



Evergreen Valley College

Academic Senate Minutes

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Mishra Conference Room

Present: Henry Estrada, Kelly Nguyen-Jardin, David Hendricks, Juan Gil, Melissa Hornstein, Nancy Lin, Eric Narveson, Grace Estrada, Rahmon Pashtunyar, Maria Esperanza Outeirino-Feijoo, Tina Iniguez, Alessandro Bailetti Saez, Judith Girardi, Binh Vo, Laura Garcia, Sravani Banerjee

Absent:

Guest(s): Tejal Naik, Sylvia Min, Shara Crary, Ariana Estrada, Ngoc Hang, Pionna Portuguez, Emily Do, Mashal Razai, Joseph Ballon

- I. Call to Order** – 3:01 pm
- II. Adoption of Agenda** – Grace (1st), Dave (2nd), unanimously approved
- III. Approval of Minutes** from March 17 with amendments – Eric (1st), Rahmon (2nd), approved with Melissa Hornstein abstaining.
 - Update “personal” to “personnel” in the Budget section.
- 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.

 - Arianna Estrada - introduced accessibility concerns, emphasizing high textbook costs as a key barrier for students.
 - Mashal Razai - highlighted accessibility issues with course materials. Noted students choose or avoid classes based on textbook affordability, not academic fit. Noted limited library availability and gaps in aid, especially for summer courses.
 - Joseph Ballon - observed professors encouraging students to pirate online resources over textbooks. Raised concerns about professors not using textbooks, academic freedom, and rising reliance on free or AI-based tools.
 - Pionna Portuguez - shared concerns as an immigrant student about implied use of illegal textbook access. Emphasized fear of legal consequences and inequity in accessing affordable education.
 - Evan (Student Support / First Stop Center) - reported students dropping or changing classes due to book costs.
 - Melissa Hornstein – ongoing elevator outages on campus are a significant accessibility and communication failure, impacting instruction, preventing equitable access to upper-floor classes, and raising legal and safety concerns when classes continue despite inoperable elevators.
 - Melissa Hornstein – menstrual equity continues to be an issue. We are not following menstrual equity laws on campus. Other faculty mentioned that the janitor said people are stealing supplies.

- Sravani Banerjee – expressed appreciation for strong attendance at the recent pre–spring break book discussion with 140 attendees including many students. National Poetry Month starts tomorrow and includes an upcoming student poetry open mic event.
- Grace Estrada – as a member of IEC, would like to address difficulties obtaining SLO assessment data from associate faculty, citing non-responsiveness, compliance risks, and urgency related to program review and upcoming accreditation.
- Tina Iniguez – raised concern about unpublished registration dates and a new registration system, noting widespread student confusion and anxiety, particularly for Group 2. Requesting clearer communication and advance notification for future process changes.
- Esperanza Outeirino-Feijoo - raised a safety concern regarding a man occupying campus buildings while using charging stations during evening classes, creating discomfort and perceived risk for students and staff, with a request to review evening security and access protocols.

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

1) **All College Curriculum:** Grace Estrada

- Title V updates were reviewed, including curriculum changes in Chapter 3 with a strong emphasis on Universal Design for Learning (UDL).
- A UDL implementation timeline through 2030 is being developed, with planned training benchmarks to integrate UDL across curriculum, program review, and SLO assessment; campus-wide discussion to begin in the fall.
- Assigning disciplines to courses was discussed as an optional curriculum feature for overlapping areas, with faculty training planned and a CurriQunet ticket to be opened.

Deactivations – Effective Spring 2026

ACCTG 138: Work Experience (1-8 units)

MATH 052: Math for Elementary Education (3 units)

SERV 002: Service-Learning: Personal and Career Development (3 units)

Deactivations Effective Fall 2026

AUTO 172: Chassis and Drivetrain Systems (2.5 units)

BIS 011: Computer Keyboarding (1 unit)

BIS 095: Microsoft Windows (1 unit)

BIS 106: Microsoft Word (3 units)

BIS 121: Web Techniques for Business (1 unit)

Associates in arts: Engineering (88-90 units)

Associates in science for Transfer: Mathematics (60 units)

CIT 101: Storing and Retrieving Big Data (4 units)

CIT 054: UNIX/Linux System Administration (3 units)

ENGR 066: Properties of Materials (3 units)

SPAN 038: Introduction to Spanish Linguistics (3 units)

SPAN 039: Introduction to Spanish and Latin American Literature (3 units)

2) **AB 928:** Laura Garcia

- Phase IIA and IIB Cal-GETC approvals were granted for all but one course in Phase IIB. Laura thanked faculty for completing Common Course Numbering work.
- History courses were approved for American Institutions; one Anthropology course lost a GE designation due to overlap, with follow-up ongoing.

