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OFFICIAL MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order Academic Senate** curry mitchell, respectfully acknowledged that MiraCosta is on the traditional territory of the Luiseño/ Payómkawichum people. Today, this meeting place and surrounding areas are home to the six federally recognized bands of the La Jolla, Pala, Pauma, Pechanga, Rincon, Soboba Luiseño/ Payómkawichum people and remain the shared space among Kumeyaay and Ipai peoples. In addition, we pay respect to elders, present and past: keepers of history, culture, wisdom, and knowledge. The meeting was called to order at 1:03pm.
- II. **Remote Member Attendance** Description: *Academic Senate will consider remote participation of members under the provisions of AB2449, if any.*
- III. **Roll Call: Members present** curry mitchell (President), Daniel Ante-Contreras, Sunny Cooke, Leigh Cotnoir, Erica, Duran, Jim Julius, Jeffrey Murico, Ghada Osman, Nate Scharf, Alexis Tucker Sade, Afifa Zaman, Robin Allyn, Sarah Gross, Brian Page, Krista Warren.
Members Absent: Sean Davis, Robyn Allyn, Julie Graboi.
Others Present: Jose Sanchez, Chris Tarman, Kellita Felton, Rick White.
- IV. **Persons Wishing to Address the Senate [Time 1:10; 15 minutes]**
Members of the public shall have an opportunity to address the committee either before or during the committee’s consideration of each item of business to be discussed at regular or special committee meetings, including closed session items. In addition, with limited exceptions, the committee will provide an opportunity at regular meetings to address the committee on any other item of interest which is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Academic Senate. In order to efficiently manage the business of the committee, the committee chair may limit the amount of time. None
- IV. **Changes to Agenda Order** - Time certain were noted.
- V. **Consent Calendar**
 - A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Dec 6th
 - B. Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting of Dec 13th
 - C. Equivalencies - Davis

Description: *Approve one equivalency in Noncredit ESL and one in Business*
Consent Calendar items A, B and C were approved by unanimous consent.
- VI. **Action Item, Second Read (Vote Required)**
A senate member may move to add 5 minutes for discussion, approved by a majority vote; other times will be reduced to allow the meeting to end on schedule.
 - A. [WASC AHS Accreditation Report](#) - Duran and Sanchez [Time 1:25; 5 minutes]
Description: *The WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) AHS (Adult High*

BP 2510: Collegial Governance and Participation in Local Decision Making

The board recognizes the Academic Senate as the body that represents the faculty (fulltime and associate) in collegial governance relating to academic and professional matters.

- 1. Curriculum
- 2. Degree and certificate requirements
- 3. Grading policies
- 4. Educational program development
- 5. Standards or policies for student prep. and success
- 6. Governance structures, as related to faculty roles
- 7. Accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports
- 8. Faculty professional development policies
- 9. Processes for program review
- 10. Processes for institutional planning and budget dev.
- +1 Academic calendar •
Prioritization of full-time faculty hiring • Program discontinuance procedures, in alignment with program review • Equivalency procedures • Policies and procedures protecting academic freedom • Recommendation on tenure and professional advancement

The Board or its designees will consult collegially with the Academic Senate on all of the listed academic and professional matters and will rely primarily on the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate.

School) Accreditation Report came to Senate for a first read in November and now for approval. It will then go to the Board of Trustees. The report is due by March 25, 2025. MSP {Scharf / Warren} {Duran abstained}
No discussion ensued.

VII. Action Item, First Read

A senate member may move to add 5 minutes for discussion, approved by a majority vote; other times will be reduced to allow the meeting to end on schedule.

A. Updated [Academic Calendar 2025-2026](#) - Hull [Time 1:30; 10 minutes]

Description: *Description: Corrections have been applied to meet the requirements for total number of days accounting for the Monday of Finals Week*

- VP Pescarmona presented changes, including the reinsertion of January 27th. Dr. Stuart of the IDEA college was referenced as suggesting the need for a more inclusive and ADA compliant calendar; one with more versatility. The executive office is in agreement with the request to modernize the academic calendar.
- A discussion ensued with regards to veterans day observance and how changing the observance date may result in an additional Tuesday holiday. The matter will be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for further deliberation.
- Murico discussed the December 8th Finals conflict and the request to review the Monday / Wednesday finals schedules. Many students have back to back finals these days - presents challenges. Issue acknowledged and senate is committed to exploring solutions; Pescarmona discussed Finals Week is dissolving as of 2026 Fall; 2026-27 calendar will address and resolve inclusivity and accessibility issues. The current calendar is for general awareness of hard deadlines, however exceptions to the rule exist. Official drop dates are based on students' surf roster and other factors. VP and President will discuss recommended calendar adjustments with the Board; target date is January Board Item.

B. Academic Senate Faculty Awards - [Stanback Stroud Diversity Award](#) - Julius

Description: *The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) has called for nominations for the 2024-25 Stanback Stroud Diversity Award, which "honor the cadre of committed faculty who consistently rise to meet the challenges our students face." Given the submission deadline of February 9th, we will be asked to suspend our rules of two reads and approve the Awards Committee recommendation.*

Two honorees were selected for the ASCCC Award, Maria Figueroa was chosen.

Motion to suspend rules MS (Warren / Page)

Motion to approve Maria's nomination MS (Tucker Sade / Duran)

Discussion: She's a wonderful candidate.

