



Evergreen Valley College

Academic Senate Minutes

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Mishra Conference Room

Present: David Hendricks, Tina Iniguez, Henry Estrada, Juan Gil, Melissa Hornstein, Nancy Lin, Eric Narveson, Grace Estrada, Alessandro Bailetti Saez, Binh Vo, Laura Garcia, Sravani Banerjee, Judith Girardi, Tejal Naik

Absent:

Guest(s): VP Dickerson, Sylvia Min, Rahmon Pashtunyar, Sean Stewart

I. Call to Order – 3:02 pm

- II. **Adoption of Agenda** with amendments – Grace (1st), Sravani (2nd), unanimously approved.
- Tina requests to move from Action to Consent - DSP Screening Committee – Himani Tiwari
 - Tina requests to add to Consent - Tenure Review Committee (TRC) – Philip Avila for English (Enlace): Mirella Burton (Faculty); Huma Saleem (Admin)

- III. **Approval of Minutes** from September 1, with amendments – Alesandro (1st), Grace (2nd) unanimously approved.
- Update - ACCC Changes component to the following -
 - The goal is to improve the catalog timeline. This means that curriculum proposals with changes that impact student-facing elements in the catalog need to be submitted and processed in the Fall in order for them to be included in the next upcoming catalog. For example, a course proposal submitted and approved in Fall 2026 will be in the 2027-2028 catalog. The earliest a course proposal submitted and approved in Spring 2027 will be in the 2028 catalog.

IV. Public Comments (Limited to 3 minutes per person/ 5 minutes per item)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for items not on the agenda. Law does not permit action or extended discussion of items not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Senate action is required, it can be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

- Alessandro – Happy Latinx Heritage Month, which starts today. Check your email for events throughout the month.
- Sravani – Waitlist discrepancies were reported following the Self-Service outage. Adding students based on student-shown ranking differed from system information that Instructors have.
- Melissa – Elevator in the GE building broke yesterday and happens frequently. Suggests a campus Accessibility Committee to coordinate ADA and accessibility issues be formed.
- Tejal – attended the Futures Summit 2026 Conference and sent an email sharing information regarding technology presented. There was a focus on responsible, human-centered use of AI in teaching and learning.

V. Committee Chair Reports (3 minutes per report as needed)

- 1) **All College Curriculum:** Grace Estrada
 - First meeting September 10.

- Discussed transition to Coursedog curriculum software with an anticipated Fall 2027 rollout.
- The following items were unanimously supported:
 - Curriculum proposal effective-date adjustments.
 - Processing certain program updates as consent items.
 - Allowing curriculum chair to deactivate courses/programs approved through viability review.
- Discussed development of interdisciplinary STEM introductory course concept.
- Future Academic Senate discussion on creating a STEM discipline/course structure.

2) **AB 928:** Laura Garcia

- Exploring the possibility of fully online degree programs. Programs would need to be submitted to SJCC and the Chancellor's office.
 - Emphasis on evaluating online student services before implementation.
 - Will bring this discussion to Guided Pathways as a full list of services needed for a fully online degree program will need to be created.

3) **AB 1111:** Grace Estrada

- Currently assisting faculty in updating programs and courses impacted by Phase 2B. Work is paused on Phase 3 pending statewide articulation alignment.

4) **Universal Design Learning (UDL):** Grace Estrada

- Planning is underway for a two-year implementation and training process with the UDL mindset.
- Curriculum-related UDL work remains a priority.
- Coordination with Professional Development Committee is under discussion.

5) **Student Learning Outcomes:** Rahmon Pashtunyar

- eLumen Insights implementation discussions are underway. The goal is for future assessment directly in Canvas.
 - Pilot/demonstration work is planned before the Fall 2027 launch.
 - The committee is waiting on finalizing goals until their role and the chair's role in implementation is clear.
- CurriQunet SLO shell updates will be available soon. Rahmon will record a new video and include in a reminder email once updates are live.
- Reminder: SLO assessments due October 1, PLO assessments are due later in October.

