE:** The new minor will support CSUB students interested in developing competencies in creative writing and associated careers. The Department of English added three new creative writing courses in Fall 2024 that can be included in the minor. This program will be supported by sufficient resources to ensure its successful future operations.

Attachment: 2025-2026 11\_Proposal for New Minor in Creative Writing

**Distribution List:**

President  
Provost and VP for Academic Affairs  
VP for Student Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management  
AVP for Faculty Affairs  
AVP Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs  
College Deans  
Associate Deans  
Dean of Libraries  
Dean of Antelope Valley  
Dean of Extended Education and Global Outreach  
Department Chairs  
General Faculty

---

Approved by the Academic Senate:

Sent to the President:

President Approved:

**Academic Senate**

California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Hwy. • 22 EDUC • Bakersfield, CA 93311



**ACADEMIC SENATE**  
CSU BAKERSFIELD

**2025-2026 REFERRAL #11**  
**Proposal for New Minor in Creative Writing**

**Date:** September 15, 2025  
**From:** Melissa Danforth, Academic Senate Chair   
**To:** Tiffany Tsantsoulas, Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) Chair  
Amanda Grombly, Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) Chair  
**cc:** Katherine Van Grinsven, Academic Senate Administrative Analyst

---

At their meeting on September 9, the Academic Senate Executive Committee requested that the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) and Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) review and address the Proposal for a New Minor in Creative Writing.

During your discussion, please consider:

- rationale as presented in the attached proposal
- impact on any students in the program.

Please take up this matter with your committee and get back to me with your recommendation. If your recommendation requires Senate action, please prepare a resolution and the rationale for the resolution.

Thank you.

Attachment: ENGL Proposal for Minor in Creative Writing 3-12-2025.pdf

**DR. MELISSA DANFORTH, CHAIR, ACADEMIC SENATE**  
California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Hwy. • Mail Stop: 20 BDC • Bakersfield, CA 93311



## CHANGES TO PROGRAM FORM

Form Number

### PROPOSAL ACTION (Select One)

**EFFECTIVE CATALOG YEAR: FALL 2026**

PROGRAM REVISION    PROGRAM CANCELLATION  
 PROGRAM PLACED IN MORATORIUM    ADD CONCENTRATION    ADD EMPHASIS  
 ADD OPTION    ADD MINOR

### PROGRAM OR SCHOOL & DEPARTMENT (Required)

School/Program: College of Arts & Humanities

Department: English

Proposed by: Emerson Case

### RATIONALE FOR DEGREE PROPOSAL (Required):

#### Provide Rationale for Degree Proposal:

In May 2024, the Department of English underwent an external review as part of the five-year University Program Review Committee (UPRC) review process. Our external reviewer, Dr. Dennis Chester, after meeting and consulting with various entities across the campus – including a fairly large cohort of students – recommended that the department first “develop course offerings in creative writing” and then “consider building a creative writing emphasis within the English Major in Language and Linguistics (EMLL) program or develop a Creative Writing minor.” This call was seconded by interim Dean Rodriguez, who felt that “developing new courses and perhaps a new emphasis or minor would help attract students to the English program; a new minor in creative writing would complement – and likely attract – students majoring in degree programs in and outside the School of Arts and Humanities.” The Department believes that while the main audience for this minor would be students currently in our English Major in Language and Literature (EMLL) program, the new minor would also be appealing to a new cohort of students interested specifically in careers related to writing, such as authors, editors, screenwriters, and web content specialists.

### DEGREE INFORMATION (MAJOR, CONCENTRATION/EMPHASIS/OPTION/MINOR)

Degree Title:

Minor in Creative Writing

### REVISIONS TO CURRENT DEGREE DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

#### Degree Description (Attach or copy catalog copy; Use Track Changes to Add/Revise Details):

Requirements for the Minor in Creative Writing

The minimum requirements for the minor in Creative Writing are:

Four (4) courses in creative writing totaling 12 semester units, at the 2000 level or above, at least three of which must be upper division, from the following:

ENGL 2100 – Introduction to Creative Writing  
ENGL 4100 – Teaching Creative Writing for High School English Language Arts Teachers  
ENGL 4110 – Creative Writing: Poetry  
ENGL 4120 – Creative Writing: Fiction  
ENGL 4130 – Creative Writing: Creative Non-Fiction  
THTR 3060 – Playwriting  
ENGL 4740 – Editing for Orpheus  
ENGL 4750 – Editing for Calliope

## ADDING AN OPTION, CONCENTRATION OR SPECIAL EMPHASIS (ATTACH APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS):

Per [EO 1071](#), before any option, concentration, or special emphasis (or similar subprogram) approved under this delegation, can be implemented, the campus shall obtain a Chancellor's Office confirmation of compliance with CSU policy and applicable law. Campus notifications shall be submitted to the Department of Academic Programs and Faculty Development ([degrees@calstate.edu](mailto:degrees@calstate.edu)). The following information must be submitted:

- The exact title of the new subprogram and the complete degree designation and title of the major degree program housing the new subprogram (e.g., Bachelor of Science in Biology with a Concentration in Biochemistry);
- A list of courses and required units constituting that new subprogram;
- Total units required to complete the entire degree, including the combination of subprogram and major program;
- The complete list of courses and required units constituting the major degree program as approved by the Chancellor's Office;
- A 4-year major-and-subprogram roadmap for freshmen and a 2-year major-and-subprogram roadmap for transfer students;
- The CSU degree program code (formerly called "HEGIS") that students use to apply to the major degree program;
- The campus-proposed CSU degree program code to be used to report enrollments in the concentration (may be the same as the degree code);
- A detailed cost-recovery budget for self-support subprograms to be offered within state-support major degree programs; and
- Documentation of all campus-required curricular approvals.