VIII. Information / Discussion

A. AI Task Force Updates and Discussion for the AI 5th Friday Conference - Julius [Time 1:40; 10 minutes]

Description: *Updates from the AI Taskforce on planning and preparations for the 5th Friday Conference on AI Tools and Topics*

Guest Speaker Fabiola Torres who is an AI expert will be one of the panelists speaking at the engagement. Joint sessions will be held from 10am-11:30am for all MCC employee groups followed by break out sessions 12:30pm-3:30pm. As of this meeting, the call for proposals is still open and all are encouraged to RSVP even with online attendance.

Discussion: There is an appetite from faculty on utilizing AI Tools as an integrated approach to teaching. Department Chairs want to educate faculty on the best tools to use with students for engagement i.e. Playlab that supports building customized chatbox is an app favored by many and is one of relevance for this conference. Cotnoir discussed the current lawsuit between the NY Times and ChatGPT and asked to keep abreast of the outcome which may affect the libraries of AI tools like Microsoft's CoPilot and ChatGPT among others. These topics and more like these are the vision for the afternoon. Question arose as to consensus on students attending.

Perspective: Faculty may feel uncomfortable with students in these sessions to

divulge true feelings around AI usage.

Deadline for proposals: Friday, 1/17/25. We may extend.

185 reserved for in person and 98 reserved for online. Considering alternate streaming locations. Event programming is managed by Denee, Jim and Melanie.

B. Review of [Academic Senate Organizational Structures](#) - Osman, Sharff, Warren, mitchell, Tucker-Sade **[Time 1:50; 30 minutes]**

Description: *The AS workgroup researching statewide Academic Senate constituencies will share initial findings and insights followed by discussion*

- mitchell shared a statistic around Miracosta college's unique senate structure in comparison with other CA community colleges. Discussion focused on whether reorganization could make the AS more representative and impactful. Tucker-Sade outlined the highlights of her evidence-based report and encouraged senators to read it thoroughly and take into consideration the proposed structural changes and the benefit to all faculty. mitchell agreed to share his report with senators and include it with the agenda minutes.
- Discussion ensued with ideas around restructuring in support of guided pathways, dual-enrollment and further inclusivity for teaching groups i.e. non-credit, counseling and learning support instructional staff.
- Warren discussed challenges embedded in the current MCC climate / certain cultural attitudes that may resist the idea of associate faculty members representing a department. Warren cited the website contingentworld.com as a resource for the committee.
- Osmand discussed the idea to survey faculty in the Fall of 2025 to gather a pulse on how the collective body feels about representation.
- Discussion among senators Cotnoir and Tucker Sade revealed that a restructuring of the senate at-large could disrupt the unification of the current faculty body, while the potential of not restructuring could leave the senate vulnerable to potential committee stacking. Referring to a practice of deliberately selecting members for a committee who are likely to align with a particular perspective, agenda, or outcome.
- Final Ideas shared were the recommendation to add additional representation for groups like non-credit, librarians, counselors to the existing model so as not to disrupt current unification.
- mitchell proposed one next step is to focus on communication strategies to be the focus of the next Senate retreat and recommended more time to explore senate reorganization including a consideration of models from ASCCC and the Faculty Assembly, bodies that do designate certain membership to be recruited/elected from specific departments, divisions, and areas

C. Review of [Spring Agenda Topics and Senate Roles](#) - mitchell **[Time 2:20; 30 minutes]**

Description: *After a brief overview of the spring agenda, Senators will be asked to reflect on the format of Senate meeting presentations and make recommendations*

A worksheet is passed out for senators to complete. A write up of the discussion along with a copy of Senators' completed worksheets are included with these minutes

IX. Reports (Written, Included Via Links Below)

- A. Academic Senate President – mitchell ([access report](#))
- B. College Superintendent/President – Cooke ([access report](#))
- C. Classified Senate – Banks ([access report](#))
- D. Associate Student Government – *position currently unfilled* ([access report](#))

E. Senator Reports – ([access report](#))

To submit a Senator Report, contact the Academic Senate President and share your report in writing before the meeting.

X. **Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 3:04pm

On September 13, 2022, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed California Assembly Bill 2449 (AB 2449) into law. This bill changes remote attendance rules under Ralph M. Brown Act's opening meeting laws. With an effective date of January 1, 2023, AB 2449 imposes four periods of differing rules on remote access to, and member attendance of, local agency public meetings under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act). Further, a state of emergency is no longer in effect and so governing bodies will now meet in person with the possibility of approved remote attendance. The public may observe the meeting remotely or in person and offer public comment. A link for remote viewing or calling in is noted on the agenda. Therefore, Academic Senate (AS) meetings will be held in person with a Zoom link available. If you wish to attend the meeting and you have another disability requiring special accommodation, please notify the Academic Senate Administrative Assistant at 760-795-6873. The California Relay Service (CRS) is available by dialing 711, or 800-855-7100 for English or 800-855-7200 for Spanish.

In compliance with Government Code section §54957.5, nonexempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the MiraCosta Community College District Academic Senate in advance of their meetings may be viewed at the Office of the Academic Senate President, One Barnard Drive, Oceanside, California, or by clicking on the Academic Senate's website at <https://www.miracosta.edu/governance/academic-senate/index.html>. Such writings will also be available at the Senate meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Debby Adler, Administrative Assistant to the Academic Senate President, at 760.795.6873 or by email at dadler@miracosta.edu

Audio recordings of AS meetings may be available and requested for up to 30 days. Please contact the MiraCosta College AS President's Office 760-757-2121 x6213 or email Debby Adler, Administrative Assistant to the Academic Senate at dadler@miracosta.edu.