

# Minutes

## of the Academic Senate Meeting September 24, 2025

PRESENT: Aaron, Adams, Aragon, Barding, Cayer, Dabas, Edens, Ellsworth, Fallah Fini, Givens, Guerrero, Hanink, Hoikkala, Husain, John, Kumar, Lloro, Min, Monemi, Newman, Perez, Puthoff, Ray, Sharma, Shen, Sotoudeh, Sung, Toney, Van Buer, Wadhwa, Welke, and Yazdani

Proxies: Senator Rita Kumar for Senator Dennis Quinn, Senator Saeideh Fallah Fini for Senator Ghada Gad, and Senator Teresa Lloro for Senator Jeff Roy and Faye Wachs.

GUESTS: Mary Anne Akers, Melissa D. Aaron, Jocelyn Chong, Cheryl Koos, Lisa Rotunni, Aaron DeRosa, Alison Baski, Brandon Tuck, Cecilia Santiago-Gonzalez, Laura Massa, Keith Forward, Jessica Wagoner, Terri Gomez, Iris Levine, Margie Jones, Ethan Orr, Larisa Presier-Houy, Olukemi Sawyerr, Brianne Dávila

### 1. Academic Senate Meeting Minutes – [August 14, 2025](#)

The August 14, 2025, Academic Senate Meeting minutes are located on the Academic Senate website at [..\\08.14.2025\\Academic Senate Minutes 08.14.25 FINAL.docx](#)

M/s to approve August 14, 2025, Academic Senate Meeting minutes.

### 2. Information Items a. [Chair's Report](#)

The Chair's Report is located on the Academic Senate website at <https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/september-chairs-report.pdf>

#### **Chair's Announcements and Reminders:**

##### **• Senator Name Tags and Photos:**

- Senators were reminded to pick up their name tags.
- All members are encouraged to verify their photos on the Academic Senate website.
- If a photo is missing or needs to be updated, members may send new images to Casandra Horner, Senate Coordinator.

#### **Meeting Procedures:**

##### **• Robert's Rules of Order:**

- All Senate meetings will follow Robert's Rules of Order.
- Each member may speak **twice per question per day**, but a second opportunity to speak will only be given once all other members have had a chance.
- A **3-minute speaking limit** will be enforced per speaker to ensure equitable participation.

- **Senators will be prioritized** on the speaker list; guests may speak after senators if time permits.

### **Senate Service Opportunities:**

- The Academic Senate website includes a list of current **service opportunities**.
- There are **ongoing vacancies in standing committees**, now open to **at-large faculty members** (regardless of college affiliation).
- Current **Senate vacancies**:
  - One vacancy in CLASS
  - One vacancy in ENV
  - Senators from those colleges are encouraged to help recruit new representatives.
- Additional **committee vacancies**:
  - CRTPC for AG, CEIS, and ENV
  - CPC for SCI

### **Search Committees:**

- Faculty are invited to participate in two active search committees:
  - **Director of Admissions**
  - **CLASS Associate Dean**

Senators are encouraged to share these opportunities widely with their constituents.

### **Senate Priorities for the Academic Year:**

- At the **Summer Retreat**, senators submitted their top priorities on index cards.
- These priorities were compiled into a spreadsheet, categorized by themes, and shared with the **Provost and President**.
- Key categories of concern include:
  - Budget transparency and allocation
  - Governance
  - Faculty workload, advancement, and support
  - AI and changes in education
  - Academic programs and instructional quality
  - Shared governance and leadership
  - External pressures and institutional challenges
- The full spreadsheet and analysis are available in the **Executive Committee (EC) Minutes**, linked in the Chair's Report on the Senate website.

### **Parliamentarian Search:**

- The Senate is currently seeking a **Parliamentarian** for the academic year.
  - The Parliamentarian serves as a **procedural advisor**, interpreting Robert's Rules during meetings.
  - This is a valuable leadership opportunity and involves close collaboration with the Chair and Vice Chair.
  - Interested senators should contact Chair Horner directly.
- Previous Parliamentarians include:
  - Gregory Barding (2024–25)
  - Peter Hanink (2023–24)

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**Closing Remarks:**

- Chair Hanink thanked all participants and emphasized the importance of engagement and collegiality as the new year begins.
- Meeting proceeded to the next agenda item.

