



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: ACADEMIC SENATORS

FROM: Ana Medic, Academic Senate Secretary

SUBJ: **ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES**

DATE: Thursday, October 14, 2021, 2:30 p.m.
Zoom: <https://csuchico.zoom.us/j/81231074627?pwd=ZWFzZVpKVENOY2pEb0drdC8vaE43dz09>
Meeting ID: 812 3107 4627 Passcode: 761594

PRESENT: Adamian, Allen, Bailey, Boyd, Burk, Cline, Ferrari, Ford, Geier, Gray (Peterson after 3:30 pm), Hidalgo, Irish (Sparks), Jenkins, Kaiser, Kralj, Larson, McBride-Praetorius, McKee, Medic, Millard, Miller M., Monet, Musvosvi, Newell, O’Conner, Ormond, Paiva (Chair), Peterson, Rios, Rosso, Seipel, Sherman A., Sherman N., Sistrunk, Snyder, Son, Trailer, and Young.

ABSENT: Boura, Buffardi, Hutchinson, Miller A., and Walter.

Chair Paiva called a meeting to order at 2:34 pm.

1. Approve Minutes of [May 6 2021](#), May 11 2021, [September 16, 2021](#)
Motion was made to approve minutes. Second. Minutes of May 6, 2021 and of September 16, 2021 approved.
2. Approve [Agenda](#) (at 2:37 pm)
Motion was made to move items 7&8 to be new items 4&5 to follow the pattern of the last year’s Senate reports. Second. Chair Paiva confirmed that speakers for items 4 (Young) and 5 (Peterson) are ready to present. They confirmed. With no objections, motion was approved. Agenda was approved.
3. Announcements (at 2:39 pm)
 - a) California Faculty Association (CFA) is at an impasse in contract negotiations. The CFA contract bargaining team will be visiting on October 19 from 2 – 3:30 pm and will be talking about the current state of negotiations. Contact Senator Sistrunk for zoom link.
 - b) The faculty development email included an invitation to all faculty for two faculty celebration appreciation events on October 28, and November 4 at the Meriam Park (at the Barn) with live music, and food. RSVP for the event.
4. [Associated Students Report](#) – Young/Rosso (at 2:41 pm)

- a) All student officers were appointed (see details in attached document). Delaney Love will serve as Commissioner of Community Affairs while Senator of ECC is Benham Ardakanian. Student Academic Senate conducted a survey about learning modality, received around 200 student responses. Students have a preference towards all learning modalities, except for Zoom synchronous classes. Online classes preference was due to time and flexibility. Next semester there will be another survey conducted.
- b) For any additional questions contact James Lawrence, Academic Senate Vice Chair.
- c) The Student Academic Senate meets every Friday at 1pm at the BMU 209. The Government Affairs will host a Town Hall on Monday at noon at BMU 203. The topics are going to include housing off campus and getting student feedback on the new police chief hiring committee.

5. [Staff Council Report](#) – Peterson (at 2:45 pm)

Report attached. Some highlights include:

- a) September's winner was Sarah Vaughn from the intercollegiate athletics.
- b) The staff academic fall award (\$1,000) given to a staff member who is returning to school - Taylor Hinchcliff (master's degree in art history). The spring award application will open soon.
- c) The joy of giving program was closed. They are hoping to help around 70 children this year.

Question: Are we seeing an increase in the number of families and students who need assistance?

Answer: Yes. Number of those that will receive the help depends on how many departments, individuals, and/or groups agree to participate. If an individual outside of a department/college wants to donate they can contact staff office.

6. University Reports – Hutchinson/Larson/Sherman/Boura/Rios/Miller (at 2:47 pm)

Provost Larson report:

Provost took a moment to recognize and dedicate time in memory of the passing Sandy Parsons, Acting VP and Dean of Students. It was a great privilege to work with Sandy. There was a lovely testimony written about Sandy. We reflect how important Sandy had been to each of us as individuals and how committed and important she was to this campus.

