ACADEMIC SENATE
CSU BAKERSFIELD

Senate Approved: August 27, 2026

Academic Senate Meeting – Spring 2026

Thursday, May 7, 2026

Minutes – Session 1

10:00 – 11:00 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 (alt. E. Montoya), CSU Senator N. Michieka (excused), AH Senator T. Tsantsoulas, AH Senator M. Naser (virtual), BPA Senator D. Wu, BPA Senator S. Sarma, 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 (virtual), At-Large Senator H. He (alt. L. Punsalan), At-Large Senator A. Grombly (alt. K. Lattimore), At-Large Senator A. Hays, At-Large Senator A. Lauer, At-Large Senator T. Salisbury (virtual), At-Large Senator R. Dugan, Lecturer Electorate Senator D. Horn (alt. D. Stowe, virtual), 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.

In-person Guests: President Harper and S. Wempe, FHAC.
Virtual Guests: See attached.

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, read the land acknowledgement, and reminded Senators of Robert's Rules of Order and the interruption practice. Senator Lam served as Timekeeper.

II. Approval of Minutes
    a. April 30, 2026 (handout)
        i. Senator Grombly motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Senator Kirstein. Minutes approved.

III. Announcements and Information
    a. FHAC Faculty Awards Recommendations - S. Wempe (Time Certain: 10:10 AM)
        i. S. Wempe presented the Faculty Honors and Awards Committee's recommendations. The 2026 faculty award recipients are:

        1. Outstanding Lecturer Award: B. Moreno
        2. Promising New Faculty Award: D. Stockwell
        3. Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity Award: A. Rathburn
        4. Jacqueline Kegley Faculty Leadership and Service Award: H. He
        5. Millie Ablin Excellence in Teaching Award: A. Kebede
    ii. Recipients will be contacted for more information, and the awards will be presented at University Day in the fall.

b. President's Report - V. Harper (Time Certain: 10:15 AM)
    i. President Harper reported on the following items:
        1. End-of-year celebrations: President Harper highlighted the Antelope Valley student ceremony, college recognition events, the upcoming NSME event, the selection of the President's Medal recipient, and Commencement.
        2. Kern County Economic Summit: President Harper reported on his remarks about CSUB's identity and role as Kern County's university.
        3. Senate Social: Current and incoming Senators and their partners were invited to the May 14 gathering at the Harpers' residence. Attendees were asked to update their RSVPs if bringing a guest.
        4. Student leadership: President Harper thanked the outgoing ASI Executive Board and recognized its leadership during the academic year.
        5. Board of Trustees: President Harper announced that Trustee R. Brar had been selected as Vice Chair of the CSU Board of Trustees; a campus announcement and press release were forthcoming.
    ii. Q&A/Discussion:
        1. Senators Stokes and Lauer raised concerns about the proposed placement of a solar array near the Environmental Studies Area, including potential impacts on faculty research, tree-root plots, wildlife, and the area's microclimate. They also raised concerns about communication and whether alternatives such as rooftops or parking lots had been sufficiently considered.
        2. President Harper explained that the solar project would help meet renewable-energy requirements associated with new facilities and reduce the campus's carbon-energy use. He stated that the university did not want to encroach on research and invited the Biology Department and faculty to meet with him and Dr. Watson to review the proposed installation and protect research activity.
        3. Senator Salisbury encouraged faculty to coordinate with CFA on concerns affecting faculty working conditions and research. Additional discussion noted that the Environmental Studies Area governing board would convene an emergency meeting with Facilities representatives to review the proposal and hear concerns.

c. Elections and Appointments - D. Solano (handout) (deferred)

d. Upcoming Events:
    i. May 14 - Senate Social with the Harpers

            1. 5:30 PM; refer to the invitation from E. Fergon, Office of Events.
        ii. May 16 - Commencement, Dignity Health Arena
            1. 8:30 AM - AH, BPA, NSME, and Criminal Justice
            2. 1:30 PM - SSE
            3. www.csub.edu/commencement
    e. Submitted Reports for 2025-2026 (written reports only):
        i. UPRC Annual Report - M. Hur (handout)
        ii. CPR Annual Report - N. Olson (handout)

IV. Approval of Agenda (Time Certain: 10:05 AM)
    a. Senator Zenko motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by Senator Dugan. Agenda approved, including consent agenda items RES 252651 and RES 252650.

