



OFFICIAL MINUTES

Acronoyns used

M (motion), **S** (second), **U** (unanimous),
P (passed), **ASP** (Academic Senate President)

- I. *ASP mitchell* called the meeting to order at 9:01am after a reading of the Land Acknowledgement.
- II. Roll Call
Present: Brian Page, Sarah Gross, Julie Graboi, Katrina Tumura, Kristine Arquero, Sean Davis, Ghada Osman, Leigh Cotnoir, Sunny Cooke, Robin Allyn, Jim Sullivan, curry mitchell
Absent: Afifa Zaman, Alexis Tucker Sade
Present, After Roll Call: Krista Waren
Present, Remote (nonvoting): Jeff Murico,
Public:
- III. Persons Wishing to Address the Senate
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.

Students Andrew McKinnel and Joseph Johnson shared findings from a survey of 154 students indicating that textbook costs disproportionately impact disadvantaged students, affecting their ability to enroll in courses and complete programs in a timely manner. They emphasized the need for greater cost transparency so students can make informed enrollment decisions and urged increased adoption of Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) materials, noting alignment with MiraCosta’s institutional values.

President-elect Sullivan let his comment pass to allow the students who spoke before him stand as today’s only public comment.
- IV. Changes to Agenda Order
It was noted that we would hear from our Salary Advancement Chair ahead of first read action items due to a time certain in the meeting agenda.
- V. Consent Calendar
Items A-D approved by unanimous consent.
 - A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 3, 2026
 - B. Salary Advancement Applications Spring 2026
Description: Per BP 2510 under +1 of the Academic Senate’s responsibilities, the Salary Advancement Committee makes recommendations for professional advancement for faculty who pursued discipline and professional currency and

submitted quality applications and reports of activities undertaken.

C. **Disciplines List for Credit and Non-Credit 2026**

Description: The CPC maintains an official disciplines and course list for all credit and noncredit courses. Each spring, working with discipline faculty, the CPC reviews and updates these lists. Once approved by the Academic Senate, the lists are published and distributed to department chairs, instructional deans, and Human Resources.

D. **2026 FT Emeritus Recommendations**

Description: According to APs 7280.4 and 7280.5, the Academic Senate shall vote to nominate eligible faculty eligible for board approval granting emeritus status.

VI. Action Item, Second Read [Time 9:20; 10 minutes]

A. **MSU (Graboi/Allyn) to approve AP 4025: Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degrees and General Education by unanimous consent.**

AP 4025: Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degrees and General Education - Fallstrom

Description: Language in the AP was updated to state that GE courses must be completed with a C or better, and Area 1A and 1B courses should not be taken with P/NP. This change, supported by the Counseling Department, addresses problems for students transferring to the universities. CCLC recommendation for the baccalaureate has been moved to AP 4025B. Sentence added to first paragraph per CCLC recommendation. Minor update to some wording and some formatting cleanup.

B. **MSU (Page/Graboi) to approve BP 4025: Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degrees and General Education**

BP 4025: Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degrees and General Education - Fallstrom

Description: Recommended CCLC language added to the second paragraph. Last paragraph changed "assure" to "ensure." Review was triggered by a CCLC update, however, that update was for the baccalaureate and that information was moved/added to BP4025B.

C. **MSU (Osman/Cotnoir) to approve AP 4025B: Philosophy and Criteria for Baccalaureate Degree and General Education**

AP 4025B: Philosophy and Criteria for Baccalaureate Degree and General Education - Fallstrom

Description: Minor update adds language identifying how the program targets local and regional workforce needs; some formatting cleanup.

D. **MSU (Page/Cotnoir) to approve BP 4025B: Philosophy and Criteria for Baccalaureate Degree and General Education**

BP 4025B: Philosophy and Criteria for Baccalaureate Degree and General Education - Fallstrom

Description: Minor update adds language identifying how the program targets local and regional workforce needs; some formatting cleanup.

E. **MSU (Gross/Graboi) to approve AP 4240 Academic Renewal**

AP 4240 Academic Renewal - Ante-Contreras

Description: Revisions align with new Title 5 regulations for academic renewal and create greater flexibility for students utilizing the academic renewal process. These changes include a reduction to the minimum units completed with at least a 2.0 grade point average before a student can petition for academic renewal, from 15 units to 6 units. Changes also allow students to petition for academic renewal after one term rather than one full academic year.

Gross asked for clarification with regard to the timeline for implementation now that the AP was approved. Arquero asked how an academic renewal would be shown on a transcript and GPA. Davis asked how academic renewal is accepted by CSUs and UCs. Gross clarified that it is an accepted process by the higher education institutions.

VII. Action Item, First Read

A. BP 4225: Course Repetition - Fallstrom [9:40; 5 minutes]

Description: Updates remove information that is already in AP 4225 and add Title 5 references to sections 55041, 55044, and 58161.

