



Academic Senate Meeting – Spring 2026

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Agenda

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

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

Zoom Link: <https://csub.zoom.us/j/84669370314?pwd=gmLoywwMxQR4k7G0hUhv25vs0N8xr8.1>

Senate Members: Chair M. Danforth, Vice-Chair D. Solano, CSU Senator C. Lam (excused; alt. E. Montoya), CSU Senator N. Michieka, AH Senator T. Tsantsoulas, AH Senator M. Naser, BPA Senator D. Wu, BPA Senator S. Sarma (excused; alt. M. Choi, virtual), NSME Senator L. Kirstein, NSME Senator A. Stokes, SSE Senator Z. Zenko, SSE Senator S. Roberts (alt. for Spring 2026 K. Henderson), AV Senator K. Holloway (excused; alt. A. Ried, virtual), At-Large Senator H. He (excused; alt. D. Wilson), At-Large Senator A. Grombly, At-Large Senator A. Hays, At-Large Senator A. Lauer, At-Large Senator T. Salisbury (absent), At-Large Senator R. Dugan, Lecturer Electorate Senator D. Horn, Senator H. Gonzalez – Staff Representative, Senator E. Reed – ASI Executive Vice-President, VP AA & Provost D. Thien, Senator J. Dong – Dean Representative, and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven (excused).

In-person Guest: E. Adams

Virtual Guests: See attached roster.

- 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 10:01 am and read the Tejon Tribal Land Acknowledgement. Chair Danforth also noted that the agenda is extensive (177 pages), and strict timekeeping rules would be implemented.

- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. March 26, 2026 (handout)
 - b. Senator Kirstein motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Senator Grombly. Minutes approved.

- III. Announcements and Information
 - a. President's Report – V. Harper (deferred)
 - b. Elections and Appointments – D. Solano (handout)

- i. Vice-Chair Solano provided updates regarding calls and elections. College-elected positions have been finalized and at-large, elected positions are almost complete. Calls for interest in serving on Standing Committees will be forthcoming, as well as the Call for Interest in serving as a Standing Committee chair. Calls for appointed college positions on various university-wide committees are also in progress.
- c. Upcoming Events:
 - i. April 23 – Emeriti Ceremony
 - 1. 3 pm; Dezember Reading Room, WSL
 - ii. April 24 – Town Hall: Instructional Budget Model
 - 1. 9-10:30 am; HUM 1109 and virtual.
 - 2. [Zoom Link for Instructional Budget Model Town Hall](#)
 - iii. April 29 – Service Awards Ceremony
 - 1. 10 am -12 pm; the Dore Theatre.

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

- a. Senator Zenko motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by two senators. Agenda approved, including the consent agenda item, “RES 252646 Research Misconduct Policy” which reflects updates as required by federal mandate.

V. Reports

- a. ASI Report – Senator Reed
 - i. Senator Reed reported that student leaders, including ASI President Reyes, are currently advocating at both state and federal levels. The ASI board is transitioning to newly elected members, and a student initiative fee referendum is underway.
- b. Provost’s Report – D. Thien **(Time Certain: 10:15 AM)** (handout)
 - i. The Provost’s report covered three major topics including:
 - 1. Memos (time blocks, Interfolio):
 - a. BPC is in the process of putting together a recommendation for a task force to address ongoing issues with class scheduling and time blocks, particularly the problem of courses being scheduled outside standard time blocks, which creates conflicts for students. In addition to BPC, the Provost will also be sending out a memorandum regarding appropriate use of time blocks.
 - b. The Provost also thanked FAC for their recommendations regarding moving forward with Interfolio. The memorandum from FAC is included in their report. Provost Thien discussed the upcoming adoption of Interfolio as a faculty review system, noting its benefits for consistency, equity, and security, while acknowledging concerns about cost.
 - 2. Schedule Building (ASI Survey, town hall): Scheduling challenges were highlighted, including the fact that many waitlists reflect student preferences (such as online versus in-person formats) rather than actual seat shortages.

There was a notice to CFA regarding prospective layoffs on March 2, which remains in place and no new notices have been distributed. Provost Thien encouraged Senators and guests to submit feedback and questions for the Instructional Budget Town Hall through the Senate feedback link as there have been few submissions so far.

3. Searches (faculty, dean, AVP): The Provost reported that six faculty searches are currently underway to hopefully be welcomed in 2026-2027. A call has also been circulated in DCLC for requests for 2027-2028. The campus visits for the SSE Dean Search are complete and the Provost is reviewing information collected from the committees and surveys. Finalists campus visits for the AVP for Academic Programs will be announced soon and Provost Thien encouraged participation. Lastly, Provost Thien thanked everyone who participated in the Open AI Academy yesterday and recognized the intensity of this time of year.

ii. Q&A/ Discussion:

1. Senator Stokes asked about the timeline for the upcoming faculty searches and when departments will be notified that they are approved to move forward. Provost Thien clarified that the hope is for 10-12 faculty searches to be approved, however, this has not yet been finalized yet. The Provost is hoping to have the approved searches finalized by the end of the semester.
2. Vice-Chair Solano commented regarding Interfolio and the significant concerns regarding the costs and recommendation from the task force for a one-year pilot and for it to go through full senate. Provost Thien responded that Interfolio was discussed in Executive Committee and FAC was asked to revisit the proposal. The memorandum from FAC is included in the Senate agenda.