## ADDING A MINOR

### Provide the Program Description and Minor Requirements:

elements for the Minor in Creative Writing

The minimum requirements for the minor in Creative Writing are:

Four (4) courses in creative writing totaling 12 semester units, at the 2000 level or above, at least three of which must be upper division, from the following:

ENGL 2100 - Introduction to Creative Writing  
ENGL 4100 - Teaching Creative Writing for High School English Language Arts Teachers  
ENGL 4110 - Creative Writing: Poetry  
ENGL 4120 - Creative Writing: Fiction  
ENGL 4130 - Creative Writing: Creative Non-Fiction  
FTTR 4740 - Playwriting  
ENGL 4740 - Editing for Orpheus  
ENGL 4750 - Editing for Calliope

## IMPACT OF DEGREE PROPOSAL ON OTHER PROGRAMS OR DEPARTMENTS

### What Is the Impact of This Degree Proposal on Course Offerings from Other Department(S) Or Programs?

### Please Include Supporting Emails with This Proposal:

This degree will not have any impact on other departments or programs.

## IMPACT OF DEGREE PROPOSAL ON COURSE(S)

### List All the New and Revised Courses Required for This Degree Proposal (If Applicable):

### Attach/Submit All the Course Proposal Forms and Catalog Copy Together with This Form for Curricular Review and Approval

In Fall 2024, the Department of English submitted and had approved three new Creative Writing Courses – ENGL 4110 Creative Writing: Poetry, ENGL 4120 Creative Writing: Fiction, and ENGL 4130 Creative Writing: Creative Nonfiction.

## NEXT STEPS

- Attach Course Proposal Form(s) to This Proposal (If Applicable)
- Attach Catalog Copy w/ revisions (using track changes) to This Proposal
- Attach Appropriate Documents if Adding an Option, Concentration or Special Emphasis
- Attach Revised Academic Roadmap
- Submit to Department/Program Curriculum Committee for Review & Approval
- Department Submits to School/Program Curriculum Committee for Review & Approval
- School/Program Curriculum Committee Submits Related Forms to GECCo (If Applicable)
- Chancellor's Office (CO) Notification for Implementation of Option, Concentration or Special Emphasis
- If No Additional Approvals Are Required, School/Program Curriculum Committee Submits to Academic Operations After Final Approvals Have Been Recorded. [See Annual Catalog & Curriculum Deadlines Dates](#)

## SCHOOL/PROGRAM COMMITTEE & OTHER APPROVALS:

Department Chair/Program Director: <b>Emerson Case</b>	Date: <b>3/11/2025</b>
School/Program Curriculum Committee Chair:  Matthew Hanne (Mar 25, 2025 13:02 PDT)	Date: Mar 25, 2025
Dean of School:  Alicia Rodriguez (Mar 25, 2025 13:35 PDT)	Date: Mar 25, 2025
Director of GE:	Date:
CO Notification for Implementation of Option, Concentration or Special Emphasis:	Date:
CO Confirmation of Compliance for Options, Concentration or Special Emphasis:	Date:
President's Approval for Minor:	Date:
WSCUC Approval:	Date:
Director of Academic Operations:	Date:

## ACADEMIC OPERATIONS USE ONLY:

Effective Term:	Catalog Year:
CIP Code:	HEGIS Code:
Program Code:	Plan Code:
SubPlan Code:	

## **Request to Create a New Minor in Creative Writing**

The English Department is requesting that the following **new minor** be added to the English Department's offerings:

### **1. Type of Change Requested:**

The Department of English is seeking approval to add a **new minor in Creative Writing** to the English Department's offerings. The new minor would take the following structure (which has been designed to closely follow the structure of our other minors in English literature, Children's literature, and Linguistics):

### **Requirements for the Minor in Creative Writing**

The minimum requirements for the minor in Creative Writing are:

Four (4) courses in creative writing totaling 12 semester units, at the 2000 level or above, at least three of which must be upper division, from the following:

ENGL 2100 – Introduction to Creative Writing

ENGL 4100 – Teaching Creative Writing for High School English Language Arts Teachers

ENGL 4110 – Creative Writing: Poetry

ENGL 4120 – Creative Writing: Fiction

ENGL 4130 – Creative Writing: Creative Non-Fiction

THTR 3060 – Playwriting

ENGL 4740 – Editing for *Orpheus*

ENGL 4750 – Editing for *Calliope*

### **2. Justification:**

#### **a. Why is the new minor needed?**

In May 2024, the Department of English underwent an external review as part of the five-year University Program Review Committee (UPRC) review process. Our external reviewer, Dr. Dennis Chester, after meeting and consulting with various entities across the campus – including a fairly large cohort of students – recommended that the department first “develop course offerings in creative writing” and then “consider building a creative writing emphasis within the English Major in Language and Linguistics (EMLL) program or develop a Creative Writing minor.” This call was seconded by interim Dean Rodriguez, who felt that “developing new courses and perhaps a new emphasis or minor would help attract students to the English program; a new minor in creative writing would complement – and likely attract – students majoring in degree programs in and outside the School of Arts and Humanities.” The Department believes that while the main audience for this minor would be students currently in our English Major in Language and Literature (EMLL) program, the new minor would also be appealing to a new cohort of students interested specifically in careers related to writing, such as authors, editors, screenwriters, and web content specialists.