Updates:

- a) The Faculty Development is organizing two faculty celebration appreciation events.
- b) The Faculty Development with TLP will be offering a winter session of GoFlex (January 5th, 6th, 7th, 11th and 12th).
- c) The EDX Chico had eight faculty who provided 5-7 minutes presentations, and about 1,600 participants attended this event.
- d) The Spring 2022 registration distribution of the types of courses MOI: about 69.5% of core sections are in person, almost 25% are online, and 5.7% are Chico flex (accounts for about 203 sections).
- e) The Faculty Development put up a call for to Chico flex fellow assessment fellows.

- f) The Vice President for Information Technology search is ongoing. First two candidates conducted their interviews, and third candidate is coming next week.
- g) Campus received seven HSI related grants for a total of about 20 million. These grants have just been substantially important to recruit and retain students, to invite students to participate with faculty in undergraduate research. The Chico State has been the recipient of two major Department of Education HSI STEM related grants:
 - 1. Title III grant was received in mid September (five year grant for \$5 million). It is related to the academic support, undergraduate research, peer mentoring, focus on transfer students with collaboration with community colleges. Additional staff members will be hired in engineering, natural sciences and in agriculture.
 - 2. Title V grant was received for \$2.8 million for a period of five years (for academics, undergraduate research, financial literacy, and upgrade of the environmental lab).

VP Sherman report:

- a) The HEERF student aid funds will be distributed (\$16,690,000) among 4 groups of students: higher need vs lower need, taking more vs less than 6 units per semester. They will receive between \$700 and \$1,200. Second round of funds will be available in Spring semester.
- b) The State of California has set aside \$2 million for the Cash California Affordable Student Housing funds. This year \$500 million, and following two years another \$750 million each. Chico State is communicating with Community College on joint student housing opportunities.
- c) Comments received regarding the new police chief position description. Committee is having an introduction meeting next week to finalize the position description, and to have a very public and transparent search process.

VP Boura report (presented by Jay Friedman, Executive Director of Alumni and Parent Engagement):

Family and alumni weekend was successful (2,700 participants in person and 1,700 virtually).

- a) EDX Chico had over 1,600 people virtually participating,
- b) over 100 people visited the Turner Print museum,
- c) over 150 people visited the Gateway Science Museum,
- d) 75 people visited the Anthropology museum,
- e) 200 people on campus participated in live campus tours,
- f) 1,200 people attended the two comedy shows at Laxson auditorium,
- g) over 300 people attended two women volleyball games (Friday and Saturday), and
- h) over 500 people attend the downtown Chico art and wine walk.

This was a great opportunity to showcase the academic side, athletic competition, campus events, the museums and downtown Chico events, and to welcome parents and alumni back to campus in Chico. Save the date for next year October 7th & 8th, 2022.

Interim VP Rios report:

- a) The Greek Week recognizes and celebrates students' activities (33 fraternities and sororities on campus; 12% of student population). Collectively have contributed to 305 units of blood during

blood drive, and collected over 5,500 food cans for the Wildcat food pantry. Among these there are 13 multicultural Greek organizations.

- b) The WildCat Counseling Center had its international accreditation counseling services reaccreditation visit on the 28th and 29th of September. Counseling center survey was completed virtually due to the pandemic. Full report will be available in 30 days after visit.

Highlights from the visit:

1. the guidelines and procedures are well written and concise;
2. peer coaches program and U Matter program are rated as outstanding;
3. well developed outreach and group sessions by counselors;
4. the master's level training program; and
5. change in the number of appointments for counselors (with the standards we placed forth by the international accreditation of counseling services).

Comment was made that local CFA Chico is conducting research and would like to include students' activities as part of their research on diversity and inclusion matters on campus.

Senator Snyder acknowledged the importance of Sandy Parsons' work with and for students. She worked with her on the Board of Directors for Associated Students, participated in many university meetings and events, shared her unique perspective and important work she did for students and shared governance. If the University is having a Memorial or similar event, Associated Students would like to participate.