Fallstrom conveyed that this item was a technical cleanup of policy language, not a substantive change, focused on removing duplication, clarifying definitions and aligning with Title 5. Clarification was added around what counts as a “substandard grade (e.g. D). Most of what we red-lined was already reflected in the AP resulting in a shorter, cleaner, BP (about one page). This AP will be seen on the next agenda.

B. AP 4225: Course Repetition - Fallstrom [9:45; 5 minutes]

Description: Changes clarify definitions of satisfactory and substandard grades and note that the MW grade should be counted the same as an EW grade. Other edits update Ed. Code references and clarify language on repetition and CRCs.

AP 4225 revisions were presented to clarify definitions of satisfaction and substandard grades, updated Ed Code references and specify that MW grades are treated the same as EW grades. Fallstrom noted that language was refined to clarify repetition limits, including that a “W” is not considered a letter grade and further repetition beyond allowable limits requires students to petition the Committee on Exceptions.

Discussion clarified that recent legislative efforts to increase repetition limits from three to five attempts were not enacted. Senators raised questions regarding incompletes, (Cotnoir) clarified that these are not repetitions and are granted at instructor discretion. Fallstrom distinguished “enrollment” from “completion” noting that enrollment is defined as remaining past the census mark. Further, regarding Course Repetition Courses (CRCs), particularly in disciplines such as Kinesiology and visual / performing arts, and how these differ from stacked courses. CPC will review CRC-related considerations at an upcoming meeting. This AP will be seen on the next agenda.

C. MiraCosta Academic Senate Hyflex Recommendations - Julius [9:50; 10 minutes]

Description: Originally to help guide MiraCosta's transition from remote instruction to onground, HyFlex course offerings, these recommendations have been updated to reflect emerging, effective teaching and learning practices in order to further strengthen hyflex instruction.

Senators acknowledged the strength of the original document noting gaps between the framework and current implementation. Discussion highlighted that not all courses or student populations are well-suited for HyFlex, particularly where additional academic or technological support is needed (*Grabo*). Senators noted the importance of examining student success data and disproportionate impacts to better inform implementation (*Sullivan, Julius*). Additional recommendations included increased institutional support, faculty collaboration in course design, and expanded use of embedded tutoring, particularly drawing from effective noncredit models (e.g. CLC noncredit) (*Cotnoir*). Concerns were raised about expanding HyFlex without sufficient instructional and technical support (*Davis*). No objections to seeing this as an agenda item on an upcoming agenda.

D. MCC Commitment to Equitable Use of Cameras in Online Instruction & Assessments - Julius [10:00; 10 minutes]

Description: Commitments articulated in this document have been updated to support instructional engagement, attendance expectations, and academic integrity in synchronous online environments while adhering to the principles stated in Guidance for Synchronous Instruction at MiraCosta College to Protect Student Privacy.

Revisions to the college’s guidance on equitable camera use in synchronous online instruction were presented, emphasizing a balance between student privacy, engagement, attendance, and academic integrity. It was noted that earlier practices requiring cameras contributed to inequities, and the updated approach allows for greater flexibility while maintaining expectations for participation. Senators discussed the importance of clearly communicating expectations in course syllabi, including how participation is defined through active student engagement versus just camera use alone (*Sullivan, ASP Mitchell*). While some supported establishing cameras-on as a general expectation, there was consensus on the need for flexibility to address individual student circumstances, including temporary exceptions, unique circumstances. (*Osman, Davis, Cotnoir*).

Concerns were raised regarding attendance tracking requirements in certain programs (e.g., ESL Civics), specifically affecting associate faculty teaching noncredit programs where camera use may remain important for compliance purposes (*Tamura*). Senators noted that additional clarification and refinement of language, particularly around expectations and exceptions, would strengthen the guidance. **Next Steps:** Document will return with revised language for further review.

VIII. Discussion

A. Salary Advancement Committee (SAC) Report and Goals - Senigaglia [Time 9:30; 10 minutes]

Description: The Salary Advancement Committee will share about their work this semester and the goals they are pursuing. This discussion is intended to strengthen how the Academic Senate coordinates and collaborates with Academic Senate Subcommittees in our shared responsibilities as recommending and decision-making committees.

SAC Chair, Senigaglia joined remotely to speak to the recent implemented changes to salary advancement applications, forms and handbook. She emphasized that the committee had seen sixteen (16) applications for course approval this academic year. Most of the candidates who apply cite a one-year course completion date despite having up to five years to complete a course after approval which is a strong indicator of personal professional development. As a committee chair she values offering Informational Workshops on Salary Advancement during Spring and Fall Flex Weeks. Asked if she saw a trend in which departments / disciplines on average are most applying for advancement (Page), which was answered that many applicants cite @One Courses but is unsure if it is discipline / department specific but may be able to offer more after next year which will provide two solid years of data. Senator Graboi thanked Senigaglia for her outstanding outreach and updates to the application renewal policy that allows two submission periods per academic year. Senators were informed that the Academic Senate Orientation is being restructured through a collaboration between Associate Faculty (AF) and department chairs (Warren) The revised format will include four components: Student Services, Office of Instruction, HR/Working Conditions, and Faculty Governance. The orientation will be held Monday afternoon during Flex Week and chaired by Dean John Makevich. Senators also discussed the opportunity to include Senate representation each semester and recommended updating language related to associate faculty participation.