In Fall 2024, the Department of English submitted and had approved three new Creative Writing Courses – ENGL 4110 Creative Writing: Poetry, ENGL 4120 Creative Writing: Fiction, and ENGL 4130 Creative Writing: Creative Nonfiction. With these courses now added to the list of English courses, we would like to move to the second phase of the process by adding an approved Minor in Creative Writing to our department's offerings.

**b.** What resources does the Department have/need to offer the new course, including faculty?

The department currently has one full-time lecturer, Matt Woodman, who recently received his Master of Fine Arts (MFA) and has been teaching a section of creative writing for the department each year for several years. In his review, Dr. Chester recommends that the department “seek new MFA faculty who can teach students how to write and how to make a living as a writer.” This is a line that the department may pursue in the future, once the new courses are in place and enrollments in the course indicate the need for new faculty.

**c.** How does the change affect the existing curriculum?

Since ENGL 2100, ENGL 4100, ENGL 4740, ENGL 4750, and THTR 3060 are already offered on a regular and consistent basis, the new minor would only marginally affect the existing curriculum. Our current plan is to begin by adding only one of the three new courses (ENGL 4110, ENGL 4120, or ENGL 4130) to the already established schedule each year, with the understanding that we may add further sections in the future if warranted by increased enrollments.



March 7, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On November 15, 2024, the Department of English unanimously approved adding a **Minor in Creative Writing** to the English Department's offerings.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emerson D. Case".

Emerson D. Case, Ph.D. | Professor/Chair  
Department of English  
California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Highway  
Bakersfield, CA 93311  
Office: HOB 139  
Phone: 661.654.6281



# ACADEMIC SENATE

## CSU BAKERSFIELD

### **Renaming of Computer Science Cybersecurity Concentration**

**RES 252615**

AAC, BPC

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate approves the proposed name change of the Computer Science Information Security Concentration to the Computer Science Cybersecurity Concentration.

**RATIONALE:** The adoption of the title Cybersecurity instead of Information Security for this concentration aligns with how the field is identified in both academia and the industry. Furthermore, this name change generates better name recognition for recruitment purposes and realigns the Computer Science program at CSU, Bakersfield with many of the others across the system. There are no curricular or resource implications for this name change.

Attachment: 2025-2026 07\_Proposal to Rename the Computer Science Information Security Concentration

**Distribution List:**

President  
Provost and VP for Academic Affairs  
VP for Student Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management  
AVP for Faculty Affairs  
AVP Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs  
College Deans  
Associate Deans  
Dean of Libraries  
Dean of Antelope Valley  
Dean of Extended Education and Global Outreach  
Department Chairs  
General Faculty

---

**Academic Senate**

California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Hwy. • 22 EDUC • Bakersfield, CA 93311

Approved by the Academic Senate:

Sent to the President:

President Approved:



# ACADEMIC SENATE

## CSU BAKERSFIELD

### 2025-2026 REFERRAL #07

#### Proposal to Rename the Computer Science Information Security Concentration

**Date:** September 4, 2025

**From:** Melissa Danforth, Academic Senate Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melissa Danforth".

**To:** Tiffany Tsantsoulas, Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) Chair  
Amanda Grombly, Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) Chair

**cc:** Katherine Van Grinsven, Academic Senate Administrative Analyst

---

At their meeting on August 26, 2025, the Academic Senate Executive Committee requested that the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) and Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) review and address the Proposal to Rename the Computer Science Information Security Concentration to the Computer Science Cybersecurity Concentration.

During your discussion, please consider:

- rationale as presented in the attached proposal
- impact on any students in the program.

Please take up this matter with your committee and get back to me with your recommendation. If your recommendation requires Senate action, please prepare a resolution and the rationale for the resolution.

Thank you.

Attachments:

- cybersecurity-letter
- Memo-CyberSecurity-NameChange
- NSME CC APPROVED\_Changes to Program\_CEECS-Cybersecurity
- Proposal to Rename Information Security Concentration to Cybersecurity - Fall 2024 update

**DR. MELISSA DANFORTH, CHAIR, ACADEMIC SENATE**

California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Hwy. • Mail Stop: 20 BDC • Bakersfield, CA 93311

[academicsenatechair@csub.edu](mailto:academicsenatechair@csub.edu) [csub.edu/senate](http://csub.edu/senate)

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY



To whom it may concern:

The proposal to rename the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science concentration in Information Security to the concentration in Cybersecurity has my support.

The proposal was voted and approved during the department meeting on October 3, 2024.

Sincerely,

*Saeed Jafarzadeh*

10/21/24

Saeed Jafarzadeh, Ph.D.

Department Chair, CEE/CS



The NSME Curriculum Committee has reviewed and approved the proposal from the Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science to rename the Information Security degree to Cybersecurity. This proposal was discussed and approved at the NSME Curriculum Committee meeting on 10-25-2024.

Brian Ryals

Chair of NSME Curriculum Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Ryals".



## CHANGES TO PROGRAM FORM

Form Number

**Reset Form**

### PROPOSAL ACTION (Select One)

**EFFECTIVE CATALOG YEAR: FALL 2025**

**PROGRAM REVISION**    **PROGRAM CANCELLATION**  
 **PROGRAM PLACED IN MORATORIUM**    **ADD CONCENTRATION**    **ADD EMPHASIS**  
 **ADD OPTION**    **ADD MINOR**

### PROGRAM OR SCHOOL & DEPARTMENT (*Required*)

**School/Program:** College of Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering

**Department:** Computer & Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

**Proposed by:** M. Danforth and A. Cruz

### RATIONALE FOR DEGREE PROPOSAL (*Required*):

Provide Rationale for Degree Proposal:

Title change from Information Security to Cybersecurity to be consistent with other CSUs, see attached proposal.