**b. [President's Report](https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/presidential-transition-slides-9.2025.pdf)**

The President's Report can be found on the Senate Website at

<https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/presidential-transition-slides-9.2025.pdf>

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**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

- **Interim President Iris Levine** opened with a warm and energetic greeting, acknowledging her background in the arts and noting the importance of a little theatrical flair when addressing the Senate.
- She expressed her joy at returning to the Academic Senate and seeing many familiar and friendly faces.

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**Role of the Academic Senate**

- President Levine emphasized the **significant role** of the Academic Senate in the life of the university and expressed her commitment to working collaboratively with faculty leadership in the coming months.

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**Commitment to Students**

- Reiterated that her decision to return as interim president was deeply rooted in her **dedication to students**.
- "Your success is our success," she said, affirming that everything done at the university must serve students effectively and meaningfully.

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**Reflections on the Career Fair Decision**

- Acknowledged the **recent cancellation of the Career Fair** (formerly hosted by LEAD).
- While she stood by the decision as being in the best interest of the community, she recognized that **communication surrounding the decision lacked empathy**.
  - She contrasted the focus on "facts, legalities, and policies" with what was missing — **feelings, empathy, and compassion**.
  - Quoted Brené Brown: "*Clear is kind*," but noted that **clarity must be paired with care**.
- Stated that the experience serves as a **learning opportunity** to improve both communication and future event planning.

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**Redesigning the Career Fair**

- The event is being **reimagined** to provide a **more curated and meaningful experience** for students and employers.

- **Robles Gomez** will provide further details on the redesign and student engagement strategies later in the meeting.
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### **Presidential Search Process Update**

- The **presidential transition** is now officially underway.
  - Explained the **search process** overseen by the **California State University Board of Trustees** in collaboration with the Chancellor's Office.
  - The process includes:
    - A **Trustees Committee** that defines qualifications, creates the job description, manages advertising, and conducts interviews.
    - An **Advisory Committee** composed of faculty, staff, students, alumni, community members, and a current CSU president.
    - Both committees **review applications, participate in interviews, and shape the pool of finalists.**
  - **Final decision** will be made by the Board of Trustees.
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### **Search Timeline**

- **September 25:** Campus Open Forum (1:00–3:00 PM, in-person and via Zoom)
  - **October:** Search profile finalized; recruitment begins
  - **January:** First-round interviews
  - **February:** Final interviews
  - **March 10–11:** Anticipated announcement of the new president
  - **Summer 2026:** Expected start date for the new university president
  - The **Presidential Search Website** contains updated information and the full list of committee members.
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### **Strategic Plan Update**

- The university has officially completed the **2017–2025 Strategic Plan**.
  - Despite challenges like the pandemic and leadership transitions, the campus accomplished a great deal.
  - A **summary report of achievements** is available on the Strategic Plan webpage.
  - Initiatives of interest include:
    - **Micro-internships**
    - **Direct student success efforts**
  - A **five-goal transitional “bridge plan”** has been implemented to maintain momentum while positioning Cal Poly Pomona for future success.
  - Full documentation will be shared once uploaded.
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### **Commitment to Shared Governance**

- President Levine emphasized that **shared governance is essential**, particularly in today's rapidly changing higher education landscape.
- Acknowledged that traditional models of slow decision-making must evolve to keep pace with new realities.
- Urged open, timely, and consistent **communication between Senate leadership and the President's Office.**
- Stated clearly:

“The Academic Senate plays a vital role in this work. Communication between Senate and the President is not only important — it is essential.”

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### Closing Remarks

- President Levine thanked the Senate for **welcoming her back** into the community.
  - She expressed optimism about **building a strong partnership** with Senate leadership and individual senators.
  - Reaffirmed her commitment to **collaboration, transparency, and student-centered leadership**.
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### Question and Answer Session

#### Chair:

Following Interim President Levine’s remarks, the floor was opened for questions.

