ACADEMIC SENATE
CSU BAKERSFIELD

EC Approved: September 22, 2026

Academic Senate: Executive Committee

MINUTES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2026

10 – 11:30 AM

Location: BPA Conference Room 134 and virtual.

Zoom Information:

Meeting ID: 826 4022 7199 | Passcode: 166430
https://csub.zoom.us/j/82640227199?pwd=orR1NKbWAqawxEyLpUD7yOK4Z9RZbX.1&jst=1

Members: M. Danforth (Chair), T. Tsantsoulas (Vice-Chair), D. Thien (Provost), C. Lam (ASCSU Senator), N. Michieka (ASCSU Senator), J. Deal (AAC Chair), L. Kirstein (AS&SS Chair), D. Wu (BPC Chair), Z. Zenko (FAC Chair), and K. Van-Grinsven (Senate Analyst).

1. Call to Order
   a. Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas called the meeting to order at approximately 10:07 am.
2. Announcements and Information
   a. University Day and General Faculty Meeting Debrief:
      i) EC discussed concerns that speaker time limits, speaker order, and the no-interruption expectation were not consistently enforced during the General Faculty Meeting. Members noted that yielding time and making exceptions at the outset made later enforcement more difficult.
      ii) For future meetings, EC recommended communicating the rules of engagement in advance and again at the beginning of the meeting, explaining that speakers may not interrupt the speakers list, enforcing limits uniformly, using points of order when needed, and considering name cards as a visible speaking queue (Senate meetings). Members also recommended allowing a participant to use their allotted time once before returning to the bottom of the speakers' list to receive additional time and encouraging use of the written feedback form.
      iii) Issues raised during the faculty open forum included: growth in MPP positions relative to faculty lines; the scope and consistency of MPP evaluations; transparency in faculty-line decisions; college-level differences in implementation of the instructional budget model; the effects of GE changes; protections and pedagogical supports for faculty who do not wish to use AI; support from SASEM and other student-service units; campus food service and staff; campus construction and facilities concerns; oversight of First-Year Seminar; and student perceptions of career preparation.

iv) Provost Thien emphasized the need for proactive transparency and cohesive communication by deans and AVPs. Discussion focused on faculty-line request processes, wait-list practices, and the need for common procedures while recognizing disciplinary and college differences. The Provost reported that CSUB 1029 sections will be funded centrally through Academic Programs so that section distribution and wait-list practices can be coordinated consistently; curricular oversight of CSUB 1029 remains with the faculty.

v) EC also discussed the loss of grant-funded oversight for the former Guidepost sequence in the GE program and concerns that programs did not receive adequate notice when some carry-forward balances were reallocated. Provost Thien explained that 75 percent of long-unused CERF balances had been moved to a central Provost fund to support faculty lines, with flexibility for documented commitments, and that college lottery allocations are now based on requested budgets rather than equal division.

b. Faculty Ombudsperson *(deferred)*

c. Senate/EC Guests:

   i) EC agreed to invite S. Marks to the September 1 meeting, subject to availability, for a focused discussion of the Strategic Plan and Integrated Operations Council (IOC). President Harper remains scheduled for September 8; EC will prepare a prioritized list of issues in advance.

   ii) Other guest planning was deferred.

3. <u>Approval of Agenda</u> **(Time Certain: 10:05 am)**

   a. D. Wu motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by L. Kirstein. Majority in favor; agenda approved.

4. <u>Approval of Summer Senate Minutes</u>

   a. May 20, 2026 - Summer Senate Retreat (handout*) (deferred)*

5. <u>Continued Items</u> **(Time Certain: 10:30 am)**

   a. Senate Log - Review of Carry-over (see attachment)

      i) AAC

         (1) Returned Resolutions:

            i. RES 252642 - Post-Enrollment Requirement Checking (PERC) Timing Alignment (AAC/AS&SS) – *Senate returned*

               (i) EC reviewed recent problems caused when PERC processing was not completed before departments ran prerequisite-enforcement reports. Members emphasized preserving the substantial work completed in spring, documenting identified pain points, and determining whether the best product is a revised resolution, a Senate statement, or a memorandum. The former AAC chair, T. Tsantsoulas, and AS&SS Chair, L. Kirstein, offered to prepare a summary memorandum, and Provost Thien agreed to raise the operational issues at the divisional/AVP level.