B. How we Schedule; How we Teach: Faculty Led Prof. Development Planning - Roberts [10:10; 35 minutes]

Description: This discussion resumes the senate's focus on Student-centered Scheduling by asking: What resources and pursuits of pedagogy will support teaching and learning in the classes and modalities MiraCosta will schedule? Prioritizing FLEX planning, this conversation with faculty leaders in professional development spaces will identify areas of pedagogy where faculty can continue to innovate and develop.

PDP Chair, Roberts, shared a presentation on scheduling, teaching and faculty led professional development; with an overview of flex week workshops. <https://canva.link/9rl32ukdryhc8rx>

C. Professional Development Programs Committee (PDP) Report and Goals - Roberts [10:45; 5 minutes]

Description: The Professional Development Program Committee will share about their work this semester and the goals they are pursuing. This discussion is intended to strengthen how the Academic Senate coordinates and collaborates with Academic Senate Subcommittees in our shared responsibilities as recommending and decision-making committees.

PDP Chair, Roberts reported on significant upcoming structural changes, including a new academic calendar, reorganization of Flex Week, transition to a new PDP Chair, and onboarding of a new college president. Key changes include moving the Flex Kickoff Event to Tuesday and the Associate Faculty Orientation to Monday afternoon of Flex Week. The kickoff event is planned for the 4800 courtyard and lawn spaces near the new Chemistry/Biology building and North Clocktower Lawn.

Roberts outlined calendar adjustments, including the addition of a Flex Day on December 14, designed to support engagement across three groups: individuals, departments, and committees. He noted a developing partnership with the Outcomes and Assessments Committee and Institutional Planning & Review to support the design and implementation of this day.

Roberts shared results from a recent Professional Development / FLEX survey with over 90 responses (approximately 10% of faculty), highlighting strong demand for in-person connection, including department/discipline-specific gatherings, networking opportunities, and pedagogical practice-sharing. He emphasized the potential of the December Flex Day to better support associate faculty participation.

Additional goals include curating a centralized "news feed" to highlight professional learning opportunities and themes such as alternative assessment, AI in teaching, inclusive practices, and faculty service/leadership development. Roberts encouraged senators to engage their constituencies in submitting workshop proposals

and participating in Flex activities.

A discussion point on the need to expand the definition of faculty service beyond formal committee participation was directed at PDP Chair (Davis), while DEqCC Chair, Pastrana highlighted the value of committee work as a form of mentorship and leadership development. **Next Steps:** Senators to share survey findings with constituents, encourage workshop submissions, and support participation in upcoming Flex programming.

IX. Reports

Academic Senate President – *MITCHELL* ([access report](#))

Mitchell directed senators to review and share the full written report with their constituents, including a focus on classroom design considerations. He noted that faculty will not be assigned to the Technology Advisory Committee. Additional updates included the availability of faculty office space and highlights from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Spring Plenary, including a notable resolution on mental health and wellness led by colleague Abby Burd. He also shared that Luke Lara has contributed an article in the current issue of the *Rostrum*.

College Superintendent/President – *COOKE* ([access report](#))

Cooke noted a few points of interest in her report; 7 of 10 faculty hires have been hired and provided an update on federal negotiated rulemaking related to accreditation, noting that proposed changes are expected to impact accreditation standards beginning Fall 2027. She directed senators to review resources included in her report to track ongoing developments. [ACCJC's AIM Negotiated Rulemaking FAQ webpage](#), Additionally, you can follow along [Negotiated Rulemaking for Higher Education 2026 | U.S. Department of Education](#) The rulemaking process is focused on reforming accreditation with an increased emphasis on data-driven student outcomes, institutional accountability, and potential measures of return on investment (ROI) for educational programs. Senator raised questions regarding how ROI may be defined and measured (Graboi), and whether metrics would reflect regional labor market conditions (Cotnoir). It was noted that specific metrics remain unclear, though there is interest in ensuring outcomes reflect regional economic realities. *Cooke* referenced existing research efforts, including work emerging from Virginia, while acknowledging that consistent national metrics for ROI in higher education have not yet been established.

Classified Senate – *STREAGLE* ([access report](#))

Classified Senate has not met since the last Senate meeting. However *Streagle* provided updates on the Election season, nominee / awardee updates for Spring Excellence Ceremony, development updates with regards to Job classification work.

Associate Student Government – *JAIMES* ([access report](#))

No report for this meeting.

X. The meeting adjourned at 11:04am