



Academic Senate Meeting – Fall 2024

Thursday, December 5, 2024

Minutes

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: Dezember Leadership and Development Center, Room 409-411

Zoom Link: <https://csub.zoom.us/j/84996177015?pwd=NTRyNlJDNk4xUVY3VmhCNkpieTRiUT09>

Senate Members: Chair M. Danforth, Vice-Chair D. Solano, Senator A. Hegde, Senator C. Lam, Senator N. Michieka, Senator T. Tsantsoulas, Senator M. Naser, Senator D. Wu, Senator S. Sarma, Senator L. Kirstein, Senator A. Stokes, Senator Z. Zenko (virtual), Senator S. Roberts, Senator K. Holloway (virtual), Senator H. He, Senator A. Grombly (Sabb. F2024; alt. Jing Wang), Senator E. Correa (excused; alt. John Tarjan), Senator J. Deal, Senator R. Dugan, Senator T. Salisbury (virtual), Senator J. Cornelison, Senator E. Pruitt (virtual), Interim Provost J. Rodriguez, Senator J. Dong and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven.

Guests: President V. Harper, C. Diniz, and E. Adams.

Virtual Guests: A. Rodriguez, B. Mendiola, C. Livingston, D. Stowe, D. Boschini, D. Cours, D. Fowler, E. Garibay, H. Niemeyer, J. Luna, K. Lopez, K. Warner, L. Hernandez, L. Vega, M. Malhotra, T. Hickey, and Y. Morones.

- I. Call to Order and Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement
 - a. Chair Danforth called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM and read the Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement.

- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. October 24, 2024 (handout)
 - b. November 7, 2024 (handout)
 - c. Senator Naser motioned to approve the minutes. Senator Deal seconded. Minutes for October 24, 2024, and November 7, 2024, are approved by the Senate.

- III. Announcements and Information
 - a. President's Report – V. Harper (**Time Certain: 10:10 AM**)
 - i. Budget:
 1. President Harper discussed the budget situation and referred to the memorandum distributed to campus describing the potential reduction from

Sacramento to the CSU and University's budget. There will be roughly a 20% cut to the CSUs over the next two years (handout added).

2. The Budget Advisory Committee was formed a few weeks ago. The Special Budget Open Forum will take place on Monday, December 9. There have been additional subcommittees created and additional committees in Academic Affairs to review and address these issues and take part in shared governance. The situation is made more difficult by the fact that CSUB is a growing campus.

ii. Q&A/ Discussion regarding Budget:

1. Senator Hegde: Questions posed regarding cuts to take place across the campus and concerns for the continued cuts to Academic Affairs. President Harper: CSUB's mission is teaching, service, and scholarship and he will make decisions to protect the core of the university.
2. Senator Sarma: As low enrolled classes are canceled; will lecturer positions be lost? President Harper: Lecturers are an important part of the faculty body.
3. Senator Wang: What is the percentage of the cut for the worst-case scenarios? President Harper: More details will be shared at the Special Budget Open Forum on Monday. There will be three scenarios presented; no cut, 8% cut, and restoration of the promised resources.
4. Senator Lam: Of course, the best scenario is that the Governor does not cut the budget or gives what he had said. CFA and ASCSU are lobbying and was wondering if locally, what unified message can be sent to the Statewide government? President Harper: Actions to be taken by the campus are in terms of reductions, are above efficiency. Ask that we request the state to see the value of the CSU.

iii. Events and Meetings Recap:

1. There are many great events taking place on campus. There is the President's holiday party coming up, the Human Trafficking Event, and various events to take place at the Dore Theatre.
2. Athletics: The Big West meeting will take place in Irvine, CA which he will attend.
3. President Harper recently attended a foundation meeting. They are working to fundraise to revive the track, and for a new performing arts center.

iv. 100 Days Update:

1. They are in the final evaluation stages of the Strategic Plan, which will be shared in the spring. The first Campus Climate meeting will be taking place soon as well. There will also be some upcoming changes announced regarding the Office of Title IX and DHR. President Harper is also waiting for a response from the Office of the Chancellor regarding the reorganization and an official announcement will be distributed soon.
2. The following Academic Administrator Searches are underway:

- a. Provost and VP for Academic Affairs
 - b. College of the Arts and Humanities Dean
 - v. Q&A/ Discussion:
 - 1. Senator Sarma: Will the budget reduction impact CSUB's participation in the Big West and athletic programs? President Harper: Yes, athletics will share in the sacrifice as well.
 - 2. Senator Hegde: In past budget crisis's, CSUB teams were cut. Is this likely to happen again? President Harper: The sacrifice will be shared. They should have more information regarding the budget situation around January 15, 2025.
 - b. ITS Updates – C. Diniz (**Time Certain: 10:20 AM**) (handout)
 - i. See attached slide deck.
 - 1. ITS is in the beginning stages of implementing a central repository for all CSUB policies using the same program and format as other CSU campuses and the Chancellor's Office.
 - 2. ITS is also working with Adobe to have signed forms fully accessible.
 - 3. The Annual Report to be distributed in the coming weeks.
 - 4. The Zoom Phone project should be completed by February 2025.
 - 5. Online SOCI's opened 11/18 through 11/27. Paper SOCIs should be submitted to ITS by January 6, 2025.
 - ii. Q&A/ Discussion:
 - 1. ITS Security: DUO Text SMS aspect will be removed as part of the authentication process.
 - 2. Senator Hegde: The customer service aspect of ITS needs improvement. Also, there are various faculty members who have ongoing issues with having to sign in multiple times. C. Diniz said that he is working with Jaimi Paschal to develop a focus group to address some of those issues.
 - c. Elections and Appointments – D. Solano (handout) (deferred; see handout)
 - d. Events:
 - i. December 9 - Special Budget Open Forum; 11:00 AM- Noon, Student Union MPR and virtual.
 - ii. December 16 – CSUB Faculty and Staff Holiday Reception; 3:30 – 5:00 PM, Tejon Ranch Plaza. RSVP by December 11. Accepting donations for the CSUB Food Pantry.
- IV. Approval of Agenda (**Time Certain: 10:05 AM**)
 - a. Senator Lam motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by Senator Dugan. Agenda, including consent agenda is approved.
- V. Reports (deferred; see handouts)
 - a. Interim Provost's Report – J. Rodriguez

- b. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka (handout)
- c. ASI Report – Senator Pruitt
- d. Staff Report – Senator Cornelison
- e. Committee Reports:
 - i. Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Solano (handout)
 - ii. Standing Committees:
 - 1. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC)– Senator Deal (handout)
 - 2. Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS)– Senator Tsantsoulas (handout)
 - 3. Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) – Senator Wu (handout)
 - 4. Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Senator Zenko (handout)

VI. Resolutions **(Time Certain: 10:35 AM)**

- a. Consent Agenda:
 - i. RES 242511 Commencement- Fall 2024 – EC (handout)
 - 1. Resolution passed with agenda approval.
- b. Old Business:
 - i. RES 242508 ITS Generative AI Governance Structure – AS&SS (handout)
 - 1. Senator Kirstein motion to approve; seconded. Motion carried; resolution passed.
- c. New Business:
 - i. RES 242512 – Academic Master Plan (AMP) – AAC and BPC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Deal, Chair of AAC, presented the resolution on behalf of AAC and BPC for first reading. Senator Wu and Senator Deal thanked Dean Adams and the members of BPC and AAC for their collaboration.
 - 2. Senator Tsantsoulas motioned to waive the first reading; Senator Hegde seconded. Majority approved; one abstention. Motion carried.
 - 3. Discussion/ Comments:
 - a. Senator Hegde: There are a few extra pages on the resolution that can be removed.
 - b. Senator Dong and Vice-Chair Solano had some clarification questions regarding elevations and concentrations and if they need to be included in the master plan. Dean Adams responded that no, they do not.
 - 4. Senator Tsantsoulas motioned to approve the second reading; Senator Hegde seconded. Majority approved; one abstention. Motion carried; resolution passed.
 - ii. RES 242513 – Academic Calendar 2025/2026, Summer 2026 – BPC (handout)

1. Senator Wu, Chair of BPC, presented the resolution for first reading. Senator Wu thanked the Calendar Committee for their work and is aware that there are still some of the same challenges present as in previous years.
 2. First Reading: Senator Hedge motioned to waive the first reading; Senator Lam seconded. Motion carried; first reading waived. Progressed to second reading.
 3. Discussion/ Comments:
 - a. Senator Naser: Minor correction needed on the resolution title on the agenda identified for "Summer 2025" to "Summer 2026."
 - b. Senator Hedge: Is aware that there is never a perfect calendar, and a long conversation is needed regarding what should be present in the Academic Calendar.
 - c. Vice-Chair Solano: EC had a very long discussion regarding the calendar and the issues discussed. The calendar coming late to Senate is not the fault of BPC or Senator Wu. Discussion took place in EC for a plan for improvement on this process in the future. Vice-Chair Solano would also like to stress that academic days and instructional days need to be the same. The week of Thanksgiving still has its challenges, particularly now that Wednesday is also a holiday.
 4. Vote called by Chair Danforth. The majority approved, no abstentions. Motion carried; resolution passed.
- iii. RES 242510 – Process and Timeline of SOCI Administration – FAC and AAC (handout)
1. Senator Deal, Chair of AAC, and Senator Zenko, Chair of FAC, presented the resolution for first reading. This resolution addresses two separate referrals addressing the timeline and process.
 1. Discussion/ Feedback:
 - a. Senator Hegde: 305.4.4 recommends that the committee consider altering the language bolded. Would require there to be a taskforce created every five years.
 - b. Vice-Chair Solano: Suggests discussion regarding adding clarification language on if others can request for something to be removed aside from just the faculty member themselves.
 - c. Senator Hegde: Consider changing the weight that SOCIs carry in the evaluation to lower; currently at 50%.
 - d. Senator Roberts: On FAC and there was considerable conversation regarding SOCIs and the 50% weight and how it is not being followed.
 - e. Senator Dugan: Provided comments regarding the distribution period and notifications for online SOCIs.
 - f. Senator Salisbury: There is a lot of racism apparent in SOCIs, particularly towards Asian faculty and many sexist comments. CSU San

Marcos lists them as "Student Opinions" not "evaluations." Senator Holloway agrees with following CSU San Marcos's model.

