



**GECCo Meeting Minutes**

Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

SCI III Conference Room (FTF)

Zoom Meeting 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

**Present:** Eduardo Montoya, Elizabeth Adams, Matthew Woodman, Kyle Shaw, Nathan Barron, Zhenning (Jimmy) Xu, Creed Tumlison, Jahyun Kim, Kelly O'Bannon, Bilin Zeng, Deisy Mascarinas (Admin Support)

**Absent:** Creed Tumlison, Annie Boehning

**Guests:** Christopher Diniz, Rebecca Penrose

**The meeting began at 2:00 p.m.**

1. **Approval of Agenda (Box>GECCo>Meeting Materials> 2025-26>2025-26 Agendas)**
  - a. Kyle Shaw moves to approve the agenda for Friday, March 13, 2026.
  - b. Bilin Zeng seconds to approve the agenda for Friday, March 13, 2026.
  - c. Objections – None
  - d. Abstentions- None
  - e. There is unanimous approval.
2. **Approval of Minutes from 10-10-2025 (Box>GECCo>Approved Minutes>2024-25)**
  - a. Kyle Shaw moves to approve the meeting minutes for Friday, February 13, 2026.
  - b. Jahyun Kim seconds to approve the meeting minutes for Friday, February 13, 2026.
  - c. Objections – None
  - d. Abstentions- None
  - e. There is unanimous approval.
3. **Announcements**
  - a. Update on Learning Community Facilitator (LCF) Structure for AY 2026-27
    - i. Traditionally each learning community ran one learning community each semester. Due to budget constraints this year, we are still able to run the learning communities, but instead of one each semester, it is one for the academic year.
    - ii. This year we split up two learning communities per semester and next year we will do the same.
  - b. Jahyun plans to discuss the FYS survey results at the next meeting.
4. **GE Modifications (GEMs) request from ENGR (Box > GECCo > GEMs > GEM proposals)**
  - a. GEM request for Area 4 (anticipated)

**General Education**

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- i. Matthew Woodman moves to approve AI history as an area 4 GEM for Mechanical Engineering.
- ii. Kyle Shaw seconds to approve AI history as an area 4 GEM for Mechanical Engineering.
- iii. Objections – None
- iv. Abstentions- None
- v. There is unanimous approval.

5. **Discussion: SPARKS Program Call for Proposals (GECCo feedback sought; Box > GECCo > Meeting Materials: Time Certain 2:20 p.m.)**

- a. Guest: Chris Diniz, Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer
  - i. SPARKS is a faculty-led initiative for fall 2026 to integrate AI into upper division General Education courses through community service-based projects.
  - ii. Chris Diniz explained that CSUB was invited to serve as a proof of concept for higher education institutions, with up to two faculty members receiving stipends to redesign assignments into existing courses.
  - iii. Our IT department will provide resources, including a Lean Six Sigma certified team, to guide conversations and provide technical system training.
  - iv. Faculty will be able to collaborate with OpenAI engineers to help develop new course assignments.
  - v. It was mentioned that if there are many applications submitted, it may be possible to receive additional resources from college Deans.

6. **Learning Community Facilitators**

- a. Rebecca Penrose (IL-LCF) will provide an overview of the Fall Information Literacy Learning Community. (*Time Certain: 2:50 p.m.*)
  - i. The information and literacy learning community looked at critical thinking in regard to critical evaluation of AI tools. They prioritized developing analytical skills necessary to verify and validate content, ensuring a higher standard of literacy in a digital age.
- b. Kelly O'Bannon (OC-LCF) will provide an overview of the Fall Oral Communication Learning Community
  - i. The oral communication learning community shifted its emphasis from student performance to faculty development. By refining their own presence and engagement, faculty found more ways to effectively support their students.

7. **Discussion: Draft Five-Year GE Assessment Plan (Box > GECCo > Meeting Materials)**

- a. Updates were made to the assessment calendar as we no longer have area E or SELF.
- b. Eduardo questioned whether we should keep AI History and AI Government to assess 1B and 1C.
- c. Valerie from English will be contacted to see when they are planning to assess information.
- d. It was questioned whether we use all upper division courses that reinforce critical thinking and quantitative reasoning.
- e. The calendar will be reviewed at the next meeting for approval.

8. **Open Forum**

- a. There will be an upcoming call for the new GE director position.

**Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.**

**Next meeting: March 27, 2026**