6) **Guided Pathways:** Tina Iniguez

- Met last week and worked on setting goals.
- Counseling pop-up services continues monthly on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of the month with an emphasis on students obtaining education plans.
- Discussed the student success data in English and Math that was received at the last Board Meeting.
- Reviewed waitlist challenges and communication issues. Tiffany Lam shared the waitlist process.
 - Currently emails go out in English only and only when a student is bumped if not added in 48 hours.
 - All classes are dropped if over \$100 is due, not just what wasn't paid for.
- New Guided Pathways promotional video released and will be sent shortly.

- 7) **Credit for Prior Learning (CPL):** Juan Gil
 - Faculty outreach completed in STEM. Juan is currently working with Dean Herrera on CPL to develop credit-by-exam options and challenging exams.
 - Reviewing implementation plan and forms.
 - Counseling integration and support under discussion. Will be meeting with the Dean of Counseling to share and better understand CPL.
- 8) **Distance Education (DE):** Tejal Naik
 - Finalized workshop schedule for the semester with ADA and UDL on our radar.
 - Utilizing training that the Chancellors Office is offering on Thursday evening and Friday morning.
 - Integrated statewide UDL and accessibility webinars.
 - ADA/Title II training encouraged on September 18.
 - The committee is planning an introductory asynchronous module on UDL Mindset.
 - New DE rubric and policy updates were discussed.
 - New contract now has the DE Certification eligibility in it, no longer an MOU.
- 9) **College Budget:** Henry Estrada
 - Will meet on 9/23.
- 10) **District Budget:** Henry Estrada & Eric Narveson
 - Will meet on 9/24.
- 11) **Institutional Effectiveness:** Fahmida Fakhruddin – no report
- 12) **Campus Technology:**
 - The Technology Master Plan is under review; AI guidance will be incorporated.
 - Text-message Multi Factor Authorization (MFA) will be phased out by Feb. 1, 2027; authenticator apps are recommended. ITSS will provide updates on MFA alternatives.
 - CTC adopted a co-chair model with RJ Ruppenthal and Ken Nguyen, which is pending governance approval.
- 13) **College Safety and Facilities:** Vince Cabada – no report
- 14) **Student Equity:** – no report
- 15) **College Council:** Dave Hendricks
 - ASG reimbursement process was updated.
 - Filipino Heritage Month events were promoted.
 - Student memorial discussion is ongoing for Thomas Xie.
 - Hiring committees are fully staffed.
 - Temporary staffing support is in progress with Administrative Services. Please be patient with temporary backfills.
 - CTSS/ITSS integration concerns were noted.
 - Building leak repairs continue in the Student Services Building.
 - Great ShakeOut drills planned, no evacuation.
 - Concern about leadership models for CTC and Campus Budget were discussed, with a proposal to use the co-chair model under review by President Lopez. SJCC is currently using this model.

16) **District Council:** Tina Iniguez

- The committee is now called the Chancellor's Advisory Committee and will meet later this week.

17) **District Academic Senate:** David Hendricks

- Mark Branom is beginning a discussion on a potential change of Senate bylaws, transitioning the District Senate President from a one-year to two-year term, alternating between campuses.
- Currently there is no formalized way to evaluate screening committees at the district level.
- SJCC is pushing for the creation of a district level Teaching and Learning academy for new faculty or as a refresher for current faculty.
- The AP/BP 4000-5000 policy review task force will meet next week. It was requested that they create an email for the taskforce.
- Mark is creating a District AI Resource page for faculty and staff.

18) **Professional Development:** Sylvia Min

- PD funding applications are paused pending process review. The committee is seeking clarification of funding requirements and application rejections.
 - Business Services will provide guidance to help streamline the process.
 - Applications will resume once clearer procedures are established.

VI. Academic Senate President's Report

- Dave shared positive feedback regarding the Collegiality in Action training with EVC having good attendance. 10+1 information cards were available and distributed.
- The Senate plans to pilot a public Zoom, observation only with no participation, option to increase accessibility to Senate meetings.
- Review of district budget presentation:
 - Approximate district surplus of \$765,000 was noted.
 - Encouragement to align budget decisions with institutional mission and professional development needs.
- The reduced registration rate for the ASCCC Fall Plenary is approaching.
- Faculty Hiring Prioritization Committee process is beginning.
- Bylaws review subcommittee will be convened shortly.

