

Minutes

of the Academic Senate Meeting

Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Building 98, P2 – 007 Lecture Hall

PRESENT SENATORS: Melissa Aaron, Corwin Aragon, Gregory Barding, Aaron Cayer, Chitra Dabas, David Edens, Saeideh Fallah Fini, Ghada Gad, Berit Givens, Mario Guerrero, Peter Hanink, Paivi Hoikkala, Mohammad Husain, Alex John, Rita Kumar, , Kelly Min, Sean Monemi, Jessica Perez, George Proctor, Jonathan Puthoff, Erin Questad, Dennis Quinn, Jeffrey Ray, Jeffrey Roy, Bharti Sharma, Julie Shen, Kang Hoon Sung, Sabrina Toney, Jessie Vallejo, Nicholas Von Glahn, Preeti Wadhwa, Gerd Welke, and Alireza Yazdani.

ABSENT SENATORS: Amiyah S. Ellsworth and Nicholas Van Buer

PROXY: Senator Nicholas Von Glahn for Senator Faye Wachs, Senator Gerd Welke for Senator Pam Adams, Senator Ghada Gad for Senator Saeideh Fallah Fini, Senator Jonathan Puthoff for Senator Zahra Sotoudeh, Senator Jeff Roy for Senator Teresa Lloro.

GUESTS: Brandon Tuck, Alison Baski, Cheryl Koos, Lisa Rotunni, Jocelyn Chong, Christina Chavez-Reyes, Marla E. Peppers, Jenelle Pitt-Parker, Mary Anne Akers, Keith Forward, Laura Massa, Ethan Orr, Nicole Hawkes, and Andrew Ketsdever

Seating of Senator

- Jessie Vallejo, College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences

1. Academic Senate Minutes – February 4, 2026 [Time 3:01 PM]

There was a motion by Senator Sharma with minor edit and second by Senator Quinn to approve the meeting minutes from February 4, 2026. All in favor, no abstentions. The motion passed.

2. Information Items

- Chair's Report [Time 3:02 PM – 3:05 PM]

Sign-In Reminder

- Chair Hanink reminded all senators and guests to sign in.

Robert's Rules Reminder

- Members may speak twice per agenda item.

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- A second turn is only allowed after all others wishing to speak have had the opportunity.
- Speaking time is limited to three minutes per comment.

Senate Vacancies & Recruitment

- Recruitment is underway for Senate vacancies.
- These openings are for full-term seats beginning in the fall semester, replacing senators whose terms end this semester.
- The nomination process is ongoing.
- Senators wishing to run for reelection or who know someone interested in running are encouraged to submit nominations.

Election Timeline

- The nomination deadline for most departments is February 27.
- The College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences and the College of Business Administration Departments received an extended deadline due to eligibility clarification issues.
- After the deadline, there will be a five (5) day action period.
- If insufficient nominations are received, a second call will be issued in March, open to all eligible departments without the usual representation restrictions.

Representation Rule Reminder

- A department may not have two (2) senators unless every department in the college has at least one senator.
- This restriction applies only during the first nomination round.
- Extended rounds allow broader eligibility to fill remaining seats.

Voting Window

- Voting windows for current nominations begin this week.

Service Opportunities

- Numerous service opportunities remain available. Members are encouraged to review the listings.

Additional Notes

- The Executive Committee (EC) minutes are available via the posted link.
- Chair Hanink holds office hours 12–2 PM and is available via email for questions.

- President's Report – Presented by Nicole Hawkes, VP and Chief of Staff, People, Culture and Institutional Affairs [Time: 3:06 PM]

Trustee Campus Visit – February 10

- Trustees Arambula (CSU Board Vice Chair) and Guardado (Student Trustee), both members of the CPP Presidential Search Committee, visited campus to learn more about Cal Poly Pomona's distinctive Polytechnic strengths.
- Their visit included meetings with:
 - i. Cabinet
 - ii. Deans
 - iii. Academic Senate Executive Committee
 - iv. ASI Board

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They also received briefings and tours highlighting campus priorities, including:

- Lanterman project
- W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center
- Rose Float program
- Student success and career engagement initiatives
- Student support services (Care Center, CAPS)
- Athletics
- Select academic laboratories and facilities

VP Hawkes thanked all who contributed to the visit.

Upcoming Trustee Visit – March 12

- CPP will host Faculty Trustee Darlene D. Melton of San Francisco State University. Planning is underway, and faculty and staff may be contacted to participate.