### DEGREE INFORMATION (MAJOR, CONCENTRATION/EMPHASIS/OPTION/MINOR)

**Degree Title:**  
BS Computer Science, concentration in Information Security

### REVISIONS TO CURRENT DEGREE DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

**Degree Description** (*Attach or copy catalog copy; Use Track Changes to Add/Revise Details*):

No curricular changes, only the title. See attached.

## ADDING AN OPTION, CONCENTRATION OR SPECIAL EMPHASIS (ATTACH APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS):

Per [EO 1071](#), before any option, concentration, or special emphasis (or similar subprogram) approved under this delegation, can be implemented, the campus shall obtain a Chancellor's Office confirmation of compliance with CSU policy and applicable law. Campus notifications shall be submitted to the Department of Academic Programs and Faculty Development ([degrees@calstate.edu](mailto:degrees@calstate.edu)). The following information must be submitted:

- The exact title of the new subprogram and the complete degree designation and title of the major degree program housing the new subprogram (e.g., Bachelor of Science in Biology with a Concentration in Biochemistry);
- A list of courses and required units constituting that new subprogram;
- Total units required to complete the entire degree, including the combination of subprogram and major program;
- The complete list of courses and required units constituting the major degree program as approved by the Chancellor's Office;
- A 4-year major-and-subprogram roadmap for freshmen and a 2-year major-and-subprogram roadmap for transfer students;
- The CSU degree program code (formerly called "HEGIS") that students use to apply to the major degree program;
- The campus-proposed CSU degree program code to be used to report enrollments in the concentration (may be the same as the degree code);
- A detailed cost-recovery budget for self-support subprograms to be offered within state-support major degree programs; and
- Documentation of all campus-required curricular approvals.

## ADDING A MINOR

**Provide the Program Description and Minor Requirements:**

N/A

## IMPACT OF DEGREE PROPOSAL ON OTHER PROGRAMS OR DEPARTMENTS

**What Is the Impact of This Degree Proposal on Course Offerings from Other Department(S) Or Programs?**

**Please Include Supporting Emails with This Proposal:**

N/A, no curricular changes.

## IMPACT OF DEGREE PROPOSAL ON COURSE(S)

**List All the New and Revised Courses Required for This Degree Proposal (If Applicable):**

**Attach/Submit All the Course Proposal Forms and Catalog Copy Together with This Form for Curricular Review and Approval**

N/A

## NEXT STEPS

- Attach Course Proposal Form(s) to This Proposal (If Applicable)
- Attach Catalog Copy w/ revisions (using track changes) to This Proposal
- Attach Appropriate Documents if Adding an Option, Concentration or Special Emphasis
- Attach Revised Academic Roadmap
- Submit to Department/Program Curriculum Committee for Review & Approval
- Department Submits to School/Program Curriculum Committee for Review & Approval
- School/Program Curriculum Committee Submits Related Forms to GECCo (If Applicable)
- Chancellor's Office (CO) Notification for Implementation of Option, Concentration or Special Emphasis
- If No Additional Approvals Are Required, School/Program Curriculum Committee Submits to Academic Operations After Final Approvals Have Been Recorded. [See Annual Catalog & Curriculum Deadlines Dates](#)

### SCHOOL/PROGRAM COMMITTEE & OTHER APPROVALS:

Department Chair/Program Director: <i>Sased Jafargzedeh</i>	Date: 10/14/2024
School/Program Curriculum Committee Chair: <i>Bru Kelly</i>	Date: May 7, 2025
Dean of School: <i>Karlo Lopez</i> <small>Karlo Lopez (May 7, 2025 08:27 PDT)</small>	Date: May 7, 2025
Director of GE:	Date:
CO Notification for Implementation of Option, Concentration or Special Emphasis:	Date:
CO Confirmation of Compliance for Options, Concentration or Special Emphasis:	Date:
President's Approval for Minor:	Date:
WSCUC Approval:	Date:
Director of Academic Operations:	Date:

### ACADEMIC OPERATIONS USE ONLY:

Effective Term:	Catalog Year:
CIP Code:	HEGIS Code:
Program Code:	Plan Code:
SubPlan Code:	

# **Request for Concentration Title Change and CIP Code Change for the Information Security Concentration in the Computer Science B.S. Program**

## **Summary**

The Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (CEE/CS) Department at CSU Bakersfield (CSUB) proposes to change the title of the “Information Security” concentration in the Computer Science B.S. degree program to the title of “Cybersecurity”, beginning in Fall 2025. We also propose to change that concentration’s paired CIP code to the Cybersecurity option in the CSU Program Code list<sup>1</sup>. No curricular changes to the concentration are proposed.

## **Program Information**

CSU Campus:	California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB)
Proposed implementation date:	Fall 2025
Current concentration title:	Computer Science, BS, Concentration in Information Security (CMPS plan, ISEC subplan)
Proposed concentration title:	Computer Science, BS, Concentration in Cybersecurity
Proposed paired CIP code:	11.1003
CIP 11.1003 definition <sup>2</sup> :	

A program that prepares individuals to assess the security needs of computer and network systems, recommend safeguard solutions, and manage the implementation and maintenance of security devices, systems, and procedures. Includes instruction in computer architecture, programming, and systems analysis; networking; telecommunications; cryptography; security system design; applicable law and regulations; risk assessment and policy analysis; contingency planning; user access issues; investigation techniques; and troubleshooting.