V. Reports
    a. ASI Report - Senator Reed (deferred)
    b. Provost's Report - D. Thien (deferred)
    c. ASCSU Report - Senators Lam and Michieka (handout) (deferred)
    d. Staff Report - Senator Gonzalez (deferred)
    e. Committee Reports: (deferred)
        i. Executive Committee - Vice-Chair Solano (handout)
        ii. Standing Committees:
            1. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) - Senator Tsantsoulas
            2. Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS) - Senator Kirstein
            3. Budget and Planning Committee (BPC) - Senator Grombly
            4. Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) - Senator Zenko
    f. CFA Report - T. Salisbury, CFA Bakersfield (deferred)

VI. Resolutions (Time Certain: 10:25 AM)
    a. Consent Agenda
        i. RES 252651 - Commendation for Dina Ebeling (handout)
            1. Resolution approved with the agenda. Chair Danforth read the commendation recognizing D. Ebeling's service to CSUB and wished her well in retirement.
        ii. RES 252650 - Commendation for Heath Niemeyer (handout)
            1. Resolution approved with the agenda. Chair Danforth read the commendation recognizing VP H. Niemeyer's leadership and service to CSUB and the CSUB Foundation.
    b. Old Business:
        i. RES 252643 - Policies & Procedures for Establishing New Schools - EC (handout)
            1. Chair Danforth presented the resolution for second reading on behalf of Executive Committee, noting that credentials had been added to the list of programs that may fall within a school's curricular responsibilities in response to feedback from first reading.
            2. Motion carried; majority voted in favor. Resolution passed.

ii. RES 252648 - Teaching Modality - Handbook Changes - AAC, FAC (handout)
    1. The resolution continued in second reading. No committee changes had been made since the April 30 meeting.
    2. Discussion/Amendments:
        a. Senator Dugan proposed adding the phrase 'in on-site programs' to clarify that the requirement to offer a sufficient proportion of courses face-to-face applies to programs designated as on-site rather than to fully online programs. Senator Tsantsoulas seconded the motion. The amendment carried.
        b. Senators Wu and Dong raised concerns that modality changes can affect other programs and suggested that decisions be documented, supported by relevant information, and reviewed through a consultative curriculum process involving affected programs.
        c. AAC and FAC representatives noted that the proposed additions would substantially broaden the policy and would benefit from fuller committee review and consultation.
    3. Senator Dong moved to refer the resolution back to AAC and FAC for further consideration. The motion carried; the committees will take up the matter in fall.

iii. RES 252642 - Post-Enrollment Requirement Checking (PERC) Timing Alignment for Prerequisite Verification and Enrollment Stability - AAC, AS&SS (handout) (deferred)

c. New Business: None.

VII. Open Forum (Time Certain: 10:45 AM)

a. Senator Dong announced the Computer Science and Engineering Senior Design Expo at 2:30 PM in the SRC Blue Court and Solario, featuring student projects and demonstrations.

b. Senator Gonzalez reported that the initial call for the 2026-2027 Staff Senator received no responses. A second call would be issued with a May 26 deadline, followed by an election that week. Interested staff were encouraged to contact Senator Gonzalez or the Staff Forum co-chairs.
    i. Senate Analyst Van Grinsven noted that the Staff Forum's new bylaws provide for the Staff Senator to be elected by the Staff Forum Board and reported that she had requested an Executive Committee referral to review the Staff Senator role. Senator Gonzalez explained that the revised call and process was intended to be transparent about attendance, preparation, outreach, and reporting expectations.

c. Senator Zenko thanked the outgoing FAC and recognized the service of campus dining employees during the transition from Aramark.
    i. President Harper responded that the incoming vendor had been encouraged to retain current employees and had conducted campus workshops as part of the transition.

d. Senator Grombly raised concerns about shared governance, communication, the instructional budget model, the solar-array proposal, and the timing of proposed changes to the teaching-modality resolution.

        i. Provost Thien clarified that the instructional budget model is led through Academic Affairs with participation from deans and other campus groups and noted that shared governance brings different areas of expertise and responsibility into consultation.

   e. President Harper described the university's multilateral shared-governance process and committed to reinforcing cabinet members' responsibility to consult on major decisions. He stated that the administration would ensure that Facilities met with the appropriate groups regarding the solar-array proposal and would consider adjustments as appropriate.
   f. Chair Danforth thanked the outgoing Senators and Vice-Chair Solano for their service during the 2025-2026 academic year.

VIII. Adjournment (Time Certain: 11:00 AM)

   a. Chair Danforth adjourned the 2025-2026 Senate at approximately 11:01 AM.

Academic Senate Meeting – Spring 2026

Thursday, May 7, 2026

Minutes – Session 2

11 – 11:30 AM

Location: Dezember Leadership and Development Center, Room 409-411
Zoom Link: https://csub.zoom.us/j/84669370314?pwd=gmLoywwMxQR4k7G0hUhv25vs0N8xr8.1

2026-2027 Senate: 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, BPA Senator S. Sarma, NSME Senator L. Kirstein, NSME Senator A. Stokes, SSE Senator Z. Zenko, SSE Senator S. Roberts, 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 Senator D. Horn (alt. D. Stowe, virtual), Senator TBA – Staff Representative, Senator N. Kaur – ASI President, VP AA & Provost D. Thien, Senator D. Cours – Dean Representative, and Senate Analyst K. Van Grinsven.