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#### Question from Senator Adams:

*“Will the comments regarding the Career Center be shared with the entire campus community?”*

#### Response from President Levine:

- Acknowledged the importance of transparency and campus-wide communication.
  - Confirmed that conversations have already taken place with **ASI Student Leadership**, including the ASI President.
  - Indicated that **a broader communication is being developed** to share the reasoning and future direction related to the Career Fair decision.
  - Further details would be addressed in an upcoming report, likely from Robles Gomez (referenced earlier in her remarks).
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#### Comment from Senator Aragon:

*“I just want to say thank you for making that decision [regarding the Career Fair] and making it completely.”*

#### President Levine:

- Expressed appreciation for the support and reiterated her commitment to student-centered decision-making.
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**No further questions were raised**, and the meeting continued with the next agenda item.

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### c. [Provost’s Report](#)

The Provost’s Report is located on the Academic Senate website at

[https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/provosts-report-to-the-academic-senate\\_2025.09.24-3.pdf](https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/provosts-report-to-the-academic-senate_2025.09.24-3.pdf)

### 1. Enrollment Update

- **Fall 2025 Enrollment** is slightly short of target despite best efforts; however, the **annual goal is still achievable** through strong **Spring 2026 transfer yield**.
- **\$1.8 million in permanent CSU funding** is at risk if enrollment targets are not met.

- **Summer 2025** exceeded goals:
    - Added 119 additional resident FTS.
    - Target was 668 FTS; actual was 787 FTS.
  - Focus on **retention and unit load**:
    - Transfer retention: **92.8%**
    - Freshman retention: **88.5%**
    - Average unit load increased from 13.10 to **13.18**, highest since Fall 2019.
  - Re-enrollment from stop-outs and re-engaged at-risk students contributed positively to student base.
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## 2. Innovations Supporting Enrollment

- **2,273 additional course seats** were added in the final 3 weeks of registration thanks to faculty and department chair efforts.
  - **Waitlist Wizard Pilot**:
    - Automatically enrolled students into class schedules that matched their availability.
    - **36%** of participating students became full-time.
    - **18%** enrolled in 15+ units.
  - **Spring 2026 Application Update**:
    - Applications go up **24% year-over-year**.
    - Target: Yield **540–625** new transfer students.
  - Innovative strategies:
    - Expanded **stateside summer enrollment**.
    - Participation in **CSU guaranteed, on-the-spot admission** for eligible students:
      - Held **11 in-person events** and **2 virtual events** with community colleges.
      - Strong first-time engagement: program will continue.
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## 3. General Education (GE) Updates

- **New GE course proposals** are now accepted for next year's catalog.
  - **Ethnic Studies (Area 6)** proposals must go through the **Ethnic Studies Implementation Committee**.
  - Courses formerly in **Area E** must be proposed as new courses for other GE areas.
  - **GE Recertification** is underway; deadline is **late January**.
    - Contact **Dr. Aaron DeRosa** for support.
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## 4. Faculty Support & Accessibility

- Faculty encouraged to use **CAFE** resources to ensure **accessibility compliance** for online materials.
  - Visit the **CAFE website** for support opportunities.
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## 5. Immigration Policy Monitoring

- The university is **monitoring recent changes to H1B visa policies** (announced the prior Friday).
    - Office of Faculty Affairs is in **direct communication** with affected faculty.
    - Ongoing updates will be shared as the situation evolves.
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## 6. New CSU Student Success Framework

- A new **CSU Framework for Student Success** is replacing Graduation Initiative 2025.
- Key values:
  - Personalized support, equity, career pathways, lifelong connections.
- **CSU Promise:** Every student will graduate with either a career opportunity or a clear path to further study.
- Five focus areas:
  - Affordability
  - Advising & Career Pathways
  - Adaptive & Inclusive Teaching
  - Streamlined Digital Supports
  - Experiential Learning
    - New metrics will include:
    - Retention, graduation, career placement, student satisfaction, alumni engagement, and earnings.
- **Implementation Timeline:**
  - Campuses have **2 years to prepare** using cross-functional teams.
- Upcoming Opportunities:
  - **CSU Graduation Initiative 2025 Symposium** – Oct. 15–16 (livestreamed).
  - **CPP Student Success Convening** – Nov. 14.