VII. Academic Senate Vice President's Report

- Scheduling Priority Group - exploring Fall 2027 pilot of accelerated 8-week course blocks called Soar in 8 Weeks. Anticipate there will be training for faculty.
 - Seeking department recommendations for pilot courses.
 - Discussed potentially delaying publication/opening of some late-start courses.
 - Goal is to support late-registering students and improve enrollment opportunities.
 - Concerns included student communication, enrollment impacts, and class planning.
- Associate Faculty should meet with their students via office hours. Tina is currently working on access to the GE Building Adjunct space and communicating to Associate Faculty, as well as space in other buildings.

VIII. Consent Items

- A. Associate Faculty Senate Election – moved to Action for validation of the process.
- B. Screening Committee(s)
 - Financial Aid Specialist II - John Kaufmann
 - Financial Aid Outreach Specialist - William Sapigao
 - Lead Custodian - Ricky Hanson

- Director, College Fiscal Services - Melody Barta
 - Internal/Interim Director, Outreach and Recruitment – Tina Iniguez
 - Alternate Screening Committee Member – Dave Hendricks
 - Program Assistant (DSP) – Himani Tiwari
- C. Tenure Review Committee (TRC) – Philip Avila for English (Enlace): Mirella Burton (Faculty); Huma Saleem (Admin)

IX. Action Items

- A. Screening Committee(s)
- VP, Administrative Services – Alessandro (1st), Tina, (2nd), unanimously approved, Henry Estrada was elected by the Senate.
 - Program Assistant (DSP) - moved to Consent.
- B. Associate Faculty Election Committee: Eric moves to accept election results, Binh (2nd), unanimously approved. Election results validated and approved as follows:
- Rahmon Pashtunyar (9 votes)
 - Fahmida Fakhruddin (6 votes)
- C. Request to Deactivate Courses in a Deactivated Program- Alessandro (1st), Grace (2nd), unanimously approved.

X. Discussion Items (limited to 3 minutes per item)

- A. ITSS Reorganization – Prashant Shinde - Tabled
- B. Publication of late Start Classes – Grace Estrada
- Discussed support for late-start 8-week course offerings with VP Sam Morgan. Considered timing for releasing/advertising late-start courses.
 - Concerns were raised about course visibility, student awareness, and faculty impacts.
 - Suggested showing courses early but delaying registration access, along with notes in the schedule.
 - Requested data on enrollment, success, and persistence rates.
 - Need to identify appropriate courses and gather student feedback.
- C. Having a Senator act as ASG Liaison – Grace Estrada
- Discussed strengthening the student voice through an ASG-Academic Senate liaison.
 - Discussed how we could include regular student reports and participation through a representative, which is difficult as the ASG meets at the same time as the Senate.
 - The value of student perspectives in informing decisions and improving student support was emphasized.
 - Dave shared that Mike Masuda has volunteered to act as a student Liaison.
- D. Request to Deactivate Courses in a Deactivated Program – Grace Estrada
- 100% support from Curriculum to deactivate courses in the program that the Senate had previously approved to deactivate. We are following up with the Senate to request approval to now deactivate the courses.
 - Alessandro moves to suspend Roberts Rules and move Item D to Action, Grace (2nd), unanimously approved.
- E. Professional Development Committee Zoom Request – Sylvia Min
- PD Committee requests Zoom/teleconferencing options for public attendance and committee members to improve accessibility, transparency, participation, and representation.
 - Teleconferencing is expected to help address quorum challenges and increase committee engagement.
 - Under what conditions would remote attendance apply and would this apply to all subcommittees?

- Suggested applying to the Senate every six months for permission. Forms need to be created and approved before moving forward.
- Eric asks to move to Action next meeting, Binh (2nd).

XI. Information Items (limited to 3 minutes per item)

XII. Announcements & Recognitions

- Alessandro's nephew was born to his sister last week.
- Tina shared 3 workshops on career this week: Using AI for resumes, career branding, and career mentorships.
- Happy birthday to Grace and Dave.
- Next Academic Senate meeting: October 6, 2026.

XIII. Adjournment – 5:00 pm – Dave (1st), Alessandro (2nd).