## **Rationale**

### **Changes in Disciplinary Conventions**

When the Information Security concentration was proposed, the discipline tended to use the titles of Information Assurance or Information Security for academic programs. The phrase “cybersecurity” was not in common usage among academia at that time and was still gaining traction within industry. There was not even a common agreement back then on if the phrase should be one word (“cybersecurity”) or two words (“cyber security”).

In the time since the concentration was approved, the phrase “cybersecurity” (one word) has become more common in industry and academia. It has also become more common in non-technical contexts, such as media usage, and is familiar to high school students and their parents. While some professional

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/administration/academic-and-student-affairs/academic-programs-innovations-and-faculty-development/Documents/CSU\\_Codes\\_to\\_CIP\\_2020.pdf](https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/administration/academic-and-student-affairs/academic-programs-innovations-and-faculty-development/Documents/CSU_Codes_to_CIP_2020.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/cipdetail.aspx?y=55&cipid=87263>

societies still have “information security” or variations in their society names, such as the Information Systems Security Association (ISSA), “cybersecurity” is currently the more common term.

### **Recruitment Issues**

Potential students are confused between the “Information Security” concentration and the “Information Systems” concentration in Computer Science, due to the similar nature of the concentration titles. Additionally, program advisors report that some students do not realize that the “Information Security” concentration focuses on cybersecurity. This has led to lower enrollments in the “Information Security” concentration, compared to the “Traditional” and “Information Systems” concentrations offered at CSUB in Computer Science.

Renaming the concentration to “Cybersecurity” will help with both the confusion between similarly named concentrations and with clearly identifying the intent of the concentration to potential students.

### **Titles Used at Other CSUs**

As detailed in Appendix A, no other Computer Science degrees or departments in the CSU uses “Information Security” as a program title or option title. Most of the bachelor’s and master’s programs based in the Computer Science departments at other CSU campuses use “Cybersecurity” or “Cyber Security” as their titles, with a few using other variations on the word “security”.

The only other programs in the CSU currently using the titles “Information Security” or “Information Systems Security” are business programs. Since this program is a computer science program, not a business program, renaming the concentration to “Cybersecurity” will realign the program to programs offered by other CSU Computer Science departments.

Additionally, there is now a “Cybersecurity” entry in the CSU Program Codes list and we are asking to change the paired CIP code to the CIP listed in the “Cybersecurity” entry, as that code most accurately aligns to the concentration.

## **Concentration Description and Requirements**

**There are no requested changes to the concentration curriculum.** However, the Chancellor’s Office guide for renaming concentrations says all proposals should include a program description and degree roadmap<sup>3</sup>. The following information is from the **Fall 2024 CSUB catalog**<sup>4</sup> and associated program mapper website<sup>5</sup> for the Computer Science – Information Security concentration.

The concentration description, as recorded in the CSUB catalog, is as follows: “This concentration is intended for students who wish to pursue a career in information assurance and cyber security, either with government agencies or with industry.”

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/administration/academic-and-student-affairs/academic-programs-innovations-and-faculty-development/Documents/Changing-a-Degree-Title-or-Suggesting-a-New-Code.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://catalog.csub.edu/academic-degrees-programs/undergraduate-majors/computer-science-bs-concentration-information-security/#programrequirementstext>

<sup>5</sup> <https://programmap.csub.edu/academics/interest-clusters/4e942a6e-b8e4-4b60-a1ae-334235acc581/programs/46100888-2e62-f48b-c9b8-8ced7be1cd14>

The concentration requires the following coursework (courses marked with \* are required by the Computer Science – Traditional degree program and courses marked with a + are electives in the Computer Science – Traditional degree program):

- Lower-division CMPS core (16 units): CMPS 2010\*, 2020\*, 2120\*, and 2240\*
- Upper-division CMPS core (32 units): CMPS 3120\*, 3140\*, 3350\*, 3420\*, 3500\*, 3600\*, 3620\*, 3640\*, 4910\*, and 4928\*
- Elective CMPS courses (12 units): 12 units chosen from CMPS 2650, 3560\*, 3650, 4450+, 4510+, and 4620+, and MATH/CMPS 4300+. At least one course must be at the 4000-level.
- General cognate courses (15 units): MATH 2310\* or 2510\*, 2320\* or 2520\*, 3200\*, and PHIL 3318\*
- Global Intelligence and National Security (GINS) cognate courses (11-12 units):
  - Analytical tool: Select one course (3-4 units) from CRJU 3500, ECON/MIS 3200, GEOL 4050 or 4150, MIS 4100, or SOC 4010
  - Focus area: Select at least eight units from CHIN 1000+1001, 1010+1011; CRJU 4340; HIST 3150, 3310, 3410, 3420, 3490, 4510; JPNS 1000+1001, 1010+1011; PLSI 3040, 3320, 3330, 3340, 3350, 3380, 3610, 3620, 3630; and SOC 4020
- General education and university requirements. The following are modifications and notes for program (32 units of GE and other university requirements after modifications):
  - Area B4 is met through MATH 2310 or 2510 with a grade of C- or better
  - GWAR is met through PHIL 3318 with a grade of C or better
  - Upper-division Area C is met through PHIL 3318
  - CSUB's Capstone requirement is met through CMPS 4928
  - Area B2/B3 is met through program curriculum
  - 3 units of lower-division Area D is met through program curriculum
  - Upper-division Area D is met through program curriculum
  - Area E (SELF) requirement is strongly advised to be met by selecting a required GE course with a SELF overlay. If a student opts to take a stand-alone course for SELF, that will add 3 units to that student's GE pathway. (note: Area E is not in CalGETC, but is still required by CSUB at the time of writing this proposal in February 2024)

#### **Note on 2-Year Roadmap**

No 2-year roadmap is provided because there is no ADT for the cybersecurity concentration within Computer Science. Students transferring to CSUB with the Computer Science ADT are expected to complete the Computer Science – Traditional concentration<sup>6</sup> at CSUB, rather than the cybersecurity concentration.

