Minutes – Miramar College Academic Senate
3:30-5:00pm **Oct 20, 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, Carmen Carrasquillo, Dan Smith, David Halttunen, Donnie Tran, Eloy Guerra, Jason Thoma, John Kim, Julia McMenamin, Kandice Brandt, Kevin Gallagher, Mardi Parelman, Marian Edelbrock, Matthew Jewett, Meggie Morris, Mona Patel, Monica Demcho, Otto Dobre, Patti Manley, Wahid Hamidy, Brian McCulley, Corinne Jenni, Laura Hofmann, Michael Elliot
Absent: Jordan Omens (proxy: D. Mehlhoff), Leslie Marovich (proxy: T. Nieses), Lisa Muñoz (proxy: A. Koch), Molly Fassler (proxy: A. Alsup), Otto Dobre (proxy: W. Hamidy), Sierra Hegle (proxy: D. Halttunen), Veronica Dayag (proxy: D. Tran), Michael Lopez, Heather Liggins, Melissa Rockey
Other Attendees: Mara Palma-Sanft, David Wilhelm, Juli Bartolomei

1. **Call to Order**
   - The meeting was called to order at 3:35pm.
2. **Approval of Agenda & Consent Calendar**
   2.1. Meeting minutes from 10/06/26
   - The agenda and Consent Calendar were approved with no objections. [Sanchez/Mehlhoff]
3. **Land Acknowledgment**
4. **Public Comments**
   - Carrasquillo presented the new syllabus statement shared at UndocuAdvocate training, for any faculty interested in using it: “Undocumented Students, as an educator, I strive to make courses accessible to all students regardless of immigration status. If your status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific criteria, you may reach out to me confidentially for options. You may also consult with our college's undocumented student services by contacting MiraDreamers@sdccd.edu, 619.388.7970.”
   - Demcho brought up the upcoming vote to ratify district coverage of health insurance premiums and a full year of paid parental leave and shared concern about the impact on other contract priorities if faculty vote to pass those now. A recommendation has been made to take more time on the vote, based on faculty feedback, so that is being considered by AFT. Flores said that she and Alsup would be available after the meeting to answer any questions.
5. **Action Items** *(t**his includes second reads and urgent votes announced via email)***
   5.1. Second Read: AP 4235 – Credit for Prior Learning - Veronica Hartmann
   - Vote: “Shall SDCCD allow 12 unit residency requirement to be fulfilled by CPL?”
   - Discussion ensued and concerns were shared.
   - Hartmann reiterated that this would benefit the Public Safety CTE programs the most.
   - Hartmann verified that there is no maximum on CPL units, so a student would be able to graduate with a full degree without taking any SDCCD courses.
   - Motion to approve passed with one nay and no abstentions. [Demcho/Kjartanson]

   5.2. Second Read: Resolution to Support Proposal for Title 5 Change (Expansion and Clarification of Ethnic Studies) - Mara Palma-Sanft
   - Palma-Sanft reported that there has been a lot of discussion about the resolution at the other SDCCD campuses and shared the updated document.
   - Palma-Sanft noted that the definition of “ethnic studies” was removed to provide more time for collaborative discussion and will be readded once a definition is agreed upon.
   - The plan is to bring this resolution forward to the State Academic Senate (ASCCC) at some point, preferably at the upcoming Fall Plenary.
   - Motion to support with the provision that, at some later date, a definition will be added that is approved by all involved in that process, passed unanimously. [Kjartanson/Carrasquillo]

   5.3. Second Read: Resolution to Foster a Positive Campus Climate - Amy Alsup
   - Alsup presented the amended resolution, with edits based on the feedback that was received.
   - Restorative practices, through Laura Pecenco, have since been approved at College Council.
   - Sanchez shared concerns and changes requested by his department.
   - Discussion ensued and concern was shared about purview issues.
   - Edits were proposed to address concerns.
   - Motion to extend time passed with no objections. [Manley/Parelman]
   - Motion to approve with suggested edits passed with no nays and three abstentions. [Carrasquillo/Kjartanson]
   - Recommendation was made to have College President Lundburg and Laura Pecenco come to an Academic Senate meeting to discuss.

5.4. Second Read: Student Success Framework (PIER) - David Wilhelm
- Wilhelm reminded senators that the new cycle starts in Fall 2027.
- Wilhelm noted that the changes are cosmetic, not to the planning process, work flow or cycle itself. The flowchart is being streamlined to better reflect what Miramar actually does.
- Wilhelm presented the plan on the website to show how it integrates and aligns with the State Chancellor's Office.
- Discussion ensued.
- Motion to extend time passed with no objections. [Sanchez/Manley]
- Motion to approve with recommended edit passed unanimously. [Parelman/Kjartanson]
- Wilhelm will take feedback back to the committee.

5.5. Second Read: Resolution on Agentic AI - Rodrigo Gomez
- Gomez noted that he has not received any more feedback and presented the updated resolution.
- Gomez reported that Mesa and City are now actively calling for conversations on Element 451.
- Gomez emphasized that, if it touches 10+1, it must come through the Academic Senate.
- Discussion ensued.
- Motion to approve with edits to remove "materially" and add "must" (remain) to whereas statement passed unanimously. [Sanchez/Kjartanson]

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

6.1. Accreditation Midterm Report - Mara Palma-Sanft
- Palma-Sanft presented an overview and shared the new template for the progress report, which will be due in March 2028.
- Palma-Sanft and Dean Miramontez are the co-chairs, and they will be asking for faculty input and review for the report next semester.
- Palma-Sanft will share updates with the Academic Senate at a later date on items that, while not required by the ACCJC, were self-identified college asks.

6.2. Campus Culture, Free Speech, & Safety - Rodrigo Gomez
- Gomez reminded senators that Chancellor Smith has put campus culture on his main agenda.
- There was an anti-ICE protest at City College during the SDCCD Board meeting.
- Reminder that ICE is to address the Chancellor only. Campus signs relaying this have been ordered and are on their way.
- Discussion ensued regarding the TPUSA student club on campus. This has been discussed with the College President, as there have been safety concerns from students reported.
- It was noted that Miramar needs better ways to report and document safety concerns.
- Recommendation made for the College President to hold a forum during a main campus event, like Spring Kickoff, when more people would be available to attend.

6.3. ASCCC Fall 2026 Plenary: Area Meeting Resolutions Packet - Rodrigo Gomez
- Gomez asked senators to send him any thoughts on the ASCCC resolutions to help guide his votes.
- Palma-Sanft requested support for resolution 101.02.
- Flores requested support for resolution 110.01.

7. **Reports**

7.1. Committee Reports

7.1.1. Professional Development
- Postponed

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)
- Gomez will email his report to senators.

7.3.2. Vice President - Olivia Flores
- No report.

7.3.3. Secretary - Amy Alsup
- No report.

7.3.4. Treasurer - Melissa Wolfson
- The current balance is $915.49.

7.3.5. Contract Member-at-Large - David Mehlhoff
- No report.

7.3.6. Part-Time Member-at-Large - Desi Klaar
- No report.

7.3.7. Chair of Chairs - Mary Kjartanson
- No report.

8. **Announcements**
   - (None)
9. **Adjournment**
   - The meeting was adjourned at 5:02pm.

The next meeting will be on Nov 3rd. Please submit agenda items to both Rodrigo Gomez and Juli Bartolomei.

Respectfully submitted,
Juli Bartolomei and Amy Alsup