Fong Fetterly Award

- The CSU introduced the Fong Fetterly Award, the first Board-level systemwide recognition for exceptional staff.
- Awards include three individual \$25,000 prizes and one team prize of \$25,000 shared among up to five members.
- CPP's nomination review is complete, and final nominations were submitted to the Chancellor's Office by the deadline.
- Winners will be announced at the May 2026 Board of Trustees meeting.

CSU Advocacy Day 2026

- Provost Gomez, VP Frances Teves, and External Affairs representatives attended CSU Advocacy Day in Sacramento.
- They met with several lawmakers—including Assemblymembers Rochelle Rodriguez and Blanca Rubio, and Senator Susan Rubio emphasized:
 - i. CPP's economic impact
 - ii. Support of underserved communities
 - iii. Education-to-workforce pathways that advance economic mobility

Media Coverage Regarding Title VI Review

VP Hawkes addressed recent media coverage linking CPP to the Ph.D. Project investigation:

- In October 2025, the CSU signed a systemwide resolution agreement with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights regarding Title VI compliance.
- All CSU campuses were required to review external organization partnerships for any race-based participation restrictions.

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- CPP identified wording on the website of community partner The Links, Incorporated that suggested race-based membership criteria and reported this per CSU guidelines.
- Inclusion in the CSU's submission does not constitute a legal finding or value judgment.
- The Links has since publicly clarified that it serves individuals without regard to race, and CPP/CSU remain open to future partnership with any organization aligned with applicable law.
- VP Hawkes reaffirmed CPP's commitment to diversity, access, opportunity, and compliance with federal Title VI and California Proposition 209.

Presidential Search Update

- The permanent CPP President is expected to be announced at the March 11 CSU Board of Trustees meeting.
- VP Hawkes thanked all who participated in the fall open forum and CPP representatives on the search committee, including Senate Chair Peter Hanink and the ASI President. Search Team Representatives:
 - i. Francis Teves, Administrative Representative
 - ii. Maria Anzaldo, Staff Representative
 - iii. Peter Hanink, Chair, Academic Senate
 - iv. José Aguilar-Hernández, Faculty Representative
 - v. Seema Shah-Fairbank, Faculty Representative
 - vi. Alejandra Lopez Sanchez, Student Representative
 - vii. Amiyah Ellsworth, Student Representative

Campus Updates

- Lunar New Year: Celebrated the Year of the Horse.
- W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center:
 - i. President Levine is monitoring five pregnant mares due this spring.
 - ii. A groundbreaking was held on February 12 for a new covered arena, enhancing academic programs in equine, animal science, and veterinary science and supporting the Teaching Horse Initiative.
- Centennial Event:
 - i. The Arabian Horse Center (AHC) will host a special Sunday show on April 12 in celebration of its 100-year legacy.

- Provost's Report – Presented by Dr. Laura Massa, Associate Vice President for Academic Programs [Time 3:15 PM]

AVP Massa conveyed greetings on behalf of Provost Gomez, who was in Sacramento for CSU Advocacy Day.

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Enrollment Update

- CPP exceeded its 2025–2026 enrollment target by 1.9%, securing \$1.8 million in permanent base funding.
- Final headcount: 27,958 students, including 23,388 resident FTES.
- Success resulted from strong new student enrollment and improved retention efforts.
- AVP Massa emphasized that exceeding targets strengthens CPP’s long term financial stability and reflects effective cross divisional collaboration.

Faculty Funding & Sabbaticals

- **38 sabbaticals** awarded for next year:
 - 9 academic year sabbaticals
 - 29 one semester sabbaticals
- **SPICE Program:**
 - 90 proposals submitted
 - \$1.7M requested vs. \$750K available → highly competitive cycle
- **AI Course Integration Grants (Round 2):**
 - Proposals open next week; deadline April 17
 - Grants are \$2,000 each
 - Focus on AI integration plus AI literacy, ethical use, and critical understanding
- **Summer Assessment Mini Grants (Office of Assessment & Program Review):**
 - Funding: \$500–\$1,500
 - Priority for projects closing the loop on assessment, or those on civic literacy and formal communication
- **CAPE Professional Development:**
 - Ongoing offerings; highlighted Champions for Accessibility and Inclusion (CHAI) faculty communities of practice
- **Provost Teacher Scholar Awards:**
 - Applications due March 1
 - President Levine added \$100K, bringing total funds to \$500K and enabling 13 additional awards
 - Award announcements expected April 6

Campus Announcements

California State Summer School for the Arts (CSSSA) Coming to CPP

- CPP won a highly competitive statewide RFP to host CSSSA.
- Program brings 500 students + 150 faculty to campus for 4 weeks each summer.
- Estimated \$7M in revenue over 3 years, with potential expansion to \$10M over 5 years.
- Offers new student employment opportunities (RAs, assistants) and enhances CPP’s arts reputation and regional access, especially for Inland Empire students.