## 7. Career Center Update

- Focused on **broadening employer engagement opportunities:**
  - Increasing number of employees across colleges.
  - Adding **industry- and college-specific career events**.
  - Partnering with local CSUs and providing **transportation** to large external fairs.
- **Expanding Career Support Programs:**
  - **Career Champions** (faculty/staff).
  - **Peer Mentoring & Internship Programs**.
  - **Career Success Markers Initiative:**
    - Modeled after advising early alerts.
    - Uses **CPP Connect** to guide students through key milestones.
    - Scaled across all colleges.
- **Exploring Staffing Agency Partnership:**
  - Would place students in **paid short-term jobs and first-degree-required jobs**.
  - More details anticipated in a future update.
- **Curricular Integration:**
  - Faculty grants available to embed **career engagement into curriculum**.
  - Will be led by **Olukemi Sawyerr** and **Tracy Cassidy**, modeled after last year's AI initiative.

## 8. Research & Grant Funding

- FY ending June 30, 2025:
  - **192 proposals submitted, 166 awards received**.
  - Total: **\$35.8 million** in external funding.
  - CPP exceeded campuses like Fullerton, LA, and San Bernardino.
- **Major Awards:**

- **\$4.5M** from LA County (PI: Ali Sharbat & Sybil) – Stormwater maintenance research.
  - **\$7.5M** NSF CREST award (PI: Suo Fei, IME Dept.) – Smart Manufacturing Research Center.
  - **Federal Funding Risks:**
    - Loss of **\$5.8M** from 3 terminated Dept. of Ed. grants (HSI + TRIO).
    - CSU-wide: Over **\$70M** in terminations.
    - CPP and CSU General Counsel are pursuing **appeals and legal action**.
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## 9. Upcoming Events

- **Oct. 9:** Provost's Awards for Excellence Symposium – featuring Barrett Gibbons.
- **Oct. 20–24:** National Transfer Student Week.
- **Nov. 1:** Explore CPP.
- **Nov. 3–7:** National First-Gen Week – featuring **LaTanya V. Miles (UCLA)**.
- **Nov. 14:** CPP Student Success Convening.

## Question 1 – Career Fair Format Changes

**Asked by:** Senator Fallah Fini

**Topic:** Concerns regarding the reduced number of large-scale career fairs and how that may impact student engagement.

**Response from Provost Gomez:**

- The university has decided to move away from hosting **large, outdoor career fairs** due to weather-related challenges (e.g., rain in spring, excessive heat in fall), which negatively impacted attendance and employer experience.
  - Instead, the Career Center is **transitioning to college-based and industry-specific career events**, which are more manageable and tailored.
  - Employers originally scheduled for the larger fair are being integrated into these **smaller, targeted events**.
  - Example: The **College of Engineering** hosted a successful career event recently that included employers initially slated for the larger fair.
  - Additional options include **virtual employer engagement** and direct **employer-student connections** facilitated by the Career Center.
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## Question 2 – Spring Transfer Enrollment Targets

**Asked by:** Senator Newman

**Topic:** Clarification on the typical number of spring transfer students and how that compares to the current goal.

**Response from Provost Gomez:**

- The current **target for Spring 2026** is **540–625 new transfer students**.
  - Historically, CPP enrolls approximately **595 spring transfers**, depending on program capacity and other variables.
  - Last year's actual enrollment was around **700**.
  - Projections for Spring 2026 are being calculated **cautiously**, using last fall's **melt rate** (students who accepted but did not enroll) to guide planning.
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**Question 3 – Retention Rate Trends****Asked by:** Senator Perez**Topic:** Request for historical comparison of current retention rates.**Response from Provost Gomez:**

- CPP has consistently had **one of the highest retention rates** in the CSU system, typically ranking in the **top 3–4 campuses**.
- **Freshman cohort retention** for the most recent year is **89.1%** (Fall 2024 cohort).
- **Last year's cohort** was at **87.4%**, reflecting continued **recovery post-COVID**.
- Transfer retention rate was not immediately available during the meeting but will be **shared via follow-up**.

