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**M E M O R A N D U M**

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TO: ACADEMIC SENATORS  
FROM: Sarah Smith, Academic Senate Secretary  
SUBJ: **ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES**  
DATE: Thursday December 4, 2025, 2:30 p.m.

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**Senators Present:** Ahern, Attarwala, Brookes, Burk, Cline, Clyde, Coons, Dizard, Duran, Dutta, Elkins, Geier, He Jaxon, Johnson, Kaiser (proxy for Boyd), Kamp-Whitaker, Kredo, Lemmi, Ma, Magnus (proxy for Li), Nice (proxy for Jaxon), Nichols, Paiva, Pouncy, Sargent, Smith, Teague Miller, Thapa, Trailer, Underwood (proxy for Engebretson), Weingartner, Weiland (proxy for Saunders), White, Yamada. Ex-Officio: Clyde, Cornick, Perez, Morales.

**Absent:** Brundage, Clyde, Korber, Mazzei, Sendze, Sueki, Tian, Takayama, Weaver

Chair Coons called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm.

1. Reminder of our Community Agreements.
2. Approve Agenda
  - Change Item 6 to read “decommission.”
  - **Approved. (2:57)**
3. General Announcements.
  - Pres Perez: Wildcat Takeover and Tailgate this evening from 4-6, discounts at Tres Hombres and The Bear.
  - Charley Turner introduced himself. He is the campus representative on collective bargaining on the CFA. Feel free to ask him questions on proposals or other CFA work. They proposed an issue on AI recently, for example. Proposals can be found at [cfabargaining.org/proposals](http://cfabargaining.org/proposals), or you can email Charley at [cturner@calfac.org](mailto:cturner@calfac.org).
  - Margie Keyawa-Boyd: Chico Nutcracker tonight through Sunday.
  - Provost Cornick: Email went out recently regarding selection of Dr. Laura Nice as the Interim Associate Dean for Meriam Library.
  - Pres. Perez: After parade, Fine Arts is hosting the Buzz-ar from 4-7
  - Senator Magnus: Showcase of research and reception celebrating the Rural Reproductive Justice Alliance on Tuesday from 6-8
  - Senator Elkins: Joy of Giving Reception is on Tuesday from 12-1:30.
  - Chair Coons: reminder that questions for University Budget Forum must be submitted before noon tomorrow.
4. Approve Academic Senate Meeting Minutes from 30Oct2025
  - **Approved (2:58).**

**Old Business**

5. Academic Senate Special Rule on Resolutions—Senate Action Item (UNCC Chair Miller presented).

- UNCC Chair Miller clarifies that Item 1 is not at all intended to inhibit discussion, Item 1 and Item 2 are meant to allow for adequate representation and explanation of items and Item 3 is meant to help show that votes reflect the vast majority of Senate view rather than 51% of the vote.
- Senator Underwood suggests that there are rules in place already such as recesses, special meetings, take a vote to postpone. Robert's Rules has those options and there are things that come up that must be dealt with quickly.
- Senator Underwood suggests **motion that "not" in item 2 could be eliminated to retain and emphasize the right to suspend the vote.** Seconded.
- Senator Paiva suggests concern that Robert's Rules are not known by everyone, they are rather overwhelming, and they can be weaponized. Suggests that, if we strike the word "not," we should just strike the entire item. Opposes the removal of "not."
- Senator Trailer concurs with Paiva. We created two readings rule to ensure consultations with constituents, so this is asking to violate the constitution.
- Senator Geier suggests that the motion was passed at introduction and should proceed given that fact.
- Senator Kaiser makes motion to have the items go to committee.
- Senator Nice seconded the motion.
- Senator Underwood notes that we must finish her original motion first, then we can consider Kaiser motion.
- Senator Dutta notes that he cannot come up with a good example for when we would need to do something very expeditiously, so that utility is confusing.
- Senator Underwood notes that, if we have the ability to suspend the rules, we should be able to do this generally and will support Kaiser motion when this motion is concluded.
- Senator Lemmi states support for Senator Underwood's stance. Keeping "not" in the statement for item 2 restricts too much. If we need speed, it would become harder. We would have to vote to suspend the rules, but Robert's Rules allows that.
- Chair Coons reminds Senators that changes have to be available ten days ahead of time, according to the constitution.
- UNCC Chair Miller does not recommend suspending rules and would oppose that compromise. The goal is not to stifle conversation.
- Motion Question regarding potentially of item 2 prohibiting opportunity to work on a quick timeline. Response suggests that it would not, given that few senators in the past have asked for another meeting to finish something in 48 hours if item 2 makes the timeframe too long.
- Clarification request from Senator White regarding process following when items brought as introduction items
- Chair Coons clarifies that it is possible to suspend the rules and vote at action right away even if items are brought as introduction items, and item 2 would eliminate that.
- UNCC Chair Miller adds that past rules allowed a situation where Senators received hate mail from Resolutions presented when they had no chance to discuss and research the issue.
- Senator Magnus suggests that keeping item 2 as introduced is helpful in avoiding making broad claims about events or administration that are hasty, which often does more harm than good. Claims must be researched.
- Senator Nice states support for the idea of committees charged with researching comes from his support of shared governance.
- Senator White suggests that the item takes power away from the governing body.