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Bronco Bound Weekend (Admitted Students)

- Current registrations: 1,228 students, 4,288 total attendees.
- New feature: “Say Yes to CPP” zone where students can submit names for the new alpacas.
- Volunteers urgently needed (approx. 50+). Contact information was provided during the meeting.

Common Read Keynote

- Monica Guzmán, author of *I Never Thought of It That Way*, will speak on March 10.
- Focus: curiosity as a tool for understanding across differences.

○ Vice Chair’s Report

Vice Chair Barding read the Report Status Summary for February 25, 2026. There were no questions.

NEW REFERRALS: (2)

AP-025-256, New State-Support Master of Science in Computer Engineering
AP-026-256, New Self-Support Counterpart of the Master of Science in Computer Science

SENATE REPORT FORWARDED TO PRESIDENT: (4)

AS-3149-256-AP, Liberal Studies, B.A. – General Studies Option Name Change
AS-3150-256-AP, Liberal Studies, B.A. – Pre-Credential Option Name Change
AS-3151-256-AP, Program Review BA and MA English
AS-3152-256-AP, Program Review BS Physics

PRESIDENT RESPONSES TO SENATE REPORTS: (9)

AS-3144-256-AP, Program Review for BA Spanish
AS-3145-256-AP, Program Review for MA Education
AS-3146-256-AP, New Spanish Media Minor
AS-3147-256-AP, Academic Credit Certificate Programs Update
AS-3148-256-AA, 2026-27 Academic Calendar with 5 Year Projection
AS-3149-256-AP, Liberal Studies, B.A. – General Studies Option Name Change
AS-3150-256-AP, Liberal Studies, B.A. – Pre-Credential Option Name Change
AS-3151-256-AP, Program Review BA and MA English
AS-3152-256-AP, Program Review BS Physics

WITHDRAWN REFERRAL (0)

○ ASCSU Report

- There was no report.

○ Budget Report

- Senator Sharma reported on two meetings held with the Division of Student Affairs (DSA) regarding student services, activities, and budget matters. Her

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written report includes both the DSA presentation and a detailed summary provided by the division.

- **Overview of the Division of Student Affairs (DSA)**
 - i. DSA plays a critical role in delivering student facing services, including engagement, well-being, advising partnerships, and non-academic support that contributes to student persistence and retention.
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- **Budget Overview**
 - i. Total DSA budget for the year: \$156 million
 - ii. Revenue sources:
 - 1. ~86% comes from fees and auxiliary enterprises
 - 2. Additional carryover and one-time funds supplement the budget
 - iii. Projected expenditures:
 - 1. \$101 million for the year
 - 2. 38–40% for salaries
 - 3. 60% for operating expenses (driven largely by auxiliary units)
 - 4. Excluding auxiliaries, operating expenses would be ~22%
 - iv. Total employees: 655, primarily student employees
 - **Impact on Student Employment**
 - i. Due to budget pressures and work-study cost increases:
 - 1. Last year: ~520 student employees hired
 - 2. This year: ~370 student employees hired
 - ii. The division also experienced the loss of 20 staff/FTE positions.
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- **Budget Pressures and Service Demands**
 - DSA is experiencing growing demand in key areas:
 - i. Mental health services
 - ii. Basic needs support (food, housing, emergency assistance)
 - Additional financial pressures include:
 - i. Rising costs related to work-study requirements
 - ii. Challenges funding student athletic trainers, due to strain on the student health fee
 - DSA is actively planning for new budget realities and working to reduce reliance on one time funds.
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- **Discussion with DSA Committee**
 - The committee raised several questions, and DSA provided detailed responses regarding:
 - i. VSIP impacts: Monitoring will continue through summer; restructuring has been implemented to ensure service continuity.
 - ii. Mandated services: Funding processes exist, though some areas lack dedicated state-side funding.