**Question 4 – Student Communication About Career Resources****Asked by:** Senator Adams**Topic:** Whether updates about career initiatives will be shared with the full student body.**Response from Provost Gomez:**

- **Yes** — there will be a **direct message to students** coordinated by the **ASI President** and the **University President**.
- President Levine added that the **Career Center webpage has already been updated** with all current events and information.
- Students are encouraged to visit the page to stay informed.

d. Vice Chair's Report**NEW REFERRALS: (7)**

AA-001-256	Creation of Academic Year 5-Unit Time Modules
AA-002-256	Online Courses with In-Person Exams
AP-001-256	Program Review for BA and MA English
AP-002-256	Program Review for BS and MS Economics
AP-003-256	Program Review for BS Physics
AP-004-256	Academic Credit Certificate Programs Update
AP-005-256	Accountancy, M.S. & Accountancy, M.S. (Accelerated) – Program Name Change

**SENATE REPORTS FORWARDED TO PRESIDENT: (0)****PRESIDENT RESPONSES TO SENATE REPORTS: (0)**

Vice Chair Barding read the Report Summary. The Report Summary can be found on the Academic Senate website at [https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/2025.09.24\\_report\\_status\\_summary.pdf](https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/2025.09.24_report_status_summary.pdf)

e. ASCSU Report

**Senator Teresa Lloro** provided a brief update from the recent ASCSU meeting, highlighting two key areas of discussion:

1. **CSU Systemwide Strategic Plan:**

- The ASCSU has been engaging in significant conversation around the **new CSU strategic plan**.
- **Senator Lloro encouraged all senators** to review the document, especially given its long-term implications for the system.

2. **Resolutions and Broader Role of ASCSU:**

- A **philosophical conversation** is emerging within the ASCSU about the **time-intensive nature of crafting, editing, and approving resolutions**.
- In the current **political climate**, where **higher education is increasingly under scrutiny and attack**, some senators are questioning whether the ASCSU should consider **alternative or additional forms of engagement** beyond resolution writing.
- There is growing interest in **reevaluating the balance** of time and energy spent on resolutions versus other potentially impactful activities.

**Call for Input:**

- Senator Lloro **invited feedback** from colleagues on these topics.
- She offered to **bring forward any comments or suggestions** to the next ASCSU meeting on behalf of the Academic Senate.

f. Budget Report

The Budget Report is located on the Academic Senate website at

<https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/budget-committee-report-sept-24.pdf>

**Senator Bharti Sharma**, Chair of the Budget Committee, delivered the first budget report of the academic year, emphasizing the urgency and complexity of budget-related issues given the current financial climate. She thanked the committee members, CFO Michelle Carlota, Government Relations Officer Danny Gitt, and AVP for Enrollment Jessica Wagoner for their support and transparency.

**Key Topics Discussed:**1. **CSU Budget Context & Timeline**

- Budget discussions begin each **January** with projections and are **finalized in May**.
- These projections guide campus-level planning, but final allocations may require budget tightening or adjustments.
- In the previous year, while an **8% budget cut** was anticipated, the actual cut was **3%**, which was mitigated using:
  - **\$38 million carryover** from the prior year.
  - **Reserves** and savings from divisional reductions and the **Voluntary Separation Program (VSP)**.

## 2. CPP Budget Status

- Despite proactive planning, the campus faced an **\$8 million budget gap**, which was closed through strategic reserve use and VSP.
- The **budget remains fragile**, requiring ongoing vigilance and planning.

## 3. Enrollment Impact

- Enrollment significantly influences budget health.
- Initial projections showed a **7% decline** in enrollment (as of May 1), which raised concerns.
- However, **recent data shows improvement**, with **98.9% of enrollment targets met** as of the latest update.

