Draft Minutes – Miramar College Academic Senate
3:30-5:00pm **Sept 15, 2026** Location: L-301
Associated Documents
Meeting Slide Show

Senators Present: Rodrigo Gomez, Olivia Flores, Amy Alsup, Melissa Wolfson, David Mehlhoff, Desi Klaar, Veronica Hartmann, Mary Kjartanson, Alex Sanchez, April Koch, Brit Hyland, Dan Smith, David Halttunen, Donnie Tran, Jason Thoma, John Kim, Julia McMenamin, Kandice Brandt, Kevin Gallagher, Leslie Marovich, Mardi Parelman, Marian Edelbrock, Meggie Morris, Michael Lopez, Monica Demcho, Otto Dobre, Patti Manley, Rita Arabo, Bryan McCulley, Corinne Jenni, Melissa Rockey, Michael Elliot
Absent: Eloy Guerra (proxy: V. Nevarez), Jordan Omens (proxy: D. Mehlhoff), Lisa Muñoz (proxy: A. Koch), Molly Fassler (proxy: A. Alsup), Sierra Hegle (proxy: D. Halttunen), Wahid Hamidy (proxy: O. Dobre), Matthew Jewett, Veronica Dayag
Other Attendees: Valentino Nevarez, Laura Hofmann, Mona Patel, Mara Palma-Sanft, Juli Bartolomei

1. **Call to Order**
   - The meeting was called to order at 3:32pm.
2. **Approval of Agenda & Consent Calendar**
   2.1. Meeting minutes from 09/01/26
   - The agenda and Consent Calendar were approved after amending to remove item 5 (Measure HH Presentation) and postpone it to the next meeting. [Parelman/Kjartanson]
3. **Land Acknowledgment**
4. **Public Comments**
   - Demcho will present on AI tools at the Chairs meeting and also to the Academic Senate body at a future meeting.
5. **Presentations:** Invited Measure HH representatives
   - Postponed to the next meeting.
6. **Action Items** ***(this includes second reads and urgent votes announced via email)***
   6.1. Reestablishing the At-Large Senator Position - Rodrigo Gomez
   - Gomez opened the topic for discussion.
   - Discussion included Patel sharing that the five impacted faculty members felt that the At-Large Senator position would be beneficial for the long term.
   - Verification will be pursued regarding whether Public Safety Management (Baccalaureate) is an official department.
   - Motion to reinstate the At-Large Senator position passed with no nays and one abstention. [Kjartanson/Demcho]

   6.2. Second Read: Resolution on Agentic AI - Rodrigo Gomez
   - Gomez presented the resolution for a second reading and went through it point by point, requesting feedback.
   - Discussion ensued.
   - Among other recommended wording changes, a request was made to add language to default to opt-out and have individuals opt-in instead.
   - Motion to bring back feedback for a vote at the next meeting passed with no objections. [Flores/Kjartanson]
7. **Discussion Items** ***(this includes first calls and first reads)***
   7.1. Standing: Curriculum Committee Updates - Veronica Hartmann
   - Hartmann presented proposed changes to Credit for Prior Learning.
   - AP 4025 requires that students complete 12 associate degree-applicable semester units in residence within SDCCD and a minimum of six semester units in their major in residence within SDCCD for an associate degree to be awarded. Recent change: CPL units may now count toward the 12-unit residency requirement for an associate degree.
   - New recommended language for AP 4235 (Credit for Prior Learning): "Credit acquired by Credit for Prior Learning ~~shall not~~ may be counted in determining residency requirements for any degree or certificate."
   - Discussion: Credit for Prior Learning may be counted in determining residency requirements for any degree or certificate. Hartmann read a statement from Isabella Ella, Miramar College Counselor.
   - Discussion ensued.
   - Each campus is having a conversation, as all of the District's credit colleges must agree to the language change for it to take effect. Please discuss with departments.

   7.2. DL Email Access & Communication Issues: Resolution Update - Rodrigo Gomez
   - Gomez reported that he believes the DL issue has been resolved, but some people are still having issues.
   - Concern was shared that faculty and staff do not know who the approvers are.