- 3) **AB 1111:** Grace Estrada
 - Working on updating courses that had prerequisites for the Common Course numbering.
- 4) **Student Learning Outcomes:** Rahmon Pashtunyar
 - A review of the PLO assessment processes was conducted at the last meeting, including comparison with models from other colleges to improve efficiency and clarity. A potential shift toward reflective, past-focused PLO reporting was discussed.
 - Persistent issues with missing associate faculty data were noted, raising accreditation concerns and the need for further action.
- 5) **Guided Pathways:** Tina Iniguez
 - The 2.0 system rollout is scheduled after Community Day / CAPS Day on April 18 to avoid disruptions while new high school seniors are registered on campus.
 - Faculty were encouraged to submit program map tips to enhance student engagement and completion.
 - Participation began in the district Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) group, with draft purpose and philosophy statements shared for feedback.
 - Staffing and time constraints during CAPS/Community Day were noted, with plans to revisit future engagement formats.
- 6) **Credit for Prior Learning (CPL):** Juan Gil
 - EVC Grant spending was discussed at the last meeting, and a plan approved to use funds for summer work and hourly support.
 - CPL/AP implementation remains delayed due to faculty concerns from SJCC.
 - Dave and Henry will raise this issue with the Chancellor and follow up.
 - An EVC team will attend the April 20 Conference.
- 7) **Professional Development:** Binh Vo
 - With only three meetings remaining this semester there are concerns about insufficient time to plan upcoming Fall PDDs, and a request was noted for summer planning support.
 - Concerns were raised about misalignment between Senate bylaws and Coordinator job descriptions, particularly term lengths.
 - Henry shared that the issue has been acknowledged by the President and is under review.
- 8) **Distance Education (DE):** Tejal Naik
 - The committee is updating the DE Handbook and addressing AI CoP.
 - We will be hosting a workshop on Microsoft Copilot with a focus on AI ethics, based on faculty feedback.
 - The handbook update will be brought to Senate for annual review.
 - There is an introductory UDL workshop scheduled for this Thursday, 5–6 p.m.
- 9) **College Budget:** Eric Narveson
 - Next meeting is April 8.

- Nine program reviews were evaluated, generating 24 funding requests totaling \$1,424,562 (program review portion: \$665,859).
- Available funds are \$285,000, reduced to approximately \$250,000 after a 10% contingency for inflation and tariffs, creating a funding shortfall.
- 14 of 18 members are eligible and have voted on AURRs; voting participation remains a concern pending final attendance.

10) **District Budget:** Henry Estrada/Eric Narveson

- No meeting.

11) **Institutional Effectiveness:** Fahmida Fakhruddin

- 2025-2026 Institutional Set Standards (ISS) & Aspiration Goals - The IEC has officially voted to adopt a conservative approach for setting the Institutional Set Standards (ISS) & Aspiration Goals. While Fall 2025 data showed a significant success rate surge to 78.6%, the committee opted for a baseline that accounts for historical fluctuations in Spring semester data.
 - Institutional Set Standard (Floor)- 74%
 - Aspiration Goal (Stretch)- 76%
- Integration of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) - In alignment with new Title 5 mandates and ACCJC Standard II, the IEC is embedding UDL reflections into the Program Review process.
 - Moving from passive "accessibility checklists" to intentional "instructional design."
 - Departments will soon be asked to describe how they have integrated UDL principles (Engagement, Representation, and Action/Expression) and how these changes impact student success or narrow equity gaps.
 - Evidence of this process must be implemented by April 23, 2026. Full implementation is slated for 2030.
- Accreditation Updates
 - ACCJC Annual Report: Data collection is complete; VP Dickerson (ALO) will submit the report prior to the April 15 deadline.
- Program Review Status & Compliance
 - Academic Affairs VP's Office Program Review is officially approved; the previous contingency has been removed.
 - Business Information Systems Program Review is pending and will move to the next cycle due to outdated curriculum.
 - Four programs (Outstanding from 2024–25 cycle) remain pending due to outstanding SLO/PLO or curriculum compliance issues- Accounting, Entrepreneurship, Ethnic Studies, and Family and Consumer Studies.
 - The committee identified recurring difficulties in collecting SLO data from associate faculty and departments lacking full-time leads (e.g., Accounting). Similarly, programs without full-time faculty (e.g., Family & Consumer Studies) struggle to keep curriculum in compliance.
 - There is an ongoing need to discuss better Canvas-to-CurriQunet integration and potential policy shifts to ensure data collection is a streamlined, supported faculty responsibility.
- Administrative Updates

- Efforts are underway to correct "swapped" department categories in CurriQunet to ensure student service areas can accurately categorized for their reviews.

12) **Campus Technology:** Sylvia Min –

- AAUW Scholarship is due April 15, for transfer and dual-enrolled four-year students, please share the flyer provided.
- CTC Technology requests, first batch completed with additional programs under review. If any requests are missing, contact your CTC representative.
- CTC Training on Outlook email, April 24, Library.