## 4. Facilities Funding

- Due to financial constraints, facility improvements will be prioritized based on:
  - **Critical needs only**
  - **Self-funded** or alternative revenue-backed projects

## Major Budget Concerns & Questions Raised by the Committee:

### 1. Contingency Planning for Enrollment Declines

- What plans are in place if enrollment targets are not met?
- What are the **fiscal implications** of under-enrollment?

### 2. Long-Term Budget Sustainability

- Beyond addressing the current deficit, what is the **3–5 year plan** for financial sustainability?
- How will potential funding cliffs and federal/state shifts be handled?

### 3. Faculty Workload & Resource Allocation

- Adjustments may be required in faculty workload, program prioritization, and **equitable distribution of funds** to meet emerging needs.

### 4. System-Level Pressures

- Concerns about the **CSU compact** and potential **multi-billion-dollar CSU-wide deficits** were noted.
- These issues could lead to future reductions in funding and infrastructure investment.

### 5. Capital Infrastructure Needs

- Many campus buildings are aging and require attention.
- The limited capital budget means prioritizing only essential repairs or upgrades.

## Enrollment Data and Trends:

Presented by AVP Jessica Wagoner:

- Declines in **yield and melt rates** were highlighted:
  - **Freshman yield** dropped from 19% to 11% over 7 years.
  - **Transfer yield** dropped from 41% to 27%.
  - **Melt rate** (students who commit but don't enroll) increased, dropping actual yield from 60% to 40%.
- Despite these trends, CPP **exceeded enrollment targets**, though risks remain:
  - Failure to meet future goals may result in **\$1.8 million loss** in funding.
  - There's also a risk of losing **200 FTEs** gained in temporary allocations and **300 FTEs** in permanent allocations due to past over-enrollment.

**Committee Recommendations:****1. Student Retention Focus**

- Retaining current students is crucial for long-term budget stability and enrollment management.

**2. Multi-Year Financial Planning**

- Move away from annual reactive budgeting toward **multi-year strategic modeling**.

**3. Equitable Resource Allocation**

- Adapt resource allocation to reflect shifting **student demands, workloads, and support needs**.

**4. Clear Revenue Impact Analysis**

- The committee requests **transparent financial modeling** showing the impact of varying enrollment levels on the campus budget.

**5. Financial Transparency at All Levels**

- Applauded improvements in the **financial transparency website** and campus-wide presentations.
- Recommended expanding this transparency to **colleges and departments** to support effective, **shared planning**.

**Commendation of Enrollment Office:**

- Senator Sharma recognized the **exceptional efforts** by the Enrollment Office, including:
  - The **Wizard Program** which has helped boost FTES.
  - **Personalized student outreach** and communication strategies.
  - Effective **redistribution of 164 WTU** to high-demand areas.

She emphasized the need for continued partnership among **faculty, administration, and staff** to support enrollment and retention goals.

**Conclusion:**

- The Budget Committee remains committed to transparency, proactive planning, and collaboration.
- Updates will continue as more data becomes available.

**Q&A:**

Senator Sharma invited questions and thanked all contributors for their work and engagement.

g. CFA Report

Senator **Jonathan Puthoff** provided a brief update on behalf of the **California Faculty Association (CFA)**. Due to limited time, the report focused on two key items—an upcoming event and a political advocacy effort—as well as a brief discussion regarding **faculty rights and academic freedom**.

**Key Updates:****1. All-Faculty Meeting – October 9, 11:00 AM at Kellogg West**

- All faculty are invited to attend this important **in-person meeting**.
- **Location:** Kellogg West Conference Center (large room).