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- iii. Cost reduction opportunities: Collaboration with Academic Affairs and other units may yield efficiencies; the partnership between Advising and the Care Center was highlighted as a successful model.
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- **Student Survey Findings**

- DSA shared recent results from two surveys:

- 1. Challenges Faced by Students**

- Top issues identified:
 - i. Financial insecurity
 - ii. Mental health concerns
 - iii. Food insecurity
- DSA continues to address these through multiple care and basic-needs programs.

- 2. Incoming Freshmen Survey**

- i. Students reported an increased sense of belonging.
 - ii. Orientation and student leadership efforts significantly reduced anxiety and improved confidence and persistence.
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- **Closing**

- Senator Sharma noted that the uploaded DSA presentation spans approximately 39 pages and provides comprehensive detail.
- She thanked DSA for their transparency, collaboration, and continued service to students.
- No questions were raised.

- **CFA Report [Time 3:31 PM]**

President Bonnie Thorne provided an update on ongoing CFA–management bargaining. She noted that most proposals and counter-proposals from management currently involve takeaways, including proposed changes to:

- Grievance timelines, which could affect how faculty file grievances when they believe their rights have been violated.
- Rules regarding letters of reprimand, which may impact procedural protection.

President Thorne emphasized the importance of these issues, noting that while faculty may assume such changes will not affect them, maintaining strong contractual rights is essential, particularly in situations involving grievances or potential disciplinary documentation.

Member Updates and Upcoming Meetings

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- **Statewide CFA Zoom Updates** occur on the Monday after each bargaining session, providing members with current information.
 - The next statewide update will be held Monday, 6:00–7:30 p.m.
- **Campus Specific Bargaining Update**
 - Tuesday, March 2, at 5:30 p.m.
 - Presented by Senator Paivi Hoikkala, campus bargaining team representative.
 - Zoom details will be sent to members.
 - Senator Hoikkala will present bargaining updates and answer questions.
- **All CFA Member Meeting**
 - March 24, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
 - Discussion will include bargaining status and additional CFA topics.
- **Know Your Rights Workshop**
 - Hosted by the Faculty Rights team.
 - Scheduled for April (exact date forthcoming).

President Thorne concluded her report and invited questions.

- ASI Report
 - There was no ASI Report
- Staff Report [Time 3:35 PM]

Senator Sabrina Toney provided an overview of upcoming university and CSU events, highlighting several opportunities for employees and their families.

University Employee Events

- **National Nutrition Month Resource Fair**
 - i. Hosted in collaboration with the Broward Wellness Center and the Nutrition & Educational Counseling class.
 - ii. A three hour interactive fair in the University Quad featuring nutrition education, cooking tips, and wellness resources.
- **Free Youth Basketball Clinic – March 7**
 - i. Offered during the CCAA basketball tournaments.
 - ii. Participating children receive a VIP pass to the championship game.
 - iii. Open to employees' children or other youth who may be interested.
- **Curiosity Workshop – March 10**
 - i. Held prior to the Common Read Speaker Series event.
 - ii. Led by the featured speaker/author and hosted in the Student Services Building.
 - iii. A 90-minute workshop for attendees seeking a more in depth experience.
- **AGRIsapes Farm Store – Tomato & Garden Plant Sale (March 14–15)**
 - i. Launch of the season's plant sales, featuring numerous tomato species, including heirloom varieties.

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- ii. Free to attend; additional plants and gardening items available for purchase.
- **University, CSU & Learning Engagement Opportunities**
- **Golden Leaves Author Submissions**
 - i. Library program recognizing authors and editors of published works 49 pages or longer.
 - ii. Employees may self submit or nominate colleagues.
- **CSU Professional Development Workshops**
 - i. A range of offerings available through mid March, including:
 1. Captioning with Adobe Pro
 2. Designing Practical Learning Experiences (applicable to training, orientation, and meeting design)
 - ii. Additional events are available in collaboration with the Community Innovation Hub, particularly beneficial for small business owners or employees with entrepreneurial side projects.
- Senator Toney concluded her report by inviting questions from attendees.

3. Academic Senate Committee Reports – Time Certain 3:45 p.m.

AA-005-256 Correction to Cross Listing Policy 1122 – FIRST READING

Senator Roy moved to receive file AA-005-256. Senator Quinn seconded.

The committee reviewed a proposed correction to the university’s Cross Listing Policy, specifically to remove the requirement that program chairs “jointly decide on the staffing of the course each time it is offered.”

