ACADEMIC SENATE
CSU BAKERSFIELD

EC Approved: November 3, 2026

Academic Senate: Executive Committee

Tuesday, October 20, 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), 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. Chair Danforth called the meeting to order.

2. **Announcements and Information**
   a. Naming Opportunity **(Time Certain: 10:10 AM)**
      i. Chair Danforth reported that no update was available. Her meeting with President Harper had been rescheduled for the following week; the item remains pending.
   b. Wang Award
      i. The Faculty Honors and Awards Committee decided not to forward any nominees. EC also noted that a request concerning committee processes might be forthcoming.
      ii.
   c. Debrief of Fall Budget Forum
      i. EC discussed the October 19 budget forum. It was noted that this year, the presentation included faculty, staff, and MPP headcounts; the slides are posted. D. Wu will seek additional feedback from BPC members. Provost Thien described her review of the tenure-line faculty pipeline, including the balance between new hires and assistant professors moving into tenured positions.
      ii. Members discussed student questions about elective availability, scheduling, financial aid, and access to graduate programs. The Provost reported that follow-up had occurred with the students and relevant deans and department chairs. EC discussed clear communication and follow-through while respecting limits on disclosure of another student's academic information.

d. Commendation for K. Flachmann*added.
    i. EC agreed to plan the commendation for the November 5 Senate meeting, when the President and Provost are expected to be present, and to announce the plan at the October 22 meeting. A draft will be prepared for the next EC meeting.
    ii. Chair Danforth and the Senate Analyst will contact the English department chair and administrative support coordinator to coordinate with the department and family about participation and avoid duplicating outreach. Members discussed additional ways to honor K. Flachmann's contributions to writing on campus and in the community, including naming the Writing Center, an award, or a scholarship.
e. Intercollegiate Operations Council (IOC)* added.
    i. EC discussed difficulty securing BPA and NSME faculty representation because the scheduled IOC meeting time conflicts with teaching. Members emphasized that meaningful faculty participation requires attention to teaching schedules and discussed using classroom-utilization information to identify more accessible meeting times.
    ii. Provost Thien agreed to raise the two vacancies with the BPA and NSME deans at Deans' Council and seek faculty available for the scheduled biweekly meetings, identified in discussion as Monday 11:30 AM–1 PM. Members also discussed providing general guidance on faculty availability when scheduling committees such as scheduling committee meetings outside of M-Th, 10am-3pm.
f. Question from ITS*added.
    i. L. Kirstein received a query in AS&SS about the Chancellor's Office AI survey. It was conjectured that lower participation may be due to the survey announcement not being displayed in Canvas. ITS is awaiting the President's signature on the related Senate resolution before placing the survey there and inquired about an update from EC. No update on President Harper's approval was available. Members indicated that ITS should pursue the matter through its administrative reporting line.
g. Future Meeting Guests:
    i. Senate– Fall 2026:
        1. October 22 – K. Susa FAR and R. Weller, FTLC
        2. November 5 – I. Sumaya, AVP for GRaSP
        3. The Athletics Director's introduction is planned for a November Senate meeting.
    ii. EC – Fall 2026:
        1. November 3 – E. Adams, AVP for AA and Dean of Academic Programs, WASUC Updates
        2. Chief of Police (?)

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

a. The agenda was amended to add the Fall Budget Forum debrief, a commendation for K. Flachmann, IOC, a question from ITS, and a confidential discussion item from President Harper. The amended agenda was approved.

4. **Approval of Minutes**
    a. September 22, 2026 (handout)
    b. September 29, 2026 (handout)
    c. October 6, 2026 (handout)
    d. The September 22, September 29, and October 6, 2026, minutes listed on the agenda were approved together following a motion and second.

5. Continued Items
    a. Standing Committees: Senate Log (handout)
        i. AAC – J. Deal
        ii. AS&SS – L. Kirstein
        iii. BPC – D. Wu
        iv. FAC – Z. Zenko
        v. During the Senate agenda review, Chair Danforth asked whether any anticipated referrals had not reached committees; none were identified.

    b. Provost Report – D. Thien **(Time Certain: 10:50 AM)**
        i. Academic Administrator Reviews
            1. 2026-2027 AARC Rosters (handout)
                a. Academic Administrator Reviews – 2026–2027 AARC Rosters (handout): EC supported the proposed roster additions for the BPA Associate Dean review and the reviews of D. Boschini and I. Sumaya. The discussion identified D. Cours and J. Kang for the Boschini review, and Dean Bozarth and M. Barrera for the Sumaya review.
        ii. Search & Screening Committees for Academic Administrators:
            1. Executive Director for Antelope Valley
                a. See item 6.a.i below regarding consultation on the proposed committee composition.
            2. SSE Associate Dean
                a. The SSE Associate Dean search is already moving forward.
            3. AH Associate Dean
                a. The AH Associate Dean roster has been provided to the dean so the search can proceed.
        iii. Student Success Framework: The campus group met for an initial check-in on October 19 and will meet with the CSU team the following Tuesday. Further guidance, including potential Chancellor's Office funding for Group 1 campuses, is expected after that meeting. Specific target cohorts remain under discussion, with attention to first-time freshmen, six-year graduation rates, and transfer outcomes.
        iv. The Provost discussed the potential strategy of reserving seats for incoming students rather than leaving only the seats remaining after continuing-student registration. A December 4 scheduling discussion is planned to examine population-specific needs and

identify enrollment pressure earlier in the scheduling cycle. Provost Thien will continue to report on this item in future meetings.