- **Refreshments will be provided.**
  - Topics to be covered include:
    - **Current state of the faculty contract**
    - **Ongoing bargaining updates**
    - **CFA campus and statewide activities for the academic year**
  - Faculty are encouraged to attend and engage with union leadership and colleagues.
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## 2. Support for Proposition 50

- **CFA has endorsed a “Yes” vote on Proposition 50** in the upcoming election.
  - CFA is working with a coalition of organizations to promote the measure.
  - Faculty were invited to pledge their support by scanning a **QR code** provided by Senator Puthoff after the meeting.
  - Those interested in participating in CFA’s voter mobilization efforts are encouraged to connect with him directly.
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## Discussion: Academic Freedom and Faculty Rights

A question was raised regarding concerns about:

- **Faculty being recorded by students**
- Videos being used out of context or as grounds for administrative action
- National incidents of faculty terminations for expressing controversial opinions

**Senator Puthoff responded:**

- **Academic freedom** is explicitly protected in the **CFA collective bargaining agreement**.
  - If any faculty member feels their rights have been infringed upon, they should contact **CFA immediately**.
  - He also committed to checking if CFA has released a **recent formal statement** on academic freedom considering current events.
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## Closing:

Senator Puthoff encouraged anyone with further questions or concerns—particularly related to **faculty rights or union matters**—to speak with him after the meeting.

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## Motion to Extend Time Certain

At **4:00 PM**, the meeting approached its scheduled time certain. A motion was made to **extend the time certain by 10 minutes** to allow for the continuation of reports and discussion.

- **Motion:** To extend the time certain by 10 minutes
- **Moved by:** Senator Newman
- **Seconded by:** Senator Quinn
- **Vote:** Motion passed by unanimous voice vote

**Outcome:** Time certain extended to **4:10 PM**.

## h. ASI Report

ASI President Ellsworth introduced herself and provided an overview of ASI's recent activities and priorities since the start of her term on **June 1st**. She highlighted ASI's **2024–25 Action Plan**, organized around three core pillars: **Accessibility, Advocacy, and Enhancement**.

### 1. Accessibility

- ASI is collaborating with **TRI** to establish a **sustainable student printing initiative**, aiming to restore printing services in resource and identity centers that have lost staff and functionality due to budget cuts.
- Emphasized that **lack of access to basic services like printing** is a barrier to student success and a priority for ASI.

### 2. Advocacy

- ASI is drafting an **Advice Resolution**—discussed at the BOD meeting earlier that day—which aims to formally support **undocumented and vulnerable students**.
- The resolution outlines actionable protocols and calls on university leadership, faculty, staff, and students to provide stronger support.
- The resolution is aligned with **Senate Bill 98**, recently signed by Governor Newsom, which strengthens protections for immigrant students.

### 3. Enhancement and Student Engagement

- ASI hosted the **PRISM Conference**, which drew nearly 200 students. Attendees learned about ASI's goals, asked questions, and engaged with ASI leadership.
- ASI is launching an **"Ask the Experts" event** on **October 7th**, designed to connect students directly with university departments to address questions and improve access to information.
- Ellsworth emphasized the importance of **closing the communication gap** between students and campus leadership.

### 4. Institutional Engagement

- Ellsworth participated in the **"Pay It Forward" board meeting**, where she addressed the **disconnect between the board and the student body**. She urged the board to expand student outreach and increase inclusion of student voices.
- Currently, Ellsworth is the only student on the board, despite its impact on student life and policy.

### 5. Systemwide Advocacy

- Participated in **three GI 2025 plenaries** to discuss CSU-wide challenges, including ICE policies, housing and food insecurity, and financial instability.
- Feedback during these sessions raised concerns about the **Poly Pantry's hours of operation**. ASI is working with the **Secretary of Basic Needs** to explore expanded services like flexible grab-and-go and emergency pickups.

### 6. Strategic Communication

- Addressed ongoing concerns about the **Career Center incident** and **lack of clear communication** from administration.
- Shared that students are seeking **direct answers and accountability**, not just reassurances.
- Ellsworth met with former University President Soraya Coley and VP Gonzalez and committed to working on **transparent messaging** that directly addresses student concerns.

- Noted that ASI's **new auxiliary orientation** structure allows it to fill communication and service gaps where the university may fall short.

### **Closing Remarks**

ASI President Ellsworth expressed her enthusiasm to continue collaborating closely with faculty, staff, the University Foundation, and the broader campus community to improve student life throughout the year.

