



Academic Senate: Executive Committee

Minutes

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

10:00 A.M. – 11:30 AM

Location: BPA Conference Room 134 and virtual.

Zoom Link: <https://csub.zoom.us/j/88091986667?pwd=GOSakqXvulfaZihtNxTsAFBYwWqAJs.1>

Members: M. Danforth (Chair), D. Solano (Vice-Chair), D. Thien (Provost), C. Lam (ASCSU Senator), N. Michieka (ASCSU Senator), T. Tsantsoulas (AAC Chair), L. Kirstein (AS&SS Chair), A. Grombly (BPC Chair), Z. Zenko (FAC Chair), and K. Van-Grinsven (Senate Analyst).

Guest: A. Hegde, Faculty Ombudsperson

1. Call to Order

A. Vice-Chair Solano called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

2. Announcements and Information

A. Faculty Ombudsperson – A. Hegde (**Time Certain: 10:10 AM**)

- i. The new faculty ombudsperson, Dr. Aaron Hegde, met with EC to discuss the role of the faculty ombudsperson and the composition of the annual report to the Senate. Dr. Hegde spoke regarding paying close attention to ensuring individuals felt heard, ensuring a sense of belonging. Regarding the composition of the annual report, EC suggested including trends and reoccurring issues that might need a form or policy. Dr. Hegde will be speaking at the GFM to share differences in his role versus the Committee on Professional Responsibility (CPR), one of which is that the Faculty Ombudsperson reports directly to the President while the CPR reports to the Senate. Dr. Hegde will be meeting each semester with the President and Provost regarding this role. EC suggested continued education to the faculty on what options or avenues are appropriate for conflict resolution.

B. Spring General Faculty Meeting – Friday, January 30 (handouts)

- i. Agenda and logistics
 - a. EC discussed the agenda items and strategies to keep the meeting on time. A. Grombly and L. Kirstein agreed to help with taking notes and D. Solano would help with the questions on Zoom. K. Van Grinsven will ensure that the recording and AI summary is turned off as requested.
 - b. Chris Diniz will be present to discuss the Instructional Materials Accessibility Deadline this April, and some discussion ensued on that and the importance of the discussion.

- c. Provost Thien agreed to speak with President Harper to shorten the administrator portion to allow for a full hour for faculty open forum.

C. Spring 2026 (deferred)

- i. EC Guests
 - a. E. Adams – AVP for Academic Operations and Dean of Academic Programs: Scheduled for – January 27, 2026
- ii. Senate Guests
 - a. J. Watkins – Center for Accessibility and Essential Needs
 - b. K. De Young – Facilities
- iii. Annual Reports to Senate
 - a. FTLC, GECCo, GRaSP, UPRC, URC (?), etc.

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

- A. Z. Zenko motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by A. Grombly. Agenda approved.

4. Approval of Minutes

- A. December 2, 2025 (handout)
- B. December 9, 2025 (handout)
 - i. T. Tsantsoulas motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by C. Lam. Minutes from December 2 and December 9 approved.

5. Continued Items (Time Certain: 10:30 AM)

- A. AS Referral Log (see BOX folder; handout)
 - i. AAC (T. Tsantsoulas)
 - a. AAC will be working on referrals 2025-2026 16 Catalog Language Inconsistency with Title V AVP Adams will be announcing that there are two members moving from SASSEM back to Academic Affairs. It is important to have someone from enrollment systems attend AAC, as T. Holiwell will no longer be serving on the committee. They will follow up to see if AVP Adams wishes to send someone.
 - ii. AS&SS (L. Kirstein)
 - a. AS&SS has four resolutions in progress, a few of which are joint resolutions with AAC.
 - iii. BPC (A. Grombly)
 - a. BPC is hoping to finish up the curriculum proposals soon. They are holding off referral 2025-2026 10 Proposal for New Minor in Medical Spanish due to some departmental discussions. The Calendar Committee meeting will be at 8:30 AM on Thursday and she will bring that discussion to BPC.
 - iv. FAC (Z. Zenko)
 - a. FAC will be working on RES 252610 Unit RTP and PTR Composition and hope to have it back for a final second reading at the next Senate meeting, as well as begin work on the other referrals.

B. Provost Report (D. Thien) (Time Certain: 10:45 AM)

- i. Status of: (deferred)
 - a. Academic Administrator Searches
 - b. Academic Administrator Reviews
 - ii. Items addressed by Provost Thien:
 - a. Faculty Lines: Based on the budget not being as dire as feared, the six faculty lines that were authorized are officially moving forward. Some positions are already posted, and the others will be posted soon.
 - b. Strategic Plan: There have been about 1,000 surveys completed, about half from alumni, and approximately 140 from faculty. To improve faculty involvement, four dates are being set up for faculty focus groups. There will be Strategic Plan Town Hall coming up; an announcement will be made soon.
 - c. Follett Total Access Program: Follett has proposed a program in which required course materials are provided through a textbook access fee automatically applied to student accounts, with an opt-out option for students who prefer to purchase materials separately. Chair Danforth indicated that this would need Senate approval before it moves forward. There is a meeting on February 5 at 1:00 p.m. that Chair Danforth and Senator Kirstein will attend. Extensive discussion on textbooks and syllabi ensued.
 - C. Reports and Recommendations (deferred)
 - i. Criteria for Proposing New Schools Taskforce (handout)
 - D. ASI Resolution: SB 104 ASI and Shared Governance (**HOLD**; waiting for ASI's revisions) (handout)
 - E. Policies on Approval of Course Coding Changes (**HOLD**; AVP E. Adams to come to EC) (handout)
 - F. Calendar Committee – A. Grombly, BPC Chair (deferred)
 - G. Add “Statements of the Senate” Process to governing documents – EC (deferred)
6. **New Discussion Items (Time Certain: 11:00 AM)**
- A. Elections and Appointments- D. Solano
 - i. Exceptional Service Award: Applications close February 2, 2026, at 5 PM.
 - ii. Open Calls: Senate Chair. Submissions close January 22, 2026, at 5 PM.
 - B. Develop formal policy for General Faculty to bring a resolution to the Senate– EC
 - i. Discussion: EC previously decided to focus on the process of proposing a vote of no confidence. Z. Zenko and N. Michieka are still collecting data. They will bring the information collected for a summary of the research to be presented at the GFM. Feedback was received from several campuses, and there is wide variation across campuses. Subsequent work will focus on developing a policy.
 - C. Items from Advising Council (deferred)
 - i. OnBase vs. Runner Connect
 - ii. CSU-wide Degree Audit and Planner Tool – AS&SS and (?)
 - a. uAchieve (software the Chancellor’s Office has chosen)
 - iii. Faculty advising holds
 - D. Development of a Senate Recording Retention Policy for recordings that are intended to develop Minutes (deferred)

- E. ASI Requests – AS&SS and AAC (?) (handout) (deferred)
 - i. Office Hours
 - ii. Reporting Grades
 - F. Updates to the Distributed Learning Committee (DLC) Membership and Description – AAC, AS&SS and FAC (?) (handout) (deferred)
 - G. Handbook and Bylaws Project – EC (handout) (deferred)
 - H. Proposed updates to: 308.2.4 Emeriti Privileges and Public Announcement (handout) (deferred)
7. Agenda Items for Senate (deferred)
8. Adjournment
- A. Chair Danforth adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.