Rationale for the Edit

- The current language contradicts CBA Article 20.2(b), which states that instructional assignments must be determined by the appropriate administrator (dean) after consultation with:
 - the department chair or designee, and/or
 - the individual faculty member.
- Because staffing decisions legally fall under administrative authority, the policy language requiring joint staffing decisions by department chairs is inconsistent with the CBA.

Key Discussion Points

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- **Collaboration Concerns:**
Several senators questioned whether removing this sentence might unintentionally weaken expectations for ongoing collaboration between cross listing departments, not only regarding staffing but also course content and disciplinary expertise.
- **Clarification on Intent:**
The committee clarified that the edit affects staffing only, not content; however, the wording slated for deletion also includes “and collaborate on content,” raising concerns about losing language that supports shared academic oversight.
- **CBA Supremacy:**
Senators emphasized that the CBA always overrides university policy, and collaborative consultation is already required under Article 20.
- **Iterative Consultation:**
Multiple senators raised concerns about preserving opportunities for departments to provide input each time the course is offered, rather than only at the initial cross listing approval.
- **Potential Additional Language:**
Some members suggested adding a simple clause ensuring the policy is “in compliance with the CBA” to prevent future conflicts if the contract changes.
- **Departmental Concerns:**
Examples were raised from programs (e.g., Ethnic Studies) where staffing cross listed courses requires careful attention to **disciplinary qualifications and lived experience**, reinforcing the need for regular departmental involvement.

Next Steps

- This was a first reading.
- Senators will return to their constituents for further discussion.
- The item will come back for a second reading in March.

AP-002-256 Program Review for BS and MS Economics – FIRST READING

Senator Husain moved to receive file AP-002-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Husain presented the background section of the report. There was no discussion.

AP-005-256 Accountancy, M.S. (Accelerated) Program Name Change – FIRST READING

Senator Husain moved to receive file AP-005-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Husain presented the background section of the report. There was no discussion.

EP-002-223 Academic Senate Representation for Part-Time Lecturer Faculty – FIRST READING

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Senator Monemi moved to receive file EP-002-223. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Monemi presented the background and committee discussion sections of the report. There was no discussion.

GE-005-256 BIO 1030 – Beyond the Needle: Vaccine Science, Trust, and Public Health (New GE 5B) – FIRST READING

Senator Guerrero moved to receive file GE-005-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Chair Hanink motioned to receive the GE reports as Consent Agenda items. Senator Quinn seconded. All in favor. No Abstentions. The motion passed.

GE-007-256 ENG 3230 – Bilingualism: Language, Culture, and Cognition (New GE 4C) – FIRST READING

Senator Guerrero moved to receive file GE-007-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Chair Hanink motioned to receive the GE reports as Consent Agenda items. Senator Quinn seconded. All in favor. No Abstentions. The motion passed.

GE-014-256 HRT 4550 – Critical Issues in Global Food Systems (New GE 4C) – FIRST READING

Senator Guerrero moved to receive file GE-014-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Chair Hanink motioned to receive the GE reports as Consent Agenda items. Senator Quinn seconded. All in favor. No Abstentions. The motion passed.

GE-015-256 IGE 3700 – Apocalypse! The End of the World Across Time and Culture (New GE 3C) – FIRST READING

Senator Guerrero moved to receive file GE-015-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Chair Hanink motioned to receive the GE reports as Consent Agenda items. Senator Quinn seconded. All in favor. No Abstentions. The motion passed.

GE-019-256 PLS 2040 – Introduction to Political Thought (New GE 3B) – FIRST READING

Senator Guerrero moved to receive file GE-019-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Chair Hanink motioned to receive the GE reports as Consent Agenda items. Senator Quinn seconded. All in favor. No Abstentions. The motion passed.

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GE-020-256 PSY 2201 – Introduction to Psychology (New GE 4A) – FIRST
READING

Senator Guerrero moved to receive file GE-020-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Chair Hanink motioned to receive the GE reports as Consent Agenda items. Senator Quinn seconded. All in favor. No Abstentions. The motion passed.

GE-021-256 LS 4100 – Critical Data Studies (New GE 4C) – FIRST READING

Senator Guerrero moved to receive file GE-021-256. Senator Quinn seconded. Senator Chair Hanink motioned to receive the GE reports as Consent Agenda items. Senator Quinn seconded. All in favor. No Abstentions. The motion passed.

4. New Business

There was no new business.

5. Old Business

There was no old business.

6. Discussion

There were no additional discussions.

Adjourned @ 4:08 PM