- g. Senator Sarma: Agrees with the need to review the 50% weight on SOCI's; which is a particular issue for faculty that are up for tenure.
- h. President Harper: Asked about the process for having inappropriate SOCI's comments removed from the RTP files?
- i. Senator Dong: agrees that students may not be the best evaluators for teaching, although their opinions are valuable. Instead of an evaluation tool, perhaps using it as a tool for feedback would be more beneficial.
- j. Senator Wu: Suggested to reconsider the language at the bottom of page 2, "Faculty may request that the AVP for Faculty Affairs..." Situations may be subjective. Also, what is considered a "grace" period?
- k. Senator Hegde: Recommends some edits to 305.4.6 and required training for RTP committee members. Senator Hegde also suggests the reference of the SOCI title as "Student Opinions" be consistent when referred to. There are various sections where SOCI's are referred to as "Student Evaluations."
- l. Senator Stokes: Senator Stokes serves on FAC, and when they discussed this resolution, they did look at what other campuses are currently doing to address similar issues. Adding a student reflection portion may be beneficial.
- m. Senator Tsantsoulas: Perhaps more instruction for students is needed regarding what is appropriate or inappropriate in the SOCI's.
- n. Senator Lam: From the University Review Committee (URC) point of view; more and more faculty are using the rebuttal process to point out problems in the Unit Committee evaluation. Senator Lam reminds faculty of the rebuttal process if they ever feel that they are not being fairly evaluated. Senator Lam also wanted to remind BPC that once the resolution is passed, the academic calendar will need to be revised.
- o. Senator Pruitt: There is preamble language that is read at the beginning of each SOCI distribution for the students which would benefit from some changes or additions to include those reminders. Senator Pruitt also provided commentary for suggested changes to the questions posed.
- p. Senator Sarma: Concerns voiced about comments from "Rate my Professor" being used in the evaluation process. Chair Danforth: "Rate My Professor" is not a valid website and should not be part of the review committee's evaluation process.
- q. Senator He: Looking again at 305.4.2.6, and "the evaluation of teaching effectiveness." SOCI's should only be 1/7 of the evaluation of teaching

- effectiveness. There are six additional measures of teaching effectiveness that are included in addition to SOCI.
- r. Senator Salisbury: The rebuttal aspect is problematic as it is quite lengthy and is very difficult to have to respond to someone's racism in a SOCI. Additional problems are how students need to take responsibility for their engagement or lack of engagement in the course.
 - s. Guest Juterh Nmah: Had questions regarding how online SOCI are assigned and distributed to students and how some of their courses did not receive SOCI. Chair Danforth provided some additional information regarding when to review listed courses for SOCI distribution. Additional questions and concerns were voiced regarding how faculty are evaluated through SOCI when they go on leave and a substitute takes over a class. More relevant questions should be on the SOCI for specifically the education preparation programs.
- iv. RES 242509 – Search and Screening Procedures for Administrators – FAC and BPC (handout) (*First Reading Tabled*)
 - 1. Senator Wu, Chair of BPC, presented the resolution for first reading.
 - 2. Comments/ Discussion:
 - a. Senator Wang: Is there a definition for “Administrators” here or in the handbook? Senator Wu: Believes there is likely one in the handbook, however, he will check.
 - b. Senator Hedge: Recommended tabling this resolution for now as there is not enough time for sufficient first reading. Senator Deal seconded. Majority in favor of tabling the resolution for first reading; one abstention. Motion carried; first reading tabled.
 - v. RES 242514 – Resolution on the Interim Time, Place and Manner Policy – EC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Zenko, Chair of FAC, presented the resolution for the first reading.
 - 2. Comments/ Discussion:
 - a. Senator Tsantsoulas: Voiced concerns regarding the vagueness of the policy and danger for inequity in the implementation. Senator Wu: Recognizes Senator Tsantsoulas’ concerns and clarifies that it is a position based resolution and supports the resolution, as CSUB would be taking action, similar to other CSU campuses.
 - b. Chair Danforth stated that the resolution would be considered a “position resolution” and will not necessarily be signed by the President, however, the Senate can still take this action.

VII. Open Forum (**Time Certain: 11:15 AM**)

- a. Senator Wu: Final reminder to attend the Special Budget Open Forum on December 9, 2024. Senator Wu thanked the campus community for their input and for reaching out to him regarding the concerns to be addressed at the event.
- b. Senator Salisbury and Senator Roberts: Reiterating the reminder to attend the Special Budget Open Forum in person. The CFA will be holding a 10:00 AM debrief prior to the meeting and suggested that those attending in person wear red to show their support of the union.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Senator Zenko motioned to extend the meeting by ten minutes; Senator Naser seconded. Three against; one abstention. The majority approved; motion carried.
- b. Chair Danforth reminded the Senators to refer to their agenda packets for the written reports for the various committees.
- c. Chair Danforth adjourned the meeting at 11:41 AM and wished everyone a restful holiday break.