ACADEMIC SENATE
CSU BAKERSFIELD

Academic Senate: Executive Committee

Tuesday, October 6, 2026
10 – 11:30 AM

Minutes

Location: BDC 134- BPA Conference Room and virtual

Zoom Information:
Meeting ID: 826 4022 7199
Passcode: 166430

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

1. **Call to Order**
    a. Chair Danforth called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

2. **Announcements and Information:**
    a. Naming Opportunity **(Time Certain: 10:10 AM)**
        i. Chair Danforth shared confidential updates regarding naming opportunity. The item was tabled pending further consultation.
    b. Meeting schedule conflicts for IOC
        i. EC members serving on the IOC discussed communication and scheduling challenges, particularly the difficulty of scheduling committees with substantial faculty participation during class times. EC emphasized the importance of consulting faculty members about availability before setting meeting times.
    c. Future Meeting Guests:
        i. Senate– Fall 2026:
            1. October 8 – D. Cantrell, VP for SASEM
            2. October 22 – K. Susa FAR; R. Weller, FTLC
            3. November 5 – I. Sumaya, AVP for GRaSP
        ii. EC – Fall 2026:
            1. November 3 - E. Adams, AVP for Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs, WSCUC updates
        iii. Chief of Police (date to be confirmed)

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

DRAFT

a. Z. Zenko moved to approve the amended agenda, seconded by J. Deal. The agenda was amended to include the staff-senator memo and discussion regarding faculty participation in appointments. The amended agenda was approved.

4. **Approval of Minutes**:
   a. September 22, 2026 (handout) - tabled
   b. September 29, 2026 (handout) - tabled

5. Continued Items

a. Standing Committees: Senate Log (handout) (deferred)
   i. AAC – J. Deal
   ii. AS&SS – L. Kirstein
   iii. BPC – D. Wu
   iv. FAC – Z. Zenko
b. Provost Report – D. Thien **(Time Certain: 10:50 AM)**
   i. Academic Administrator Reviews – *faculty calls in progress*
      1. 2026-2027 AARC Rosters (handout)
         a. The Senate Analyst will provide L. Williams in the Provost's Office with updates regarding faculty representation for the AARC for L. Paris, the AARC for D. Boschini, and the Search and Screening Committee for the Associate Dean for the College of Arts and Humanities.
   ii. Search & Screening Committees for Academic Administrators:
      1. SSE Associate Dean – faculty calls complete.
         a. The Provost confirmed that the Search and Screening Committee for the SSE Associate Dean has convened and begun their work.
      2. AH Associate Dean
         a. Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas reported that the first call has been completed and results will be shared shortly.
      3. Executive Director for Antelope Valley (refer to 6.b.i)
         a. See the discussion under New Discussion Items below.
   iii. Status of the Student Success Framework
      1. EC discussed the composition of the Student Success Framework team and the GI 2025 Executive Summary provided by the Chancellor's Office, .Looking at our current student success data needs, the committee discussed the need to examine graduation data by double majors, transfer cohorts, DFW rates, financial hardship, holds, units attempted, and student engagement.
   iv. Concerns about administrative follow-through on RES 252603 – Double Major Policy
      1. EC discussed concerns about administrative follow-through on RES 252603, the Double Major Policy, and the need to monitor its implementation. Provost Thien confirmed that a workflow is coming into place that will alleviate the concerns.
   v. Cohort Lunches

1. Provost Thien communicated that an announcement about the cohort lunches will go out to faculty later that day. Official invitations will follow soon after. The lunches are informal gatherings between faculty cohorts and the Provost. The reason for the initiative is to strengthen faculty belonging, recognizing that recruiting and retaining faculty is critical to the future of the institution.

c. Calendar Committee – D. Wu
    i. EC briefly discussed additional calendar issues and the need for continued review and faculty input. A memo from E. Adams was still pending; the item was deferred.
d. Handbook & Bylaws Summer Working Group **(Time Certain: 11:00 AM)**
    i. RES 262704 – Updates to Bylaws; 2nd reading (handout)
        1. EC reviewed the resolution and approved it for second reading.
    ii. RES 2627XX- Updates to Handbook; Draft for 1st reading (handout) (deferred)
    iii. Continued items:
        1. Staff representative on Senate: EC reviewed the draft memo regarding the staff-senator selection process and provided feedback on its wording, requests, and a possible timeline. The memo will be revised and shared with the Staff Senator.
        2. Committee Lists and proliferation:
            a. EC continued its discussion of committee lists and committee proliferation. See below under 6.c.