- Senator Trailer suggests that, reading from the constitution, Section 9, Number 3 under “voting,” that the point is moot. We cannot suspend the constitution, so if we want to have two meetings, the constitution must be changed, and item 2 is not an issue.
- Senator Nice: Call to question.
- Chair Coons clarifies that a “Yes” vote would eliminate the word “not” from item 2, and a “No” vote will keep the items as presented.
- **Motion failed (10 yes, 22 no).**
- Senator Kaiser suggests that the depth of the discussion suggest further consideration before voting on a final decision.
- Senator Cline asks regarding the specific charge for the committee proposed
- Senator Nice suggests that the constitution and other Senate documents may need to be assessed.
- Senator Underwood suggests that perhaps it is not a constitution issue but that it could be more robust and perhaps it should be brought forward in the form of a resolution.
- Senator Dutta suggests that the amendment is better than what we currently have, so we could vote on it now and have committee work improve it.
- Senator Underwood suggests that, if it does go to committee, we could return to it in the Spring semester and set up a timeline.
- Motion to **Move to Committee.**
- **Motion passed (17 yes, 15 no).**

Bio break (time certain 3:45)

### **New Business**

6. Decommissioning of EM 20-015 Campus Native American Consultation and Repatriation Committee—FASP Introduction Item (4:00pm time-certain, Rachel McBride, Director of Tribal Relations)
  - Director of Tribal Relations Rachel McBride explains that Assembly Bill 389 came as a result of the audit. Each campus has to have a MAGPRA committee, so this committee now directly conflicts with the law established to handle this.
  - Senator Nice makes motion to suspend the rules and consider this an action item given the straightforward nature of this item.
  - **Motion passed unanimously (28 yes, 0 no).**
  - Vote to decommission EM 20-015
  - **Motion passed unanimously (30 yes, 0 no).**

Pres Perez makes Announcements out of agenda order due to time constraints.

- Advocacy across the campus helped save Chico State from potential \$7 million cut. 1 page sheets identify main statistics for each CSU campus on their impacts.
- Enrollment is projected to grow in the Spring, for the sixth time, growing is how we address budget shortfalls.
- Question regarding whether administration raises will slow down progress, Pres. Perez says the impact should not be significant.

7. Curriculum Approvals—UNCC Information Item
  - 7.1. Significant Program Change, BA in Art
  - 7.2. Discontinue, Option Mathematics BS
  - 7.3. New Degree, MS in Artificial Intelligence Science