13) **College Safety and Facilities:** Vince Cabada – no report

14) **Student Equity:** Victor Garza – no report

15) **College Council:** Henry Estrada

- Presentations included Technology and Concur.
 - Technology content mirrored prior updates.
 - Concur reminder from Kathy Tran: follow required timelines for submission and reimbursement as delayed paperwork can result in significant payment delays. Employees are advised to review procedures on the website.

16) **District Council:** Henry Estrada

- Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM): SEM group formed with district and both colleges. Broad cross-section of members with data and planning expertise. No EVC administrators present; possible addition of a VP pending. SEM plan development to be reported in the coming year.
- Student Success Report - details not discussed further at this meeting.

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

- Meeting with Senate Presidents, VC Brown, and Chancellor.
 - Continued emphasis on faculty/senate role in dual enrollment.
 - Focus on curriculum, personnel, and faculty evaluation.
 - Union addressing employment oversight with district.

VI. Academic Senate President's Report

- Henry plans to work closely with the District Office on budget alignment, with college presidents meeting with district leadership to talk through college needs, funding options, and how plans—especially enrollment management—are realistically supported by the budget.

VII. Academic Senate Vice President's Report

- Please email your division Senate representative to Kelly by next Tuesday; the at-large call will follow.
- Committee chair assessment forms are due by the end of the semester.

VIII. Consent Items

A. Screening Committee – Academic Services Analyst – Laura Garcia

IX. Action Items

- A. Screening Committee – Director, Outreach, Student Life and Community Standards
- The Senate selected the following faculty: John Ruys

- B. Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 Series Taskforce Composition
 - Dave motions to create a taskforce to oversee Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 of the AP's with the following composition: Curriculum Chairs from both colleges, Articulation Officers from both colleges, District Academic Senate President and the three Senate Officers (or designee) from each college. Eric (2nd); unanimously approved
- C. Distinguished Faculty Subcommittee members include; Kelly, Alessandro, Sravani, Dave, and Rahmon. Kelly (1st), Eric (2nd); unanimously approved

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

- A. Subcommittee for Distinguished Faculty Award – Henry Estrada
 - Senate subcommittee will review nominations and applications and forward a recommendation to the Senate with all senators voting on the final selection.
 - Subcommittee members must recuse themselves if nominated; an alternate will be appointed.
 - Kelly, Alessandro, Sravani, Dave, and Rahmon volunteered. Kelly motions to move to action, Eric (2nd), unanimously approved.
- B. Universal Design for Learning (UDL) – Dave Hendricks & Henry Estrada
 - Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is being emphasized in response to state law updates, with a focus on embedding accessibility into course design through inclusive practices such as multiple instructional methods, captioned recordings, and flexible student engagement to better support equity and diverse student needs.
 - UDL needs to be documented, in your course proposals, and fully implemented by 2030, as a Title V requirement. Laura and Grace are working on a timeline.
 - Dave to look at presenting a Fall PDD session on recording lectures.

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

- A. Update on the Presidential Priority Subgroup: Scheduling –Dean Crary
 - Scheduling subgroup reviewed faculty and student survey data to develop student-centered, data-informed scheduling strategies.
 - Key findings: strong alignment on flexibility, preference for late morning–early afternoon, mixed modality demand, and course availability as the primary barrier.
 - Strategic directions include expanding high-demand sections, piloting short-term and late-start courses, emphasizing hybrid modalities, and developing a predictable two-year scheduling framework to support completion.
- B. NSF-ATE Badging ProSkills Grant - Tejal Naik and Nasreen Rahim – Tabled.
- C. DE Contract Language of MOU - Henry Estrada & Tejal Naik – Tabled.
- D. Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) – Henry Estrada –
 - Henry shared information on APs related to credit for program learning, low-cost, and zero textbook cost (ZTC) materials in response to student concerns and equity goals.
 - AP 5031 was noted, requiring faculty to minimize instructional material costs and ensure access on the first day of class.
 - Henry shared plans to develop a new AP on Open Educational Resources and low-cost textbooks, encouraging adoption of OER and expansion of ZTC pathways while maintaining academic freedom and alignment with UDL principles.
 - Low-cost textbooks are \$40 or less.
 - Zero cost textbooks are sections that do not carry any instructional materials costs for students at all.
- E. Senate Bylaws – Senate Representation for Officers and Past President – Melissa Hornstein

- Melissa raised questions about Senate Bylaws' alignment for Senate officers, specifically concerning dual division/Senate elections affecting leadership continuity.
- Proposal to revise bylaws so officers represent the full Senate and serve full terms, with possible inclusion of the past president as a voting member.
- Item to return for future discussion, with senators encouraged to review current bylaws.

XII. Announcements & Recognitions

- Henry Estrada - Plenary this weekend, April 9-11.
- Sylvia Min – thanks to the Senate for their support of Women’s History Month.
- Grace Estrada requested assistance with faculty completing the survey.
- Next Academic Senate meeting: April 21, 2026

XIII. Adjournment – 5:01 pm – Kelly (1st), Dave (2nd)