   7.3. Campus Culture, Free Speech & Safety - Rodrigo Gomez
   - Gomez shared details and concerns about the recent ICE incident near the City College perimeter, as well as safety concerns shared by City College custodial staff at the most recent Board of Trustees meeting.
   - In response to the ICE incident, the District has reiterated its policy of directing ICE to contact the Chancellor.
   - The Chancellor will be having an open forum on 9/29 from 3:00-5:00pm in the LLRC, and one of topics will be campus culture, including discussing the Campus Climate Survey conducted last year.

DRAFT

- Senators were asked to share anything they want brought forward to the Chancellor on their behalf with Gomez.

7.4. College President Search: Faculty Priorities & Desired Qualities - Rodrigo Gomez
- Gomez will be meeting with the Chancellor and asked senators to share feedback on five questions (details in meeting slideshow), especially "What qualities, experiences, or leadership approaches should the next president bring to Miramar," so he can bring that feedback to the Chancellor.
- Discussion ensued.
- It was clarified that, during the hiring process for the current College President, there was an open forum for the final three candidates.

7.5. ASCCC Fall 2026 Plenary: Resolution & Voting Process
- Gomez will bring policies from the Area D meeting on 10/9 to the body for feedback, so he can vote as recommended on specific issues when he and Flores attend Fall Plenary in November.

8. **Reports**

8.1. Committee Reports
- Flores reported on behalf of Professional Development that she is preparing an upcoming report on budget and timelines for travel reimbursement.

8.2. Special Reports

8.2.1. None

8.3. Executive Committee Reports

8.3.1. President - Rodrigo Gomez (State, District, Campus, and Senate Issues)
- From the meeting slideshow:
  - Academic Senate invited to meet with Chancellor Smith in N-206 to share our thoughts on the qualities, characteristics, and leadership attributes that are believed to be important for the next President of Miramar College on Friday, 10/2, 4:00-5:00pm.
  - District enrollment and student completion are moving in a positive direction. The Chancellor reported that SDCCD reached 40,000 FTES for the first time since 2018, while associate degrees awarded increased 20% over the previous year. The District also reports a healthy unrestricted general fund and additional instructional support allocations going to the colleges.

8.3.2. Vice President - Olivia Flores
- None

8.3.3. Secretary - Amy Alsup
- None

8.3.4. Treasurer - Melissa Wolfson
- The current balance is $790.

8.3.5. Contract Member-at-Large - David Mehlhoff
- None

8.3.6. Part-Time Member-at-Large - Desi Klaar
- None

8.3.7. Chair of Chairs - Mary Kjartanson
- None

9. **Announcements**
- Gomez made several announcements, details of which can be found in the meeting slideshow:
  - Fall Safety Training Series: 9/18 and 9/24, with more in October and November.
  - Grand opening of The Village: 9/17, 12:00-2:00pm, K1-308.
  - 2026 Equity Summit: 10/2, 10:00am-2:00pm, featuring keynote Dr. Mohammed Soriano Bilal.
  - Data Analytics Digital Innovation Regional Convening, CCCCO: 9/29, 9:00am-2:00pm
  - AI Engage Fall Summit: 10/13-14
  - Ten full-tuition USD Scholarships available--share with students: Constance Carroll Trailblazer Scholarship Award
  - MAIN (Miramar AI Network) is launching, with the first session on 10/1. There is a faculty pilot to pay up to 15 faculty members. Contact Sharilyn Wilson in the VPI Office to apply. (Landing Page)
- Alsup announced two workshops scheduled for Thursday, 9/17. The first is an Evaluations Workshop hosted by Evaluations Coordinator, Ken Reinstein, from 1:00-2:00pm, and the second is a PRF Panel Workshop facilitated by Alsup, Site Mentors & Mentees (M&M) Coordinator, from 2:00-3:00pm in H-208. All are encouraged to attend.

10. **Adjournment**
- The meeting was adjourned at 4:42pm.

The next meeting will be on Oct 6th. Please submit agenda items to both Rodrigo Gomez and Juli Bartolomei.

Respectfully submitted,
Juli Bartolomei and Amy Alsup

DRAFT