- 7.4. New Degree, MS in Artificial Intelligence Engineering
    - UNCC Chair Miller clarifies that experts explained how rapidly growing the industry is and makes it such these two degrees regarding Artificial Intelligence are different and important.
  - 7.5. New Degree, BS Cybersecurity
  - 7.6. New Minor, Human Resource Management
  - 7.7. New Minor, Science Education
  - 7.8. New Certificate, Eating and Exercise Disorders
    - UNCC Chair Miller clarifies that these are the proper names and phrasing that best serves the needs of students in this research area
  - 7.9. New Certificate, Food and Beverage Management
    - UNCC Chair Miller clarifies that use of the term “management” was discussed and how this would be relevant to the accreditation process.
8. Proposed Amendment to the Academic Senate Constitution regarding FASP voting membership— Senate Introduction Item (FASP Chair Geier presented)
- FASP Chair Geier, referring to p. 6, explains that this is essentially a clerical issue in that, the FASP guidelines gives voting rights to a member, but the Senate constitution did not. Voting right should be listed in both.
  - Senator Paiva asks where the ASCSU lecturer position issue stands.
  - Chair Coons clarifies that the issue that came to EC was on Senate membership.
  - Senator Paiva expresses concern that this position is not being considered.
  - Senator Underwood explains that there are a lot of logistics, but it is being considered.
  - Senator Nice makes a motion to refer back to the committee, and it is seconded.
  - Senator Nice asks if we can ensure that this is assessed mid-semester, though if it is urgent, earlier. Suggest that it is a good idea to have Senate work on the constitution.
  - Senator Geier asks for clarification on the plans and reasons to assess the constitution.
  - Chair Coons clarifies that the motion is to move this back to the committee.
  - Senator Teague Miller suggests that the motion could be amended to include other issues.
  - Chair Coons follows this up by clarifying that we can vote on amending the motion and open the bylaws and other documents.
  - Senator Magnus suggests that these issues are not mutually exclusive.
  - Senator Geier suggests concern for having minor issues co-opted for other matters.
  - Senator Nice withdraws the motion.
  - Chair Coons states that this is now a Senate Introduction item.
  - **Motion passed (31 yes, 0 no).**
  - Chair Coons clarifies that we will see this next week at action.

## Communications

9. Announcements and Communications
10. University Reports (Questions may be asked at the end of each report)
- 10.1. Cabinet – Pres. Perez/Prov. Cornick/VP Brundage/VP Clyde/UDO Morales/VP Sendze/VP Mazzei
    - Provost Cornick states that the Chico State online working group will be kicked off in January and it will be looking at distance education. Provost’s Council is interested in expanding distance education and ensure that all students are considered equally. The committee membership is building.

- Provost Cornick states that the working group is coming to assess transfer issues and consider how we can deliver hi-flex education on remote community college locations, likely at the beginning of spring semester.
  - Provost Cornick states that the Library Dean search and Business Dean searches are moving forward. A listening session is scheduled for next Friday online.
  - Provost Cornick states that the Faculty Fellow for Research and Innovation call for spring will be out next week.
  - UDO Morales announces several upcoming workshops. Final “What to Do, What to Say” workshop is next Thursday. Also to be discussed is alignment with SB 48, California Attorney General.
  - UDO Morales announces a Safezone Advanced Workshop with Professor Frawley.
  - UDO Morales discusses deadnaming information online, ways to change your name.
  - UDO Morales discusses free speech rights and responsibilities trainings and webinars, partnerships with Student Affairs.
  - UDO Morales announces Conversations on DEI Speaker Series.
- 10.2. Academic Senate of the CSU—ASCSU Senators Boyd and Underwood, ASCSU Agendas, Minutes, Resolutions, Summaries.
    - ASCSU Senator Underwood states that the report can be deferred to next week. For information, the following websites are helpful: <http://ahed.assembly.cagov/hearings>, doctoral program: [https://www.csuchico.edu/graduate studies/fellowship-awards/chancellor-doctoral-incentive.shtml](https://www.csuchico.edu/graduate%20studies/fellowship-awards/chancellor-doctoral-incentive.shtml).
- 10.3. Associated Students Report – AS Senator Weiland
    - AS Senator Weiland announces November 13 meeting where they discussed initiatives, issues students are facing. A full report will be shared next semester.
- 10.4. Staff Council Report – Staff Council Chair Elkins
    - Staff Council Chair Elkins announces a meeting next Tuesday.
- Chair Coons reminds Senate to send question for the University Budget Forum in by noon.

**11. Adjourned at 5 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Smith, Academic Senate Secretary