I. Call to Order
   a. The 2026-2027 Senate gathered outdoors for a group photograph before the organizational meeting resumed at approximately 11:10 AM.
   b. Information:
      i. Academic Senate Orientation (handout)
         1. Chair Danforth reviewed the Senate's role in shared governance; the referral and standing-committee process; the two-reading rule; Robert's Rules of Order and the interruption practice; the speakers list; agenda preparation; and expectations for participation in Senate and standing committees.
         2. Chair Danforth reviewed the membership and general responsibilities of AAC, AS&SS, BPC, and FAC. She also explained that the incoming standing-committee chairs would join the outgoing and incoming Executive Committees as the Summer Senate, which would meet to recommend 2026-2027 standing-committee membership.

II. Introduction of Members (handout)
   a. Refer to attached roster.
   b. The full roundtable introduction of members was deferred until fall because of time constraints. N. Kaur introduced herself as the incoming ASI President. Senators were informed that the Staff Senator election remained in progress.

III. Approval of Academic Senate Meeting Schedule 2026-2027 (handout)
   a. Chair Danforth reviewed the proposed schedule, including the first Senate meeting during week one of fall to approve standing-committee membership, the alternating Senate and

committee meeting pattern, and end-of-term scheduling adjustments. Senators approved the 2026-2027 meeting schedule.

IV. Election of Standing Committee Chairs (Statements of Interest provided)
   a. Academic Affairs Committee
      i. Senator Deal summarized his prior AAC and curriculum leadership experience and interest in upcoming curriculum matters. With no additional candidates, Senator Deal was elected AAC Chair by acclamation.
   b. Academic Support and Student Services Committee
      i. Senator Kirstein summarized her prior service and interest in continuing unfinished committee work. With no additional candidates, Senator Kirstein was elected AS&SS Chair by acclamation.
   c. Budget and Planning Committee
      i. Senator Wu summarized his prior Senate and BPC leadership experience. With no additional candidates, Senator Wu was elected BPC Chair by acclamation.
   d. Faculty Affairs Committee
      i. Senators Zenko and Grombly expressed interest in serving as FAC Chair. Discussion ensued regarding the eligibility requirements and the timing of Senator Grombly's nomination. A vote was conducted, and Senator Zenko was elected FAC Chair.

V. Adjournment (Time Certain: 11:30 AM)
   a. Chair Danforth adjourned the organizational meeting at approximately 11:35 AM. Summer Senate members were reminded that they would meet Tuesday, May 12, at 10:00 AM to recommend standing-committee membership and that committee preference forms were due by the end of the day.

Academic Senate 2025-2026 AY

Thursday, May 7, 2026

Virtual Participants

Name (original name)	Email
Adrianna Hook	ahook@csub.edu
Alex Alva	aalva6@csub.edu
Alicia Rodriquez	arodriquez@csub.edu
Alternate Senator Dahna Stowe (Dahna Stowe)	dstowe@csub.edu
Anayeli Gómez-Navarro	agomez14@csub.edu
Andrea Garoutte	agaroutte@csub.edu
Belen Mendiola	bmendiola@csub.edu
Bianca Moreno	bmoreno1@csub.edu
Chris Shiery	cshiery@csub.edu
Dahna Stowe	dstowe@csub.edu
Debbie Boschini	dboschini@csub.edu
Di Wu	dwu2@csub.edu
Emily Kopp	ekopp@csub.edu
Emily Poole Callahan	epoole1@csub.edu
Estrella Navarrete Garibay	egaribay3@csub.edu
Ivonna Edkins, CSUB	iedkins@csub.edu
Jaimi Paschal	jpaschal@csub.edu
Janine McCormick	jmccormick11@csub.edu
Jeannie Ballestero	jballestero1@csub.edu
Jennifer Clayton	jclayton@csub.edu
Jennifer Mabry	jmabry2@csub.edu
K K	kgagnej@csub.edu
Kane Keller	kkeller4@csub.edu
Karlo M. Lopez	klopez@csub.edu
Katy Larson	klarson8@csub.edu
Kelly O'Bannon	kobannon@csub.edu
Kim Mishkind (she/her)	kmishkind@csub.edu

Name (original name)	Email
Kristen Watson	kwatson@csub.edu
Laura Clifton	lclifton@csub.edu
Leticia Marquez	lmarquez17@csub.edu
Luis Hernandez	lhernandez1@csub.edu
Maria Diaz	mdiaz41@csub.edu
Marta Ruiz	mruiz14@csub.edu
Martha Manriquez	mmanriquez5@csub.edu
Monica Malhotra (CSUB)	mmalhotra1@csub.edu
Natasha Hayes	nhayes1@csub.edu
Nate Olson	nolson@csub.edu
Rebecca Weller (she/her)	rweller@csub.edu
Rhonda Dawson	rdawson@csub.edu
Sandra Bozarth	sbozarth2@csub.edu
Senator Kirstin Lattimore (she/her)	klattimore1@csub.edu
Senator Naser (Md Naser)	mnaser@csub.edu
Senator Salisbury (Dr. Tracey Salisbury)	tsalisbury1@csub.edu
Steve Bacon	sbacon@csub.edu
Steven Gamboa	sgamboa@csub.edu
Valari Kirkbride (CSUB)	vkirkbride@csub.edu
Vanessa Mayorga	vmayorga@csub.edu