

## Minutes – Miramar College Academic Senate

3:30-5:00pm

Apr 07, 2026

Location: M-110

[Associated Documents](#)

[Meeting Slide Show](#)

**Senators Present:** Rodrigo Gomez, Carmen Carrasquillo, Olivia Flores, Dawn Diskin, Melissa Wolfson, Desi Klaar, Veronica Hartmann, Mary Kjartanson, Alex Sanchez, Ali Gonzalez, Amy Alsup, April Koch, Brit Hyland, Dan Smith, David Halttunen, David Mehlhoff, Dawn DiMarzo, Donnie Tran, Jason Thoma, John Kim, Julia McMenamin, Kandice Brandt, Laura Marin, Leslie Marovich, Mardi Parelman, Martin Gonzalez, Otto Dobre, Sierra Hegle, Wahid Hamidy, Bryan McCulley, Melissa Rockey, Michael Elliot, Tyler Lam

**Absent:** Anh Nguyen (proxy: M. Gonzalez), Eloy Guerra (proxy: V. Nevarez), Marian Edelbrock, Matthew Jewett, Meggie Morris (proxy: M. Wolfson), Michael Lopez (proxy: C. Carrasquillo), Patti Manley (proxy: J. Palhegyi), Bianca Duong, Daniel McNamara, Mike Colafrancesco

**Other Attendees:** Valentino Nevarez, Joel Palhegyi, Pablo Martin, Wes Lundburg, Juli Bartolomei

### 1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm.

### 2. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

#### 2.1. [Meeting minutes from 3/17/26](#)

- The agenda and draft minutes from 3/17/26 were approved with one change to the agenda: Gomez presenting item 6.4 on behalf of Palma-Sanft. [Mehlhoff/Sanchez]

### 3. Land Acknowledgment

### 4. Public Comments

- Martin: Request to add college-wide dedicated writing lab that is closed off to the internet or any A.I. tools, for both students and faculty to use.
  - o Request to add to Department Program Review: Non-network or offline computer assistant writing lab, word processing without A.I. or CoPilot.
  - o Sanchez requested clarification, because the A.S. has been discussing A.I., that this computer assistant writing lab would be a space where there would be no A.I. available for student use. Martin presented an example of a student prompt used in class and the idea of having a space where students would use their knowledge, not A.I.
- Gomez: CCC's free conference, "[Reclaiming Joy: Human-First Teaching in the A.I. Era](#)," Friday, April 17, 8:45am – 3:00pm, online. It will be recorded for those who are not able to attend.

### 5. Action Items (*this includes second reads*)

#### 5.1. AP 5500.1 – Honest Academic Conduct - Rodrigo Gomez

- Add item #7 to [AP 5500.1](#), which authorizes that the use of A.I. tools is determined by each instructor.
- Gomez did not receive any feedback after the first read at the last A.S. meeting.
- Motion to approve as is passed unanimously. [Carrasquillo/Kjartanson]

### 6. Discussion Items (*this includes first calls and first reads*)

#### 6.1. New Buildings and Associated Programs - Wes Lundburg

- Gomez: President Lundburg was asked to attend, to provide clarity on questions brought up at the last A.S. meeting.
- Lundburg clarified that Miramar is not launching a Drama program yet. The facility needs to be in place first, which would enable that to happen, should the College want to go in that direction.
- There is a process to determine whether programs are viable. That [Program Viability Process](#) does look at whether there is a facility available to support a new program. That process has not started on this yet because we need to have a facility in place first.
- Lundburg clarified that, if a new program is not approved through the Program Viability Process, then facilities can be repurposed.
- Lundburg noted that the need for a new Drama program is based on data available by looking at what is in the area-- programs available through local feeder schools and offered at high schools along the 56 freeway. Zip code driven data is available.
- Questions were posed about lighting and sound, along with the ongoing upkeep and maintenance. Lundburg noted that general custodial support is built into the plan and the builder has a drama background. The initial equipment, lighting and sound, is part of the plan.
- A question was raised about the process of renting facilities (example: insurance). The process for the joint use facility in Athletics is complicated by that particular agreement with the City. If our college has a more complicated process, extra layers, to use a facility, it might discourage rental agreements and use. Lundburg will look at that more and start asking those questions.
- Lundburg noted that the Miramar College theater will be 500 seats with a balcony.