            ii. RES 252648 - Teaching Modalities (AAC/ FAC) – *Senate returned*

(i) EC supported separating Distributed Learning Committee governance from the broader teaching-modality question. A resolution can be submitted for DLC, however, the discussions surrounding modalities will require more discussion. EC noted that modality changes require timely communication and oversight because they may affect international-student visa requirements, credential programs, accreditation, and the published schedule. The broader balance between faculty pedagogical autonomy and institutional obligations requires additional campus discussion before a resolution is developed.

(2) Carry-over Referrals:

i. Referral 2025-2026 47 - Master of Science in Applied Analytics (AAC/BPC)
   (i) EC confirmed carry-over referral to AAC and BPC.

ii. Referral 2025-2026 24 - First-Year Seminar (CSUB 1029) (AAC/ FAC)
   (i) EC agreed that the renewed referral should include historical context concerning the former CSUB 101/RUSH and Guidepost oversight structures, the loss of grant-funded coordination, leadership and authority concerns, and the need for consistent learning outcomes and practices. The referral should ask which governance structure should be reconstituted rather than focus only on possible library ownership.

ii) AS&SS

i. Returned Resolutions:
   (i) RES 252627 Policy on Use of Informational Banner Space in Canvas (AS&SS) – *President returned*
      1. EC agreed that health and safety notices are an appropriate use of the Canvas banner, while advertising is not. Members favored a brief memorandum or best-practices guidance to ITS instead of another resolution, allowing ITS to exercise judgment within those parameters.
   (ii) RES 252642 Post-Enrollment Requirement Checking (PERC) Timing Alignment for Prerequisite Verification and Enrollment Stability (AAC/ AS&SS) – *Senate returned*
      1. See discussion above under AAC.

iii) BPC

(1) Carry-over Referrals:

i. Referral 2025-2026 47 - Master of Science in Applied Analytics.
   (i) EC confirmed carry-over referral to AAC and BPC.

ii. Referral 2025-2026 04 - Time Blocks
   1. Task Force work begins in Fall 2026
   2. Provost Thien reported that the scheduling-software task force recommended Ad Astra. After one final review of whether an AWS-based option is viable, the Provost anticipates advancing the Ad Astra recommendation; the estimated cost is approximately $400,000 over three years.
   3. Regarding membership and charge, the EC emphasized faculty and department-chair representation. Time-block task force work would be incorporated into implementation, which is expected to take at least one year.

(2) Referrals for Consideration:
   i. CourseLeaf: edits to the existing form, how budget and planning fits into the curriculum approval process.
      (i) EC discussed that the Chancellor's Office has developed a budget template for new program proposals. AAC and BPC will review alignment with campus curriculum and planning decisions.

iv) FAC
   (1) Returned Resolutions:
      i. RES 252634 Establishing a Preferred Non-Contractual Academic Honorific Title "Senior Lecturer– *President returned (deferred)*
      ii. RES 252648 Teaching Modalities (AAC/ FAC) – *Senate returned*
         (i) Discussed above under AAC.
   (2) Carry-over Referrals:
      i. 2025-2026 22 President's Cabinet Structure and Officers of the University *(deferred)*
      ii. 2025-2026 24 First-Year Seminar (CSUB 1029) Concerns (AAC/ FAC)
         (i) Discussed above under AAC.
      iii. 2025-2026 46 Request for Chair/Director of the Year Award *(deferred)*
   (3) Referrals for Consideration: *(deferred)*
      i. Classroom Observation Expectations / Teaching Expectations and Rigor
      ii. Department Chair Elections and Appointments / Program Director Elections and Appointments
      iii. Department Chair Reviews and Program Director reviews
      iv. Faculty Awards and Recognition Processes
      v. Faculty Mentorship and Professional Development
      vi. Authorship and Scholarly Ethics
      vii. Unit RTP Criteria Transparency

b. Provost Report (D. Thien) **(Time Certain: 10:50 AM)**
   i) Strategic Plan and Integrated Operations Council (IOC):
      (1) The Provost reviewed the IOC's proposed dual role as an advisory council for matters requiring shared decision-making and a decision-oriented operating body for other cross-unit work.
      (2) EC requested clarification regarding the scope of its decision authority, who determines when Senate consultation is required, faculty representation, and whether faculty members should be elected or appointed.
      (3) The item was deferred for discussion with S. Marks; members will submit questions in advance and review the strategic-plan handouts.
   ii) Naming Opportunity *(deferred)*
      (1) The item remains paused; no new information was available.
   iii) IRA Appointments

