



Academic Senate Meeting – Fall 2026

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Minutes

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: Dezember Leadership and Development Center, Room 409-411

Zoom Information:

[Zoom Meeting ID: 811 3080 8590](#)

Passcode: 674081

Senate Members: Chair M. Danforth, Vice-Chair T. Tsantsoulas, CSU Senator C. Lam, CSU Senator N. Michieka, AH Senator M. Palaiologou, AH Senator B. Moreno, BPA Senator D. Wu (excused, alt. M. Liang), BPA Senator S. Sarma, NSME Senator L. Kirstein, NSME Senator A. Stokes, SSE Senator Z. Zenko, SSE Senator S. Roberts (virtual), AV Senator K. Holloway (virtual), At-Large Senator H. He, At-Large Senator A. Grombly, At-Large Senator A. Hays, At-Large Senator A. Lauer, At-Large Senator J. Deal, At-Large Senator R. Dugan, Lecturer Electorate Representative & CFA – D. Horn, Senator C. Zúñiga-Prado – Staff Representative, Senator N. Kaur – ASI President, Senator D. Cours – Dean Representative, VP AA & Provost D. Thein and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven.

Guests: President Harper, Chief Mari, Officer Morrison, E. Adams and K. Warner.

Virtual Guests: See attached list of zoom attendees.

- I. Call to Order
 - a. [Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement](#)
 - b. [Robert's Rules of Order](#)
 - c. [Interruption Statement](#)
 - d. Chair Danforth called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. September 10, 2026 (handout)
 - i. Senator Deal motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Senator Kirstein. Minutes approved.
- III. Announcements and Information
 - a. President's Report – V. Harper (**Time Certain: 10:10 AM**) (handout)
 - i. President Harper shared updates on university and community engagement, including recent meetings with Congressmembers Valadao and Fong.
 - ii. Q&A and Discussion: None.
 - b. Elections and Appointments – T. Tsantsoulas (handout)

- i. Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas provided updates on Elections and Appointments, including urgent and second calls for college and at-large positions. Refer to attached report for more information.
- c. Upcoming Events/ Information:
 - i. October 19 - Fall 2026 Budget Open Forum
 - 1. 11 AM to 12 noon; Student Union MPR and virtual

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

- a. Senator Kaur motioned to move the ASI report to 10:50 AM, seconded by Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas. The resolutions time certain was adjusted to 10:55 AM. The amended agenda was approved by majority vote.

V. Reports

- a. Provost's Report – D. Thien **(Time Certain: 10:40 AM)** (handout)
 - i. Door Locking Updates:
 - 1. Chief Mari and Officer Morrison demonstrated the use of a section of fire hose to secure doors with emergency crash bars. The campus is testing different sizes and locations for the devices and plans to provide a brief demonstration video and additional information to the campus community.
 - ii. RTP
 - 1. Provost Thien confirmed that the fall RTP process and guidance on policy changes are ongoing. She expressed gratitude to Drs. Zenko and Boschini who have been ensuring that information and training are reaching the relevant constituencies. Several forums and workshops have already occurred. An upcoming workshop is scheduled for September 25th for file reviewers. If any faculty members have remaining questions, they should first reach out to their Chairs, then Dean's Office for responses.
 - iii. Student Success Framework
 - 1. Provost Thien reported that all CSU campuses are working on a Student Success Framework as part of the next phase of student-success efforts, sometimes referred to as GI 2025 2.0. CSUB's framework team has begun its work.
 - iv. Discussion and Q&A: d
 - 1. Senators discussed workload prioritization, AI-related instructional innovation, and data-security considerations. The Provost noted that the Strategic Plan should guide prioritization and that campus resources and workshops are available for secure and thoughtful use of AI.
 - 2. A request was made to circulate a short demonstration video regarding the door-locking devices as virtual attendees were not able to see. UPD confirmed that they are working on getting this information out to the campus community as it is a new discovery.

3. The Provost also recommended an essay by Bill Gates regarding the importance of engaging thoughtfully with AI.
- b. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka
 - i. Senator Michieka reported that the ASCSU report was deferred.
 - ii. Senator Lam reported that ASCSU is developing a uniform message for distribution across campuses and is waiting for official minutes before issuing the report.
 - iii. Senator Lam provided an update on AB 2212, which would expand the harassment code to include digital harassment and may result in additional training.
 - c. ASI Report – Senator Kaur (***Amended* Time Certain: 10:50 AM**)
 - i. Senator Kaur announced the ASI concert on October 23. Admission is free for students, who may bring one guest for \$20. Registration and ticket information are available on the ASI website. Some discussion ensued regarding excitement of the campus community to bring back concerts.
 - d. Staff Report – Senator C. Zúñiga-Prado (handout)
 - i. Senator Zúñiga-Prado reported that the Staff Forum Welcome Back luncheon was held on September 23. Several divisions donated gift cards and other items for the event.
 - ii. The Staff Senator's new email address is: ORG-AcademicSenatestaffSenator@csu.edu.
 - iii. No questions or comments were raised.
 - e. Committee Reports:
 - i. Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas (handout)
 1. 2026-2027 Senate Log
 2. Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas provided an oral report on EC discussions and actions, including a recent conversation with Interim Vice President of People and Culture V. Morris regarding HR and People and Culture operations. Refer to the written report for more information.
 - ii. Standing Committees:
 1. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) – Senator Deal, Chair (handout)
 - a. Senator Deal reported on AAC activities; see attached report.
 2. Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS) – Senator Kirstein, Chair (handout)
 - a. Senator Kirstein reported on AS&SS activities; see attached report.
 3. Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) – Senator Grombly, Vice-Chair (handout)
 - a. Senator Grombly reported on BPC activities, noting continued work on the MS in Applied Analytics review and the Academic Calendar Committee. See attached report.
 4. Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Senator Zenko, Chair (handout)

- a. Senator Zenko reported on FAC activities and noted that resolutions on the Teaching Modalities and a Distributed Learning Committee are expected to return to Senate soon. See attached report.
- f. CFA Report – Senator Horn, CFA Bakersfield
 - i. Senator Horn reported that CFA is officially in fact-finding after mediation did not resolve bargaining issues. A neutral third party will recommend possible solutions. If no agreement is reached after fact-finding, CFA may proceed to discussions regarding a strike.

VI. Resolutions (***Amended* Time Certain: 10:55 AM**)

- a. Consent Agenda: No items.
- b. Old Business:
 - i. RES 262702 – Accelerating the Transition to Fully Online SOClS – FAC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Zenko presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC and highlighted the revision shortening the transition from paper to fully online SOClS to one year.
 - 2. Vote on the resolution: Resolution passed by majority vote, with no abstentions or votes opposed.
- c. New Business:
 - i. RES 262703 – Policy on Global Announcements on the Canvas Dashboard – AS&SS (handout)
 - 1. Senator Kirstein presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AS&SS. Senator Moreno provided clarification regarding the use of the term “dashboard” and the distinction between the dashboard and individual course spaces.
 - a. Discussion and Feedback:
 - i. Senator Zenko moved to waive first reading and move the resolution to second reading, seconded by Senator Grombly.
 - ii. Vote on the motion: majority in favor, with one abstention.
 - 2. Second reading: no additional discussion or feedback.
 - 3. Vote on the resolution: majority in favor, with no votes opposed and one abstention.
 - ii. RES 262704 – Updates to Bylaws – EC (handout)
 - 1. Chair Danforth presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of EC and summarized proposed revisions.
 - 2. No questions or comments were raised.

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

- a. Senator Zenko reminded faculty that course-material orders are due Friday, September 25.

- b. Senator Lam reported that the systemwide Generative AI Advisory Committee released a report with recommendations regarding AI strategy, guidance, training, governance, procurement, and assessment. Senators were encouraged to review the report.
- c. Senator Lauer asked about campus preparedness for the anticipated El Niño and potential rain-related issues. President Harper stated that the matter was on the Cabinet agenda for the following Monday.
- d. A question was raised about longer hiring processes and increased workloads for staff covering multiple positions.
 - i. Interim Vice President Morris reported that People and Culture is reviewing turnaround times, filling and backfilling positions, and streamlining processes. Several employees are on leave, and Employee Relations positions are being filled.
 - ii. She added that the division is working to maintain service during open enrollment while these process improvements and staffing efforts continue.
- e. President Harper shared that CSUB received second place in the 2026 CSU Photo of the Year and invited Senators to attend the Powwow. President Harper thanked the tribes for their continued partnership with the university. He also announced that the new Athletic Director would be introduced the following Tuesday and recognized CSU Trustee Award recipient Diana Lizbeth Zamora.
- f. Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas invited Senators to the October 1 Pride Flag Raising Ceremony and noted that additional Out-Tober events would be announced.
- g. AVP Malhotra announced the Fall 2026 Data Literacy Workshop series. The first workshop is scheduled for September 28 from 10:00 to 11:00 AM and will cover institutional dashboards, data terminology, and using data to inform university work.
 - i. Vice-Chair Tsantsoulas recommended including a direct link in future announcements in addition to a QR code.
- h. Senator Deal invited Senators to the Grimm Family Center for Agricultural Business's first guest presentation of the year, featuring former CSUB Chief of Staff Evelyn Young.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Chair Danforth adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM.

Academic Senate 2026-2027

Start time	End time
9/24/2026 9:57	9/24/2026 11:10
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