#### **4-Year Roadmap**

Cybersecurity concentration students entering CSUB as first-year students are expected to be calculus-ready in their first semester. The roadmap is as follows (note: GINS Focus Area 3 course is only required if student selects a 3-unit course for GINS Focus Area 1 or GINS Focus Area 2):

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<sup>6</sup> <https://programmap.csub.edu/academics/interest-clusters/4e942a6e-b8e4-4b60-a1ae-334235acc581/programs/6d1648e2-b3cc-7b03-d453-7d8a82abe8c1>

Year 1	<b>Fall semester</b>		<b>Spring semester</b>	
	CMPS 2010	4	CMPS 2020	4
	MATH 2310 or 2510	4	MATH 2320 or 2520	4
	GE Area A1 (CalGETC 1c)	3	GE Area A3 (CalGETC 1b)	3
	GE Area A2 (CalGETC 1a)	3	GE Area C1 or C2 with SELF (CalGETC 3a or 3b)	3
	CSUB First-Year Seminar	2		
	Total units	16	Total units	14

Year 2	<b>Fall semester</b>		<b>Spring semester</b>	
	CMPS 2120	4	CMPS 2240	4
	MATH 3200	4	CMPS 3350	4
	GE Area C1 or C2 (CalGETC 3a or 3b)	3	GE Area B1 (CalGETC 5a with optional 5c lab course)	3
	AI US History	3	GE Area F (CalGETC 6)	3
			AI Government (CalGETC 4)	3
	Total units	14	Total units	17

Year 3	<b>Fall semester</b>		<b>Spring semester</b>	
	CMPS 3120	3	CMPS 3140	3
	CMPS 3420	4	CMPS 3620	4
	CMPS 3600	4	CMPS Elective 1	4
	GINS Focus Area 1	3-4	GE JYDR	3
	Total units	14-15	Total units	14

Year 4	<b>Fall semester</b>		<b>Spring semester</b>	
	CMPS 3640	3	CMPS 3500	3
	CMPS Elective 2	4	CMPS Elective 3	4
	CMPS 4910	2	CMPS 4928	2
	PHIL 3318 [GWAR/UDC] (CalGETC GWAR/UD 3)	3	GINS Analytical Tool	3
	GINS Focus Area 2	3-4	(if needed) GINS Focus Area 3	0-3
			(if needed) Any CSUB course to get to 120 units overall	0-3
Total units		15-16	Total units	At least 16

## **Appendix A: Titles Used at Other CSUs**

### **CSU bachelor's programs using Cybersecurity or variation:**

- Fullerton: option in Computer Science named Cybersecurity [ICS Department]
- Stanislaus: option in Computer Science named Cybersecurity [CS Department]
- San Bernardino: option in Information Systems and Technology named Cyber Security [Business college]
- San Bernardino: option in Intelligence and Crime Analysis named Cyber Security [Social Sciences college]
- San Marcos: BS in Cybersecurity [special self-support 2+2 program in Science & Technology area]

### **CSU bachelor's programs using Information Security or variation:**

- Dominguez Hills: option in Business Administration named Information Systems Security [Business college]
- San Bernardino: option in Administration named Information Security [Business college]

### **CSU bachelor's programs using other names containing "security":**

- Cal Poly SLO: option in Computer Science named Privacy and Security [CS Department]
- Monterey Bay: option in Computer Science named Network and Security [CS Department]
- Dominguez Hills: option in Computer Technology named Homeland Security [CS Department]
- San Bernardino: option in Information Systems and Technology named National Security [Business college]
- San Bernardino: option in Intelligence and Crime Analysis named Homeland Security [Social Sciences college]

### **CSU master's programs using Cybersecurity or variation:**

- Dominguez Hills: MS in Cyber Security (self-support) [CS Department]
- San Marcos: MS in Cybersecurity (self-support) [CS/IS Department]
- San Bernardino: MS in Cybersecurity and Analytics (self-support) [Business college]
- San Bernardino: MS in Information Systems and Technology, option in Cyber Security (stateside) [Business college]
- San Bernardino: MS in National Cyber Security Studies (stateside) [Social Sciences college]
- San Diego: MS in Cybersecurity Management (stateside) [Business college]

### **CSU master's programs using Information Security:**

- Cal Poly Pomona: MS in Information Security (stateside) [Business college]



## **Transitioning to Online SOCIs – Handbook Change**

**RES 252620**

FAC

**RESOLVED:** The Academic Senate approves revisions to the University Handbook regarding the administration of student opinions of curriculum and instruction (SOCIs). Deletions are in ~~strikethrough~~, and additions are in **bold and underlined**.

**RESOLVED:** The Academic Senate shall review the effectiveness of this transition after a period of five years, including analysis of response rates, student feedback, and faculty feedback.

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### **305.4.4 Student Role in the Performance Review Process for Instructional Faculty**

Student opinion of teaching by faculty is a required component of the performance review process. The Student Opinion on Curriculum and Instruction (SOCI) shall be the primary instrument used to collect student opinions of teaching.