c. Calendar Committee – D. Wu
    i. Additional issues with calendar
        1. The committee is developing two calendar options: one retaining University Week as is and one allowing changes to it. EC discussed instructional-day requirements, a possible additional fall holiday, the timing of finals and grades, new-faculty orientation, and possible alignment with other CSU campuses.
        2. EC agreed that a formal recommendation should present the calendar comparisons and options to President Harper. D. Wu and the Calendar Committee will prepare a draft over the next two weeks and bring it to the November 3 EC meeting for review and finalization as an EC communication. Relevant events and staff scheduling perspectives should be included.

d. Handbook & Bylaws Summer Working Group **(Time Certain: 11:00 AM)**
    i. RES 262707 – Updates to Handbook; Draft for 1st reading (handout)
        1. RES 262707 – Updates to University Handbook: EC agreed to advance the draft for first reading at the October 22 Senate meeting. The Chair and Senate Analyst will finalize the resolution cover sheet and supporting material.
    ii. Continued items:
        1. Staff representative on Senate
            a. Review memorandum to be sent from Senate to the Staff Senator (handout)
            b. EC reviewed and supported the revised memo, which incorporates the previously discussed timeline as a recommendation. The memo will be sent to the Staff Senator and included with the EC report in the Senate packet so senators are aware of EC's discussion and recommendations.
        2. Committee lists and proliferation (deferred)

6. <u>New Discussion Items</u> (Time Certain: 10:30 AM)

a. Elections and Appointments – T. Tsantsoulas
    i. Search and Screening Committee – Executive Director for Antelope Valley
        1. Search and Screening Committee – Executive Director for Antelope Valley: Provost Thien will take the draft committee composition to Antelope Valley during her October 28 visit, seek feedback, and return it to EC for the November 3 meeting.
    ii. Appointments: Exceptional Service Awards Committee
        1. Exceptional Service Awards Committee: EC discussed the requirement that appointees be available to meet in both fall and spring. Members agreed to proceed with the two remaining nominees because another nominee had indicated unavailability for fall, emphasizing that availability, rather than the

reason for absence, was the relevant consideration. EC appointed Maryann Parada, Modern Languages and Literature and Douglas Dodd, History.
2. Members emphasized issuing the award call early enough to allow strong applications and inform teaching schedules. The number of awards and available WTUs remains dependent on Chancellor's Office notification; members discussed reviewing and ranking applications while awaiting that information.

b. Curriculum: (AAC/BPC)
   i. Environmental Science
      1. Chair Danforth provided an update that the program had been renamed Environmental Geoscience and that no further Senate action was required because the change was handled at the Chancellor's Office level.
   ii. Mathematics Concentration Re-naming (HOLD)
      1. Chair Danforth provided an update that the elevation of a concentration to a degree program remains pending. Department staffing and the budget-template workload have delayed work on the proposal.
c. Carry Over from 2025-2026: (deferred)
   i. Academic Tuition/ Scholarship Waiver (handout)
      1. Develop task force membership list so call can be issued.
   ii. Instructional Budget Model and Faculty Participation
   iii. Senate Release time
   iv. Faculty recruitment/ involvement for the Student Success Framework
   v. Creation of a Service-Learning University-wide Committee – AAC (?) (handout)
   vi. Referrals for Consideration for FAC:
      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)
d. Develop membership list for a Task Force for College Creation Criteria (deferred)
e. Concerns about the Instructor-initiated drop policy (deferred)
f. Data provided by IRPA (deferred)

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

a. EC reviewed the October 22 Senate agenda and agreed to defer the President's, Provost's, and ASCSU reports because of absences. The FAR and FTLC presenters will be asked to attend from the start of the meeting in case their reports can be heard earlier.
b. RES 262705 – Distributed Learning Committee will remain under Old Business for second reading. RES 262706 – President's Cabinet and Academic Leadership is not ready for second reading, pending further consultation with the Provost.

c. First readings will include RES 262709 – Academic Integrity, RES 262707 – Updates to University Handbook, and RES 262708 – Teaching Modality. EC agreed to begin with Academic Integrity, which is intended to reconcile handbook language with previously adopted resolutions.

Academic Senate
Thursday, October 22, 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, Vice-Chair T. Tsantsoulas, CSU Senator C. Lam, CSU Senator N. Michieka (excused), 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 (alt. J. Nmah), Lecturer Electorate Representative – D. Horn (virtual), Senator C. Zúñiga-Prado – Staff Representative, Senator N. Kaur – ASI President (alt. N. Ifemeji, ASI EVP) , Senator D. Cours – Dean Representative, VP AA & Provost D. Thein (excused) and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven.

Guests: K. Susa, FAR and R. Weller, FTLC.

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

II. Approval of Minutes
   a. October 6, 2026 (handout)

III. Announcements and Information
   a. President's Report – V. Harper (deferred)
   b. Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) – K. Susa **(Time Certain: 10:20 AM**)
   c. Faculty Teaching and Learning Center (FTLC) – R. Weller **(Time Certain: 10:30 AM)**
   d. Elections and Appointments – T. Tsantsoulas (handout)
   e. Upcoming Events/ Information (deferred)

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

V. Reports
   a. Provost's Report – D. Thien (deferred)

b. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka (deferred)
c. ASI Report – N. Ifemeje, ASI EVP
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 262705 – Distributed Learning Committee – FAC (handout)
    ii. ~~RES 262706 – President's Cabinet and Academic Leadership~~ (*not ready)
c. New Business:
    i. RES 262709 – Academic Integrity – AS&SS (handout)
    ii. RES 262707 – Updates to University Handbook – EC (handout)
    iii. RES 262708 – Teaching Modality – AAC (handout)

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

VIII. Adjournment

8. <u>Adjournment</u>
a. Chair Danforth adjourned the meeting at 11:29 AM.