(1) The Provost clarified that the IRA guidelines provide for two faculty/administration representatives appointed annually by the Provost and one faculty representative appointed by the Academic Senate.
(2) The Provost proposed E. Adams as the administrative representative and J. Li as the faculty representative appointed by the Provost; EC expressed no concerns.

iv) Academic Administrator Searches
(1) SSE Associate Dean Search
i. EC accepted the proposed staff and administrative representatives: G. Martinez as the SSE staff representative and J. Haney, Interim Associate Dean for Arts and Humanities, as the associate-dean representative.
ii. Three tenured SSE faculty will be elected, with additional jointly appointed faculty if needed. EC noted that the Handbook does not currently require student representation on associate-dean searches, although ASI may raise the issue.

v) Additional Items:
(1) EC Confidentiality Language
i. Provost Thien proposed adding language to EC release-time MOUs clarifying members' responsibility to protect confidential and sensitive information. The language is intended to support members when they are pressured to disclose information and to make expectations clear for current and future EC members. The Provost will circulate draft language for review.
(2) Faculty Support and Development Funding
i. The Provost reported funding eight $1,500 service-learning stipends and plans for a second call.. She is also developing a parallel investment in AI and pedagogical innovation and a broader faculty-development funding track open beyond tenure-line faculty. She is seeking faculty feedback on these initiatives.
ii. EC discussed clearer rubrics, accessible application processes, involvement of the AI Committee, and inviting interested faculty - including lecturers - to participate. These initiatives may use lottery funds.

c. Calendar Committee *(deferred)*
i) Review membership, particularly the SASEM representatives

d. CA Legislation – C. Lam *(deferred)*
i) AB 2694 – Community College Baccalaureate Degree Programs
ii) AB 2301 – Community Colleges Nursing Pilot Program
iii) AB 2212 – Updates to Student Training for Harassment and Intimidation Training *(ASCSU watching)*
iv) AB 2068 – CSU Campus President Hiring Process *(ASCSU watching)*

6. New Discussion Items **(Time Certain: 11:10 am)**
a. Elections and Appointments *(deferred)*

i) Faculty Rosters – in progress
ii) Urgent/ Vacant Calls – upcoming

b. Academic Calendar Typos and Update – EC *(Consent agenda?)*
   i) EC reviewed corrections needed in the 2026-2027 academic calendar, including inconsistent dates and updated holiday naming. Because the approved SOCI resolution requires at least ten class meeting days, EC supported beginning the Fall 2026 SOCI period one week earlier while retaining the existing end date. The calendar-change resolution will be placed on the Senate consent agenda; it may be removed during approval of the agenda if further discussion is needed.
   ii) Chair Danforth and Senate Analyst Van Grinsven will draft the resolution and distribute to EC.

c. Curriculum for referral to AAC/ BPC: *(deferred)*
   (1) Bilingual/ Bicultural Education Concentration
   (2) Mathematics, BS, Data Science Concentration (HOLD; more info from NSME CC)
   (3) Environmental Science (HOLD; more info from AVP Adams)

d. Handbook & Bylaws Summer Working Group *(deferred)*
   i) Updates to Handbook & Bylaws
   ii) New Referral Discussion Items (handout):
      (1) Potential inconsistencies with the CBA
      (2) Appendix D (incorporate graduate grievance procedure and definition for student ombuds)
      (3) Appendix E (refers to Banner)
      (4) Academic Integrity Violations Committee
      (5) Subcommittee Membership
      (6) Officers of the University
      (7) Faculty Coordinator of Online Instruction
      (8) Schools and school directors
      (9) Four colleges to "all colleges"
      (10) Committee list and proliferation
      (11) Executive Director of AV campus
      (12) Staff representative on Senate (duplicate)

e. Carry Over from 2025-2026: *(deferred)*
   i) Academic Tuition/ Scholarship Waiver (handout)
   ii) Instructional Budget Model and Faculty Participation
   iii) Senate Release time
   iv) Faculty recruitment/ involvement for the Student Success Framework

f. Lecturer Evaluation Process – FAC (handout) *(deferred)*

g. Creation of a Service-Learning University-wide Committee (handout) *(deferred)*

h. IACUC and HSIRB Updates (HOLD) *(deferred)*

7. Agenda Items for Senate **(Time Certain: 11:15 am)**
   a. Discussion:
      i) EC identified the principal August 27 business as confirmation of 2026-2027 standing committee membership and approval of academic-calendar corrections. Both will be placed on the consent agenda. The Senate will also receive orientation and roster information.
      ii) Written reports followed by questions remain the preferred format. EC favored retaining verbal time for the ASI report when possible; other oral reports may be limited by available time.

Academic Senate Meeting – Fall 2026
Thursday, August 27, 2026
Agenda
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: Dezember Leadership and Development Center, Room 409-411
Zoom Information:
Zoom Meeting ID: 811 3080 8590
Passcode: 674081
https://csub.zoom.us/j/81130808590?pwd=wbh3IjQ8K59awbeZEJJHrbYZZWtjhb.1&jst=1

Senate Members: Chair M. Danforth, Vice-Chair T. Tsantsoulas, CSU Senator C. Lam, CSU Senator N. Michieka, AH Senator M. Palaiologou, AH Senator B. Moreno, BPA Senator D. Wu, BPA Senator S. Sarma, NSME Senator L. Kirstein, NSME Senator A. Stokes, SSE Senator Z. Zenko, SSE Senator S. Roberts, AV Senator K. Holloway, At-Large Senator H. He, At-Large Senator A. Grombly, At-Large Senator A. Hays, At-Large Senator A. Lauer, At-Large Senator J. Deal, At-Large Senator R. Dugan, Lecturer Electorate Representative – D. Horn, Senator C. Zúñiga-Prado – Staff Representative, Senator N. Kaur – ASI President, Senator D. Cours – Dean Representative, VP AA & Provost D. Thein and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven.
Guests: President Harper and T. Salisbury, CFA.

I. Call to Order
   a. Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement
   b. Robert's Rules of Order
   c. Interruption Statement
II. Approval of Minutes
   a. May 7, 2026 (handout)
III. Announcements and Information
   a. President's Report – V. Harper **(Time Certain: 10:10 AM)** (handout)
   b. Update on the Handbook and Bylaws Summer Project – M. Danforth
   c. Elections and Appointments – T. Tsantsoulas (handout)
   d. Information:

        i. Senate Orientation PPT (handout)
        ii. 2026-2027 Senate roster and alternates (handout)
        iii. 2026-2027 Senate Meeting schedule (handout)

IV. Approval of Agenda **(Time Certain: 10:05 AM)**

V. Reports
    a. Provost's Report – D. Thien **(Time Certain: 10:25 AM)** (handout)
    b. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka *(deferred)*
    c. ASI Report – Senator Kaur (handout)
    d. Staff Report – Senator C. Zúñiga-Prado (handout?)
    e. Committee Reports:
        i. Summer Senate and Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas (handout)
        ii. Standing Committees: *(deferred)*
            1. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) – Senator Deal, Chair
            2. Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS) – Senator Kirstein, Chair
            3. Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) – Senator Wu, Chair
            4. Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Senator Zenko, Chair
    f. CFA Report – T. Salisbury, CFA Bakersfield (handout?)

VI. Resolutions **(Time Certain: 10:45 AM)**
    a. Consent Agenda:
        i. 2026-2027 Standing Committee Membership (handout)
        ii. RES 262701 – Changes to 2026-2027 Academic Calendar – EC (handout)
    b. Old Business:
        i. No items.
    c. New Business:
        i. No items.

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

VIII. Adjournment

8. <u>Adjournment</u>
    a. Chair Danforth adjourned at 11:33 AM. EC agreed to an additional meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 1, 2026, to review continued business, hear from S. Marks regarding the Strategic Plan and prepare for the President's visit on September 8.