c. ASCSU Report – Senators Lam and Michieka (deferred)

d. Staff Report – Senator Gonzalez

- i. Senator Gonzalez reported that he was able to attend the Runner Nights Carnival and acknowledged the wonderful work put into the event by various groups including Student Health Services, Campus Wellbeing and Recreation and ASI. Senator Gonzalez reported on his travels to the State Capitol and advocacy efforts. Senator Gonzalez noted that legislators appear supportive of CSU funding priorities and encouraged participation in advocacy efforts, including contacting legislators. Additional updates included information about the Staff Forum Golf Classic and opportunities to join the Staff Forum board, as well as the upcoming call for the Staff Senator and listening sessions.

e. Committee Reports: (deferred)

- i. Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Solano (handout)
- ii. Standing Committees:
 1. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) – Senator Tsantsoulas (handout)

2. Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS) – Senator Kirstein (handout)
3. Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) – Senator Grombly (handout)
4. Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Senator Zenko (handout)
 - a. Memorandum: Recommendation on Transition from Box to Interfolio for RTP and Periodic Evaluation Processes (handout)
- f. CFA Report – T. Salisbury, CFA Bakersfield (deferred)

VI. Resolutions **(Time Certain: 10:25 AM)**

- a. Consent Agenda:
 - i. RES 252646 – Research Misconduct Policy – EC (handout)
 - ii. Approved with agenda.
- b. Old Business:
 - i. RES 252632-REVISED – Required Unit RTP Criteria Elements and Guidance on Unit RTP Criteria Revision – Handbook Changes – FAC (handout)
 1. Senator Zenko presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC. While the resolution had been passed at the March 26, 2026, meeting, an Intent to Seek review was submitted by a Senator that had previously voted yes, highlighting wording inconsistency. FAC has addressed the wording inconsistency clarifying that after promotion, faculty have seven years in their rank to use their current RTP criteria. No additional discussion ensued.
 2. Majority of Senators voted in favor; one abstention recorded. Motion carried and resolution passed.
 - ii. RES 252645 – Periodic Evaluation of Temporary Faculty – Handbook Change – FAC (handout)
 1. Senator Zenko presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of FAC with minor revisions from first reading. No substantive discussion ensued.
 2. Majority of Senators voted in favor; one abstention recorded. Motion carried and resolution passed.
 - iii. RES 252627 – Policy on Use of Informational Banner Space in Canvas – AS&SS (handout)
 1. Senator Kirstein presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of AS&SS.
 2. Discussion:
 - a. Senator Gonzalez asked about emergency notices and how it relates to the policy. Senator Kirstein responded that the Emergency Operations Center, UPD and other campus units are involved in that process.
 - b. Amendment: Chair Danforth proposed a friendly amendment to capitalize “Senate,”; amendment seconded and approved.
 3. Majority of Senators voted in favor. Motion carried and resolution passed.

- iv. RES 252628 – Inventory of Automated Decision-Making Software for the Classroom – AS&SS (HOLD)
 - v. RES 252622 – Academic Advising Structure Is an Academic Endeavor – AAC, AS&SS (TABLED)
- c. New Business:
- i. RES 252644 – Guidance on WPAF Contents and Timelines for Review – Handbook Change- FAC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Zenko presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of FAC.
 - 2. Discussion/ Feedback: Discussion included concerns regarding documentation requirements and clarity of expectations.
 - a. Senator Dugan had some questions regarding 305.4.2.7 and classroom observation requirements, particularly for tenured faculty members up for promotion. Provost confirmed that some units do require classroom observations at this stage in review.
 - b. Senator Dong commented on how the adoption of Interfolio will help reduce the workload in preparing the Personnel Action File (PAF).
 - c. Vice-Chair Solano, Chair Danforth and Provost Thien discussed language surrounding the inclusion of SOCI, SOCI waivers, and specification of where these documents are to be housed.
 - ii. RES 252647 – Acting Appointments – Handbook Change – FAC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Zenko presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of FAC.
 - 2. Discussion/ Feedback: The resolution was introduced to define conditions under which acting administrative appointments may be made and to encourage timely permanent searches. Discussion ensued regarding the consideration of language related to “notification” versus “consultation” with Executive Committee.
 - iii. RES 252648 – Teaching Modality – Handbook Changes – AAC, FAC (handout)
 - 1. Senator Tsantsoulas presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AAC and FAC.
 - 2. Discussion/ Feedback: The resolution was introduced to clarify that instructional modality decisions are primarily made at the department level, with oversight by college deans. Discussion addressed accreditation implications, faculty training, and administrative authority.
 - a. Senator Lauer asked if there has been an increase in online courses, especially asynchronous online offerings, as they felt that should be considered. Chair Danforth suggested referring to the IRPA dashboard with modality information.
 - b. Provost Thien disagreed with some of the language, “college deans retain a coordinating role” as deans are the managers in the process and would recommend correcting for accuracy.