6. **<u>New Discussion Items</u> (Time Certain: 10:30 AM)**
    a. Draft Nondiscrimination and Sexual Misconduct policies (handouts)
        i. EC reviewed the draft nondiscrimination and sexual misconduct policy updates circulated by ASCSU. ASCSU Senators noted that prior feedback had already been provided and it was recommended to confirm consistency with recent legislation, including changes related to human trafficking. EC agreed there was no need to provide additional comments on the draft policy.
    b. Elections and Appointments – T. Tsantsoulas
        i. Search & Screening Committee composition for the Executive Director for Antelope Valley
            1. EC reviewed section 309.5.2, Composition of Search and Screening Committees for individual College, Library, or Antelope Valley Campus Dean positions. Pending Provost Thien's consultation with AV, EC agreed to use the existing dean search committee composition as a starting point for the Executive Director for Antelope Valley search and identify the affected constituency, including faculty connected to Antelope Valley programs.
        ii. Calls In progress:
            1. AARC (L. Paris, BPA)
                a. The third call was completed. JT Chen, Management/Marketing, was elected by acclamation to the AARC for L. Paris.
            2. AARCs (D. Boschini and I. Sumaya)
                a. AARC for D. Boschini: Z. Zenko was elected by acclamation.

b. AARC for I. Sumaya: a second call is needed.

3. University Council
    a. One nomination was received; however, the nominee is not an Antelope Valley faculty member. A second call will be scheduled.
4. Exceptional Service Awards Committee
    a. EC appointed D. Solano, Chemistry and Biochemistry, to the Exceptional Service Awards Committee.
    b. EC appointed C. Lam and J. Deal to serve as the EC representatives on the Exceptional Service Awards Committee.

iii. College distribution lists (deferred)

c. Committee proliferation challenges (amended)
    i. EC discussed concerns about committee proliferation, the need for repeated college and at-large calls, and the respective roles of deans, college elections committees, and the Senate in identifying candidates. Members discussed reviewing existing committees, consolidating overlapping committees, providing clearer information about service commitments, and encouraging broader participation. EC also discussed the possibility of requiring service after repeated unsuccessful calls, subject to applicable Senate and bargaining-unit practices.
d. Curriculum: (AAC/BPC) (deferred)
    i. Environmental Science (HOLD)
    ii. Mathematics Concentration Re-naming (HOLD)
e. Carry Over from 2025-2026:
    i. Academic Tuition/Scholarship Waiver (handout) - deferred
        1. Develop a task force membership list so a call can be issued.
    ii. Instructional Budget Model and Faculty Participation (deferred)
    iii. Senate Release time (deferred)
    iv. Faculty recruitment/ involvement for the Student Success Framework (deferred)
    v. Creation of a Service-Learning University-wide Committee - AAC (handout) (deferred)
    vi. 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)
f. Develop membership list for a Task Force for College Formation Criteria (deferred)
g. Concerns about the Instructor-initiated drop policy (deferred)
h. New Discussion Item: Data support provided by IRPA regarding double majors, transfer cohorts, DFW rates, financial hardship, holds, units attempted, and student engagement.

7. <u>Agenda Items for Senate</u> (Time Certain: 11:15 AM)

Academic Senate Meeting – Fall 2026

Thursday, October 8, 2026

10 AM – 11:30 AM

Agenda

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

Zoom Information:

Zoom Meeting ID: 811 3080 8590

Passcode: 674081

Senate Members: Chair M. Danforth (excused), 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 (virtual), AV Senator K. Holloway (virtual), 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 D. Cantrell, VP for SASEM.

I. Call to Order
   a. Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement
   b. Robert's Rules of Order
   c. Interruption Statement

II. Approval of Minutes
   a. September 24, 2026 (handout)

III. Announcements and Information
   a. President's Report – V. Harper **(Time Certain: 10:10 AM)** (handout)
   b. Post-Census Day Enrollment Report – D. Cantrell **(Time Certain: 10:20 AM)**
   c. Elections and Appointments – T. Tsantsoulas (handout)
   d. Upcoming Events/ Information:
      i. October 19 - Fall 2026 Budget Open Forum
         1. 11 AM to 12 noon; Student Union MPR and virtual

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

V. Reports

a. Provost's Report – D. Thien **(Time Certain: 10:40 AM)** (handout)
b. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka (*N. Michieka confirmed that here is not a handout for this week as the ASCSU still needs to post the minutes).
c. ASI Report – Senator Kaur
d. Staff Report – Senator C. Zúñiga-Prado
e. Committee Reports:
    i. Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas (handout)
    ii. Standing Committees:
        1. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) – Senator Deal, Chair (handout)
        2. Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS) – Senator Kirstein, Chair (handout)
        3. Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) – Senator Wu, Chair (handout)
        4. Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Senator Zenko, Chair (handout)
f. CFA Report – Senator Horn, CFA Bakersfield (handout)

VI. Resolutions **(Time Certain: 10:50 AM)**
a. Consent Agenda: No items.
b. Old Business:
    i. RES 262704 – Updates to Bylaws – EC (handout)
c. New Business:
    i. RES 262705 – Distributed Learning Committee – FAC (handout)
    ii. RES 262706 – President's Cabinet and Academic Leadership (handout)

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

VIII. Adjournment

8. <u>Adjournment</u>

a. Chair Danforth adjourned at 11:30 AM.