Although this handbook currently identifies the Student Opinion on Curriculum and Instruction (SOCI) as the primary instrument used to collect student opinions of teaching, this tool is to be considered as only one of many measures used to evaluate teaching; SOCIs should not be given more consideration than the other measures of teaching performance outlined in section 305.4.2.6 (Evaluation of Teaching Performance). Further, the trends in student responses should be the focus of the evaluation of SOCIs as a measure of teaching performance.

The quantitative and qualitative (i.e., open-ended) items included on the instruments to gather student opinions shall be reviewed and open for potential revision every 10 years, or more frequently. More frequent reviews and revisions are at the discretion of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate. Any revision process shall include broad consultation from faculty.

Except as limited below, faculty members will administer SOCIs in all sections and place the results of all SOCIs in the RTP (WPAF) File for use by all levels of review.

### **Academic Senate**

California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Hwy. • 22 EDUC • Bakersfield, CA 93311

The requirement for collection of SOCIs may be waived in the following cases.

- A. The requirement for collection of SOCIs may be waived for sections with enrollments of fewer than 6 students or similar situations in which the anonymity of respondents would be compromised and sections in which the primary mode of instruction or the SOCI would not reasonably correlate with instructional methods.
- B. The requirement for collection of SOCIs may be waived for sections in which a faculty member went on leave and was replaced by another faculty member.
  - a. This request shall be honored at the discretion of the replacement faculty member.
  - b. The faculty member on leave shall not be subject to student opinions.

Within these guidelines, department chairs in consultation with their department shall determine which sections are eligible for waiver. Documentation of the department decision to grant a waiver shall be included in each section of the file for which SOCIs are waived.

The SOCI shall be anonymous and identified only by course and/or section. The format of the SOCI provides both quantitative information (ratings of course and instructor attributes) and qualitative information (comments about the course and instructor).

Faculty shall be provided course and/or section summaries of quantitative data. Means and standard deviations shall be provided for individual questions ~~as well as the overall SOCI~~. Quantitative and qualitative data shall be linked in both online and physical SOCIs. SOCI reports shall be clear such that faculty can associate individual-student comments with individual-student quantitative responses. **Faculty shall also receive a SOCI report even when there are no completed student responses. SOCI reports shall be available to faculty teaching in all terms (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer). SOCI reports shall be provided to the individual faculty instructors, department chairs, and college deans.**

Some bias in student opinions may be present. Since SOCIs are used in conjunction with other measures to evaluate teaching, the College Dean (or designee) should arrange for training for Unit RTP Committee members to be undertaken before the start of a faculty review. The training should include the following: (1) the purpose of the RTP review process and the responsibilities of Unit Committee members, (2) the identification of possible biases in student responses, and (3) the process to remove biased SOCIs from an evaluation of teaching.

Faculty under review may request that the AVP for Faculty Affairs (or their designee) reviews and removes the SOCI(s) with discriminatory comments and quantitative responses. SOCI(s)

that are received within the prior academic calendar year are eligible for consideration for removal. Requests to remove SOCI(s) must be made 21 days prior to the deadline to submit the Working Personnel Action File (WPAF, commonly called the RTP File) for the next review cycle.

The AVP for Faculty Affairs (or their designee) shall consider the merit of such requests based on many factors, including (but not limited to) the human dignity of the faculty member, the student's role in the performance review process, and the added pedagogical value and relevance of the comments. Regardless of the decision of the AVP for Faculty Affairs (or their designee), the faculty member is encouraged to reflect upon feedback and may submit rebuttals to SOCI comments as part of the performance review process. In all cases, the Unit Review Committee, Department Chair (if applicable), College Dean, University Review Committee, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and President (or their designee) are expected to approach the evaluation of faculty and interpretation of SOCIs with care and professionalism. Ultimately, SOCIs are one component of a broad assessment of teaching performance.

#### **305.4.5**

#### **SOCI Distribution Completion Period**

The SOCI ~~Distribution Completion~~ Period shall be designated on the Academic Calendar, not to include the examination period. The timeframe for SOCI ~~distribution Completion~~ shall be the same regardless of course modality (e.g., face-to-face, hybrid, online).

In the Fall and Spring semesters, SOCIs ~~distributed completed~~ online shall be available for 10 weekdays. ~~SOCIs distributed in person shall be distributed during one class meeting in the two-week SOCI Distribution Period; SOCIs shall be distributed completed~~ between 14 and 21 days prior to the Last Day of Classes.

In the Summer and Winter sessions, SOCIs ~~distributed completed~~ online shall be available for 5 weekdays. ~~SOCIs distributed in person shall be distributed during one class meeting in the penultimate week of classes. SOCIs distributed completed online shall be distributed completed~~ during the penultimate week of classes.

**For face-to-face courses, instructors shall provide a minimum of 30 minutes of scheduled class time for SOCI completion during the designated SOCI completed period. Instructors of face-to-face courses shall leave the classroom during this time in order to promote student privacy and reduce perceived pressure or response bias.**

**The University shall provide clear guidance and technical support to faculty and students to ensure consistent implementation and accessibility of online SOCIs.** The

AVP for Faculty Affairs shall ensure that faculty receive directions on how to access online SOCIs via the Learning Management System so that faculty can encourage student participation. Faculty may encourage their students to complete SOCIs. Faculty members shall administer SOCIs in Accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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**RATIONALE:** Referral 2025-2026 35 highlights the increasing and unsustainable cost associated with the continued use of paper-based Student Opinions of Curriculum and Instruction (SOCIs). Transitioning to an exclusively online SOCI system represents a fiscally responsible and environmentally sustainable alternative. Online SOCIs are currently available as an option for face-to-face classes, or requirement for online classes, and so online SOCIs are already part of currently accepted practices.