### i. Staff Report

The Staff Report is located on the Academic Senate website at

[https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/senate-staff-report\\_092425.pdf](https://www.cpp.edu/senate/documents/packets/2025-26/09.24.25/senate-staff-report_092425.pdf)

Senator Sabrina Toney introduced herself as the newly elected **Staff Senator**, expressing her excitement about joining the Academic Senate. While she intentionally did not include personal details in the written staff report for documentation purposes, she briefly shared her background with attendees:

- **Educational Background:** An alumna of Cal Poly Pomona and a current **MBA student** in the **College of Business Administration**, where she also works in **outreach and operations** for the Graduate School of Business.
- **Academic Interests:** Holds a degree in philosophy, which she humorously noted she is “legitimizing” with her MBA for career marketability.

### **Role as Staff Senator**

Senator Toney emphasized her intent to serve as a voice for **staff employees**, including areas of overlap with faculty concerns. She aims to use her position to:

- **Highlight campus events, resources, and opportunities** that often involve significant behind-the-scenes work by staff.
- Bring **greater visibility** to the contributions and efforts of staff across the university.
- Share co-curricular and cultural opportunities available to employees, such as exhibitions at the **W. Keith and Janet Kellogg University Art Gallery**.

### **Staff Report Structure**

- The report is organized into sections including:
  - **University Events & Opportunities**
  - **News & Updates**
  - **Engagement Opportunities** (e.g., surveys)
- Special attention was given to items requiring community participation, such as the **annual commuter survey**.

Senator Toney stressed the importance of recognizing the volume of work being done by staff to keep the university running—often administrative or clerical in nature but essential nonetheless.

She concluded by inviting questions and encouraging colleagues to review the full list of events and initiatives included in her written report.

3. Academic Senate Committee Reports – Time Certain 3:45 p.m. – Senator Monemi motioned to move time certain to 4:00 PM Senator Givens second. Senator Newman motioned to extend another 10 minutes (4:10 PM) Senator Quinn second.

a. [AP-027-234 Program Review for BA in Philosophy – FIRST READING](#)

Senator Husain presented the report. First reading, Senator Husain motioned and Senator Monemi second. Senator read from the background of the report.

As part of the regular review cycle of campus programs, the Philosophy Department conducted a self-study in early 2023. Drs. Llombart (English and Modern Languages) and Osborn (Geology) evaluated the self-study report, met virtually with the department on March 14 and completed an internal review report. An external review by Drs. Nellie Wieland (CSU Long Beach) and Amy Kind (Claremont McKenna College) was conducted virtually on April 13 and in-person on April 18. After a meeting between Dean Johnson and the Department in November 2023, the Dean outlined key strengths and priorities for action, and the Department completed a post-review action plan. The Department's self-study covered the program's core values, its quality, and faculty and administrative support. The review covers the General and the Law and Society options within the Department, but not the interdisciplinary Science, Technology, and Society program (which is housed in the Philosophy Department).

b. [AP-011-245 Program Review for MS in Civil Engineering – FIRST READING](#)

Senator Husain presented the report. First reading, Senator Husain motioned and Senator Adams second. Senator Read from the background of the report.

As part of Cal Poly Pomona's planning and assessment cycle for academic programs, a self-study was prepared by the Department of Civil Engineering. An external review was conducted by Mark Tufenkjian (CSU Los Angeles), and Akthem Al-Manaseer (San Jose State University) on 3 and 4 May 2022 with their report being filed on 3 June 2022 after discussions with Dean Baski, Interim Dean of College of Engineering, Chair Yasser Salem, department tenure-line faculty, adjunct faculty, and students. The Department and Dean both prepared responses to this external review. Additionally, an internal review was conducted on 14 September 2022 by Stephen Osborn (Geological Sciences) and Shahnaz Lotfipour (Education). The Academic Programs Committee has deliberated on these reviews and responses.

4. [New Business](#)

None

5. [Old Business](#)

None

6. [Discussion](#)



Academic Senate Meeting adjourned at 4:16 PM