- c. Senator Dong commented regarding the language surrounding the need for consultation between the program and departments that are impacted by the class. Senator Dong also mentioned that other institutions determine modality through a curriculum like process that allows for consultation and review across the board.
 - d. Senator Wu provided commentary regarding ensuring compliance with applicable accreditation. Vice Chair Solano added that consideration should also be made for requirements for professional schools that students may be applying to.
 - e. Senator Michieka added that these conversations are taking place at the state level and other CSUs.
 - f. Provost Thien referred to language referencing the Provost and how the decisions are college-level, and the outside parties referenced are not the correct professional bodies to be included in the policy.
 - g. Senator Horn commented regarding training for online courses as beneficial to addressing concerns by faculty regarding standards in online courses.
- iv. RES 252624 – Expressions of the Senate- Bylaws Changes – EC (handout)
- 1. Chair Danforth presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of EC.
 - 2. Discussion/ Feedback: The first part of the bylaws change is for non-policy statements that the President is not expected to sign. The second part is a process for which a vote of no confidence can be brought forward. Discussion emphasized the need for high thresholds and careful use of such procedures.
 - a. Senator Lauer asked about how the 15% threshold was determined. Chair Danforth responded that this was based on the threshold for Intent to Seek Review.
 - b. Provost Thien spoke regarding the need for high thresholds and careful use of such procedures.
 - c. Senator Grombly spoke in support of the resolution and the reasons behind its development and the call for a vote of no confidence made this academic year.
 - d. Senator Horn also spoke in support of the resolution and the benefits to having a pathway outside of the normal chain of command in extraordinary circumstances.
 - e. Senator Gonzalez commented on how the vote of no confidence portion does not allow for students, staff, or administrators to have input.
 - f. Additional discussion ensued regarding whether such a policy is needed and the reasons behind it.
- v. RES 252629 – Academic, Curricular, and Student Support Software Governance – AS&SS (handout)

1. Senator Kirstein presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AS&SS.
 2. Discussion/ Feedback: The resolution was introduced to strengthen shared governance in decisions regarding academic software and to reduce duplication of resources. Chair Danforth and Vice-Chair Solano suggested considering revising the second resolved to ensure consistency in the composition of ITC and college faculty, as well as consideration for AS&SS Chair or designee.
- vi. RES 252641 – Readmission Requirements Following Academic Disqualification - AAC, AS&SS (handout)
1. Senator Tsantsoulas presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AAC and AS&SS.
 2. Discussion/ Feedback: The revised policy on readmission following academic disqualification was introduced to provide clearer and more accessible pathways for students to return. Vice-Chair Solano suggested the consideration of a major course requirement. Discussion ensued regarding when a student repeats a course in their major, process for grade forgiveness, and the determination on readmission.
- vii. RES 252638 – New Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering – AAC, BPC (handout)
1. Senator Grombly presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AAC and BPC.
 2. Discussion/ Feedback: The proposal to establish a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering was introduced. The proposal demonstrated workforce need and program distinction. Vice-Chair Solano suggested including a resolved encouraging them to seek accreditation.
- viii. RES 252639 – Program Name Change from a Bachelor of Arts in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (CAFS) to a Bachelor of Arts in Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) – AAC, BPC (handout)
1. Senator Tsantsoulas presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AAC and BPC.
 2. No discussion or feedback ensued.
- ix. RES 252640 – Department Name Change from Human Development and Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (HD-CAFS) to Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) – AAC, BPC (handout)
1. Senator Tsantsoulas presented the resolution for first reading on behalf of AAC and BPC.
 2. No discussion or feedback ensued.
- x. RES 252643 – Policies & Procedures for Establishing New Schools – EC (handout)
1. First reading was deferred to April 30, 2026, due to time constraints and lack of quorum.

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

- a. Senator Tsantsoulas announced the Sexual Ethics Education Fair to take place today, April 16, 2026, on the red brick road and the Gender Matters Symposium to be held Friday, April 17, 2026. Students will present research, art, poetry, and performances.
- b. Senator Grombly reminded the audience of the CFA meeting today, April 16, until 1 pm to discuss the budget forum in the Dezember Reading Room.
- c. Professor Kraybill raised concerns about transparency and recusal procedures within the Faculty Honors and Awards Committee, noting that current handbook language does not clearly define recusal processes. Chair Danforth acknowledged the concerns raised and indicated that the matter would be referred for consideration in the next academic year. Senator Zenko agreed that this is an important issue for the future FAC to address. Senator Stokes asked about the process for referring this item to next year's FAC; Chair Danforth responded that it would be put on the agenda for the Summer Senate Retreat.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Chair Danforth motioned to extend the meeting by ten minutes; several senators seconded. Majority in favor and motion carried.
- b. Chair Danforth adjourned the meeting at 11:40 am.

Academic Senate 2025-26

Start Time: 4/16/2026 9:49:48 AM
ID 84669370314

End Time: 4/16/2026 11:39:38 AM

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