This resolution further seeks to preserve the integrity and effectiveness of SOCI data during the transition to an online modality. A primary concern associated with online SOCIs is reduced student participation when surveys are completed outside of class. By requiring instructors of face-to-face courses to provide structured in-class time and leave the classroom during SOCI administration for at least 30 minutes, this resolution maintains continuity with current paper-based procedures and reinforces established norms that protect student anonymity, minimize perceived pressure, and promote higher response rates.

Additionally, this resolution formalizes the expectation that SOCI reports will be generated and distributed for all instructional terms, including cases in which no student responses are submitted. Providing reports in all circumstances ensures consistent documentation for faculty and prevents gaps in official records. The distribution of SOCI reports to individual faculty, department chairs, and college deans supports transparent and efficient faculty evaluation processes, facilitates completion of Working Personnel Action Files (WPAFs) and periodic evaluations, and ensures that backup records are available when needed.

Collectively, these changes advance institutional efficiency, protect the validity of student feedback, and strengthen the reliability and accessibility of SOCI data for personnel review and continuous improvement.

**Distribution List:**

President  
Provost and VP for Academic Affairs  
AVP for Faculty Affairs  
Academic Senate  
College Deans  
Dean of the Library  
College Associate Deans  
General Faculty

Approved by the Academic Senate:

Sent to the President:

President Approved:



## Department Chair Terms – Handbook Change

**RES 252621**

FAC

**RESOLVED:** The Academic Senate approves revisions to the University Handbook regarding the selection and appointment of Department Chairs and Program Directors. Deletions are in ~~strikethrough~~, and additions are in **bold and underlined**.

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### 312.3 Selection and Appointment Procedures

The appropriate dean shall request that the department or program faculty vote to recommend one or more persons for the position of chair or director. In addition, the dean shall offer the opportunity for the faculty to convey individual, confidential advice, orally or in writing. The recommendations of the faculty and the dean shall be forwarded by the dean to the P&VPAA by April 1<sup>st</sup>. The offer of appointment shall specify the criteria, including but not limited to those outlined in section 312.2 above, by which the administration will evaluate the performance of the chair or director. ~~Chairs or directors are expected to serve no more than two (2) consecutive three-year terms.~~

Chairs or directors are expected to serve no more than two (2) consecutive three-year terms in the same role. To promote shared governance, leadership development, and equitable distribution of service, departments and programs shall ordinarily limit service to these two consecutive terms, after which a break in service is expected before an individual may be considered again for the same position. This expectation does not impose a lifetime limit on service; individuals may become eligible to serve again following a break.

However, in cases where no other qualified and willing candidates are available, departments may recommend an exception to the expected term limit. Such recommendations must document (a) the efforts made to identify other qualified and willing candidates, and (b) the unit's rationale for extending the term limit. Any exception requires the approval of both the dean and the P&VPAA.

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**RATIONALE:** This resolution responds to Academic Senate Referral 2025–2026–28, which requested that the Faculty Affairs Committee review existing handbook language governing Department Chair and Program Director appointments and consider whether updates are warranted to ensure greater consistency across Colleges.

The proposed language establishes a clear normative expectation of no more than two consecutive terms, while preserving necessary flexibility through a documented exception process when no other qualified or willing candidates are available. Importantly, the policy does not impose a lifetime limit on service, allowing experienced faculty to return to leadership roles following a break in service. This approach balances institutional consistency with departmental autonomy, supports sustainable faculty leadership structures, and aligns local practices with widely accepted norms in shared governance across higher education.

**Distribution List:**

President  
Provost and VP for Academic Affairs  
AVP for Faculty Affairs  
Academic Senate  
College Deans  
Dean of the Library  
College Associate Deans  
General Faculty

Approved by the Academic Senate:

Sent to the President:

President Approved:



# ACADEMIC SENATE

## CSU BAKERSFIELD

### Academic Advising Structure Is an Academic Endeavor

#### RES 252622

AS&SS, AAC

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate affirms academic advising as an academic endeavor and asserts its role in the shared governance of advising policies and practices. Shared governance of academic advising should be carried out through a student-focused collaborative process with Academic Affairs, faculty, students, administrative bodies, and the Division of Student Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management, in alignment with accreditor expectations where applicable.

**RESOLVED:** That the Director of Academic Advising should provide annual reports to the Academic Senate and keep the Senate up to date on the state of academic advising.

**RATIONALE:** With the reorganization of academic advising under the Division of Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Support, there is a need to reaffirm the vital connection between advising and the Academic Senate. As University Handbook sect.103.2.2 states, “CSUB’s Academic Senate is a body through which the faculty exercises its members’ collective knowledge, experience, and judgement to develop and recommend to the President policies and procedures that ensure the realization of the University’s mission.” Academic advising of students is fundamental to this mission. Thus, the Academic Senate must continue its practice of developing and recommending policies and procedures pertaining to academic advising, including its structure and supports.

**Distribution List:**

President  
Provost and VP for Academic Affairs  
VP Student Affairs  
AVP & CIO Information Technology Services  
AVP Faculty Affairs  
AVP Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs  
College Deans  
Dean of Libraries  
Dean of Antelope Valley  
Dean of Extended University and Global Outreach  
Department Chairs  
General Faculty

**Academic Senate**

California State University, Bakersfield  
9001 Stockdale Hwy. • 22 EDUC • Bakersfield, CA 93311

Approved by the Academic Senate:

Sent to the President:

President Approved: