ACADEMIC SENATE
CSU BAKERSFIELD

EC Approved: October 20, 2026

Academic Senate: Executive Committee

Minutes – Extra Meeting

Tuesday, September 29, 2026
10 – 11:30 AM

Location: BDC 134- BPA Conference Room and virtual
Zoom Information:
Meeting ID: 851 9789 0022
Passcode: 799204

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

1. **Call to Order**
    a. Chair Danforth called the meeting to order.

2. **Announcements and Information:**
    a. Future Meeting Guests:
        i. Senate– Fall 2026:
            1. October 8 – D. Cantrell, VP for SASEM
            2. November 5 – I. Sumaya, AVP for GRaSP
            3. October 22 – K. Susa FAR; R. Weller, FTLC (confirmed)
        ii. EC – Fall 2026:
            1. November 3 - E. Adams, AVP for Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs, WSCUC updates
            2. Chief of Police (date to be confirmed). Members were also reminded that the Pride Flag Raising Ceremony will take place Thursday, October 1, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

3. **Approval of Agenda (Time Certain: 10:05 AM)**
    a. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent after a motion and multiple seconds.

4. **Approval of Minutes**:
    a. September 22, 2026 (deferred)

5. **Continued Items** (deferred)

6. **New Discussion Items**

a. Elections and Appointments – T. Tsantsoulas **(Time Certain: 10:10 AM)**
    i. Appointments Needed:
        1. Search and Screening Committee- AVP for Strategy & Institutional Engagement
            a. No nominations were received.
            b. EC appointed Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas.
        2. IOC (AH, BPA, NSME) - Second call closed; appointments noted below, with some responses still pending.
            a. AH: Md Naser - Communications
            b. BPA: John Deal - Economics
            c. NSME: Leslie Kirstein - Nursing
            d. SSE: An appointment had already been made.
        3. BPA AARC for Dr. Paris - Third call; this appointment must come from BPA rather than an at-large call.
        4. AH Elections Committee: Dan Stockwell - English, elected by acclamation.
    ii. At-Large Calls - Calls were being scheduled for later in the week.
        1. AARCs (D. Boschini and I. Sumaya)
        2. University Council
        3. Exceptional Service Awards Committee
b. Curriculum: (AAC/BPC) (deferred)
c. Handbook & Bylaws Summer Working Group **(Time Certain: 10:15 AM)**
    i. Proposed Updates to Handbook & Bylaws (handout)
        1. EC still needs to complete its review; October 8 was considered too soon, while October 22 was considered a more realistic target.
    ii. New Referral Discussion Items (handout):
        1. Potential inconsistencies with the CBA
            a. No separate referral needed; FAC is addressing the issue in its existing resolution regarding the Officers of the University.
        2. Appendix D (graduate grievance procedure)
            a. The Student Ombudsperson description is already in progress. EC agreed not to remove the Associate Dean of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs position from the Handbook, although the position is currently captured; interim oversight should remain with the appropriate Academic Affairs administrator.
        3. Appendix E (refers to Banner)
            a. Referred to AAC. Committee will review and update the appendix, including determining what belongs in the Handbook versus the catalog.
        4. Academic Integrity Violations Committee (see email from E. Callahan)
            a. Referred to AS&SS to align the Handbook's Violations Review Committee language with the current graduate and undergraduate academic integrity policies.

5. Subcommittee Membership
    a. EC will revise RES 262702 for second reading to add Tommy Holiwell, Director of Enrollment Systems, or designee, to serve on AAC.
6. Committee List (Tabled)
    a. EC discussed separating committees under Senate control from university or administrative committees and developing a current list that identifies each committee's status and activity.
    b. EC discussed using a selective list with clear criteria.
    c. Vice Chair T. Tsantsoulas supported reviewing the list and focusing on committees under the Senate's purview or control.
7. Committee proliferation (how committees are formed/ disbanded) (Addressed through the committee-list discussion above).
8. Officers of the University
    a. Addressed through the existing FAC referral/resolution.
9. Faculty Coordinator of Online Instruction
    a. Addressed through the existing FAC/AAC referral/resolution.
10. Four colleges to “all colleges” (Tabled)
    a. EC discussed creating a task force on college-formation criteria and charging it to recommend related Handbook updates. Calls are on hold pending further discussion.
    b. The Senate Analyst will add “College Formation Taskforce” to the next meeting agenda and locate the earlier call for the School Formation Criteria Task Force as a reference.
11. Schools and School Directors
    a. Referred to FAC to address selection, review, and the role of school directors in faculty evaluation. FAC was asked to consider how School Directors are selected and reviewed, and how the role fits into the faculty evaluation process.
12. Executive Director of AV campus
    a. The Executive Director is an MPP role; FAC will address this item through its existing resolution on academic leadership.
13. Staff representative on Senate (Tabled)
    a. The Appendix C language was left unchanged, with Staff Forum continuing to oversee the process for now.
    b. Vice Chair T. Tsantsoulas recommended allowing staff time to work through the transition.
    c. EC encouraged the current Staff Senator, Cindy, to seek staff feedback and identify possible participants for a task force, using previous staff senators as resources.
        i. Vice Chair Tsantsoulas will draft a memo requesting review and guidance on the staff senator process and bring back to EC. The

memo will emphasize a representative selection process and may be shared with Staff Forum at Cindy's discretion; EC may also consult VP Morris regarding support, email approval, workload, and barriers.

d. Carry Over from 2025-2026:
    i. Academic Tuition/Scholarship Waiver (handout) - Hold for information gathering.
    ii. Instructional Budget Model and Faculty Participation (deferred)
    iii. Senate Release time (deferred)
    iv. Faculty recruitment/ involvement for the Student Success Framework (deferred)
    v. Referrals for Consideration for FAC: (deferred)
        1. Department Chair Elections and Appointments / Program Director Elections and Appointments
        2. Department Chair Reviews and Program Director reviews
        3. Faculty Awards and Recognition Processes
        4. Faculty Mentorship and Professional Development
        5. Authorship and Scholarly Ethics
        6. Academic Senate / CPR / Faculty Affairs "Summit" – FAC (handout)
    vi. Creation of a Service-Learning University-wide Committee (handout) (deferred)
    vii. IACUC and HSIRB Updates
        1. Referred to FAC. Updated documents from Gwen Parnell are still pending; however, EC agreed the item can be referred.
e. SOCI concern raised at Senate, September 10, regarding courses with fewer than six students - joint referral to FAC and AAC.
    i. Handbook 305.4.4 “Student Role in the Performance Review Process for Instructional Faculty”
    ii. Referred to FAC and AAC. EC discussed reports that combined classes may be missed in the SOCI process and confirmed that the issue applies to both graduate and undergraduate classes. EC will ask the subcommittees to consider whether six is an appropriate threshold and whether an exceptions process is needed.
f. Emergency Evacuation days (handout)
    i. EC noted that exact drill times may not be available in advance, although dates can be provided. EC recommended using different dates and times so different faculty and students experience the drills. Chair Danforth will follow up with the faculty member that requested this item. No referral needed.

7. **Agenda Items for Senate** (deferred)

8. **Adjournment**
    a. Chair Danforth adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.