- 6.2. Standing: Curriculum Committee Updates - Veronica Hartmann
- Administrative Procedures and Board Policies are undergoing review.
  - Some of the changes are to remove “Continuing Education” and replace with “Colleges.”
  - This was a first read and will come back to the next meeting. Please send feedback to [Hartmann](#).
  - Hartmann will send an email with the changes.
- 6.3. [Student Evaluation of Counseling Faculty](#) - Olivia Flores
- Flores and Hegle presented.
  - Miramar Student Services faculty reviewed the student evaluation process in Spring 2025.
  - Non-instructional faculty are Counselors and also Mental Health Counselors, and the student evaluations are very heavy on academics. The student evaluation questionnaire is also very long, with 30 questions.
  - Miramar Counseling faculty created an updated version, which was shared with Counselors at CE, City, and Mesa College. That version was approved in March 2026.
  - Ask is for CE, City, and Mesa College Academic Senates to approve.
  - The new draft version is 10 questions, which aligns with evaluation domains.
  - In response to a question about whether students were included in the process, A. Gonzalez noted that, before providing constructive feedback, EOPS did ask students for input, which was shared when creating the new version.
  - Brandt noted that some of the questions being asked were more general student questions, and it was felt that they should not be used as part of a Counselor evaluation.
  - Question about how students are being asked to submit the evaluation (for instructional faculty, these are done in class). It is a challenge for online students. Idea is to use Element 451 to email students.
  - Because Instructional faculty cannot see data until after the end of the semester, Kim inquired about how Counselors will receive their feedback. It was noted that the surveys are anonymous and each Counselor needs to get 35 survey evaluations in order to use the feedback as part of the evaluation.
  - This was a first read and will come back on April 21 for a vote.
- 6.4. Proposed Ethnic Studies ASCCC Resolution - Mara Palma-Sanft
- Gomez presented on behalf of Palma-Sanft.
  - [Resolution](#) will be up for a vote at the [ASCCC Spring 2026 Plenary](#).
  - Resolution to protect long-standing Ethnic Studies courses offered before AB1460, to continue to count towards General Education. The request is to grandfather those specific Ethnic Studies courses so students do not have to take additional classes.
  - Email feedback to [Gomez](#) by Friday, April 10, as there will be a vote at ASCCC Spring Plenary on April 11.
- 6.5. [Miramar College Marketing & Outreach Plan](#) - Rodrigo Gomez / Steven Quis
- Marketing and Outreach Committee has already approved. Please review, as the A.S. will be voting on this item on April 21.
  - Carrasquillo inquired about Element 451 in the document. It would be a good idea to get student data on this communication tool before we commit to spending money. Collect data on student experience.
  - Sounds like it is calling for Element 451 to be institutionalized.
  - Kim: In the section on budget impact, request to increase the budget from \$27,000 to \$500,000, with Element 451 being \$50,000 - \$75,000. Second highest impact.
  - City and Mesa have not supported Element 451. Benefit from having a good understanding of pros and cons.
  - Concerns were shared regarding long-term sustainability; maybe Miramar should be looking at something homegrown.
  - Heagle: Does the cost also include the early alert system through CANVAS? This is something faculty have been talking about in different spaces.
  - Wolfson: Portions of the plan refer to “proven ROI” (return on investment), but she could not find data anywhere in the plan. Would be good to include.
- 6.6. Free Speech and Campus Safety - Rodrigo Gomez
- This was a continued conversation on the resources available. Please share new resources with [Gomez](#).
  - Flores: Dreamers Support Center hosting UndocuAdvocate Workshop to include ICE on Campus scenarios on Thursday, April 9. There will be another workshop on May 1, open to anyone in the District. Email went out for RSVP.
- 6.7. [Position Statement Regarding Re-naming of Cesar Chavez Campus to Dolores Huerta](#) (San Diego Unified) - Carmen Carrasquillo / Rodrigo Gomez
- Carrasquillo attended the Monday, April 6, Board of Trustees meeting on behalf of GAIA (Gender Advocacy Inclusion and Advancement).
  - Carrasquillo noted that Dolores Huerta was the co-founder of the United Farm Workers Union, champion of civil rights and women’s rights, a former teacher, mother of 11, and she coined the phrase “Si, Se Puede.”
  - The SDCCD Board of Trustees voted to temporarily rename the Cesar Chavez campus to its former name, Harbor View. They also directed campus leadership to collect feedback from the community about a permanent name change.
  - A balanced naming approach is desired, with consideration of the historical exclusion of women. Request to have faculty participate or respond to future surveys regarding the name change.

- 6.8. Resolution on Agentic AI - Rodrigo Gomez
- Discussion on writing a resolution on agentic A.I.
  - Resolution could be to ensure contracts we sign are vetted and that there is good data showing they are needed.
  - There is no resolution yet, just an idea.
  - Alsup stated that she would support a resolution, to have a say in the platforms we use that align with our educational goals.
  - Gomez: There is a need for CRM's. Faculty have purview on the technologies and we should have student-centered tools and useful, ethical, grounded tools.
  - Contact [Gomez](#) with comments or interest in assisting with a draft resolution.
  - Possible draft for the April 21 meeting.
  - Marovich recommended including a definition of agentic A.I.

## 7. Reports

### 7.1. Committee Reports

- 7.1.1. Professional Development Committee Report - Olivia Flores
- Postponed to April 21.

### 7.2. Special Reports

- 7.2.1. None

### 7.3. Executive Committee Reports

- 7.3.1. President – Rodrigo Gomez (State, District, Campus, and Senate Issues)
- Special thanks for our scholarship application readers.
  - College Council is forming an A.I. Workgroup.
  - 2026 Spring Plenary Session resolutions feedback desired by April 10.

7.3.2. Vice President – Carmen Carrasquillo

- The Executive Committee election is this Spring. See email from Josh Alley.

7.3.3. Secretary – Olivia Flores

- ASCCC Counselor Faculty Workshop, discussion on [“Roles of Counseling Faculty”](#) updated Fall 2025.

7.3.4. Treasurer – Dawn Diskin

- The current balance is \$529.99.

7.3.5. Contract Member-at-Large – Melissa Wolfson

7.3.6. Part-Time Member-at-Large – Desi Klaar

7.3.7. Chair of Chairs – Mary Kjartanson

## 8. Announcements

- Alsup: AFT Mini Conference, Friday April 10, City College. Keynote speaker is Chris La Tray.

## 9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:53pm.

The next meeting will be on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Please submit agenda items to both Rodrigo Gomez and Juli Bartolomei.

Respectfully submitted,  
Olivia Flores and Juli Bartolomei