7. Statewide Academic Senate [Report](#) – Ford/Boyd [CSU Academic Senate](#)

- ASCSU [Agendas](#), [Minutes](#), [Resolutions](#), & [Summaries](#)

Report is attached.

- a) There is an overview of few first read items, campus feedback in opposition or support would be appreciated. Email Statewide Senators with your comments.
- b) There was a change to Title V that expanded the definition of credit for prior learning with corresponding adjustments to EO 1036.
- c) Update on legislation that was signed by the governor is included in report.

Moment was taken to acknowledge and remember passing of Sandy Parson by Statewide Senator Boyd. She will be remembered as a genuine person that dedicated her work to this campus and to the students. She took many positions at this campus as part of that dedication. Her hard work and presence were acknowledged, and she will be missed.

8. Standing Committees Reports (at 3:14 pm)

- [Educational Policies and Programs Committee](#) – Kralj

Report is attached. Many items have been passed as introduction and action items at EPPC and those later items will be covered today at the Academic Senate.

- [Faculty and Student Policies Committee](#) – Sistrunk

Report is attached. FASP continued to form subcommittees, list is included in the report. Anyone interested in participating or bring up issues contact Senator Sistrunk.

- [Committee on Committees](#) – Allen

Report is attached, there are still opportunities for university level service. If interested, contact Senator Allen.

- Executive Committee – Medic
 - i. [EC Summaries](#)

EC had one meeting. Refer to the attached report for more details.

9. Proposed New Undergraduate [Option in Structural Engineering](#) - EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:17 pm)
Vice Chair of Academic Senate and Vice Chair of EPPC Allen introduced item 9. The next three proposals are all companion proposals. Currently the BS in Civil Engineering does not have any options. This and next two proposals would create three options in the degree (option in structural engineering, option in general civil engineering and option in the environmental and water resources engineering).

Currently there are no other undergraduate options or degrees in structural engineering in the entire CSU system. There are three masters level programs in the structural engineering in the CSU Sacramento, Northridge and Pomona. This proposed option would create new courses in the department, help structure students' coursework in the structural engineering area. The proposal relates to the university associate strategic priority, a resilient and sustainable systems because of the importance for the next generation of civil engineers to understand how to better design buildings and structures with sustainability in mind. This proposal and the next two proposed options all passed unanimously at the EPPC in both the introduction and action stages. Steffen Mehl, Department Chair is here to answer any further questions.

Question: How do we utilize this to promote and advertise Chico's sustainability and resilience efforts?

Answer: The University is being a leader in sustainability and resiliency. This ties in with other structural side through seismic engineering and earthquake engineering. Department has a couple of faculties who specialize in that area, pushing the frontiers in how we design for seismic events and seismic resiliency. The Northridge earthquake in the early 90s, helped with seismic design so that the buildings didn't fall and kill people, unlike in Haiti. Today structures are designed to resist earthquakes, but are also still functional after they vibrate in a certain way. The resiliency and sustainability part help not to tear down an entire building, or entire bridge. Page 2 of the proposal contains details.

Official motion was made. There were no objections. Item was approved as introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

10. Proposed New Undergraduate [Option in General Civil Engineering](#) - EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:24 pm)

Vice Chair of Academic Senate and Vice Chair of EPPC Allen introduced item 10. This proposal is the current degree within the civil engineering. Students can take electives within several sub disciplines (in the areas of environmental and water resources, structural engineering). There are no additional resources or courses required. It is being restructured into General Civil Engineering option and Dr. Mehl is here to answer questions.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

11. Proposed New Undergraduate [Option in Environmental and Water Resources Engineering](#) - EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:27 pm)

Vice Chair of Academic Senate and Vice Chair of EPPC Allen introduced item 11. Currently in the CSU only Pomona offers an undergraduate degree option in the Environmental Engineering. This proposed option would be a blend of environmental and water resources with a strong water focus compared to Pomona. Sacramento State has a master's level degree in Environmental Engineering. This option would not create new courses in the department. Instead, it is restructuring student's coursework in the environmental & water resources area, and is related to the University strategic priority of resilient and sustainable systems. The work of environmental and water resources in last 10 years is directly linked with managing environmental resources. Steffen Mehl, Department Chair is here to answer any further questions.

Comment was made that with California being in exceptional drought this affects every aspect of our lives, and it is very important to publicly recognize the importance of having this option. College of Agriculture Senate representatives and faculties expressed strong support for this option. Agricultural students could benefit from a minor in this area. There is a potential for the future collaboration between Department of Civil Engineering and College of Agriculture. In addition, potential broad support for collaboration was made between animal studies, environmental & water resources, and agricultural topics. Praises were shared as well as continual strong support for this option.

With no further questions/comments and no objections, item was approved as an introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

12. Proposed Department Name Change: [International Languages, Literatures and Cultures to Languages and Cultures](#) - EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:32 pm)

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 12. Items 12 and 13 are connected. Item 12 the Department of International Languages, Literatures and Cultures would like to change their name to a name that better reflects the purpose of the department. Department would like to drop the "International" as it implies across the nations. Additionally, literature is seen as not really a separate topic but as a subset of culture. This item passed unanimously at the EPPC as both introduction and action item.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

13. Proposed Graduate Program Name Change: [MA in Teaching International Languages to MA in Language Teaching](#) - EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:34 pm)

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 13. This is a proposed graduate program name change. As the Department name was changed, they would like to bring the master's program name in alignment with that as well and change it to MA in Language Teaching.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

14. Proposed New Graduate [Option in Single Subject Credential \(Spanish\) within Teaching International Languages](#)- EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:35 pm)

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 14. This item was not controversial at the EPPC. In 2015, the Teaching International Languages moved to ILLC from the School of Education. Chico State is a Hispanic Serving Institution, and this is in alignment with strategic goals and plans. Currently it is impossible for students to complete both a credential and a master's degree at the same time, which resulted in duplication, extra fees, and a longer period before graduating. This option would give students the ability to complete both a credential and Master's in one program within a two-year timeframe. There is a collaboration between the Teaching International Languages and the School of Education. Friederike Fichtner, the Graduate Coordinator and Christine Golding, the Chair of the Department of ILLC are here to answer any questions.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

15. Proposed Department Name Change: [Geological and Environmental Sciences to Earth and Environmental Sciences](#) - EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:38 pm)

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 15 a name change from Geological and Environmental Sciences to Earth and Environmental Sciences. The rationale is that geology is part of the name, and to distinguish geology from geography. Name will be shortened to reflect interdisciplinary practices, environmental issues and to reflect what will students be able to see in a catalog. There will be no changes to courses. Todd Green, Chair of the Department is here to answer any questions.

Question: For the clarification purpose does this at all affect the major names or just the department name? Answer: No, it will not change the program names, just the name of the department.

Question: Do they anticipate offering courses with that acronym or transitioning courses to that acronym? Support to the name change proposal was made. Comment was made that COA students cross over and take courses, especially from geological sciences. Answer: Yes, e.g. EARTH 101, EARTH 102. Part of name change is to add abbreviation EARTH for current courses. Once proposal is approved and

new EM is established, APSS will work on changing names of existing GEOS courses to show in calendar the new acronym EARTH.

With no objections, item was approved as an introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

16. Proposed [KCSC Radio Reorganization](#) (Transfer from Associated Students to Dept of Media Arts, Design and Technology) - EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:43 pm)

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 16, which was unanimously approved at the EPPC. It represents the transfer of accountability and oversight of the KCSC radio station from Associated Students into the Department of Media Arts, Design and Technology. This is approved by Associated Students. Students who are in MADT courses have an opportunity to utilize the radio station for applied practice and experience within their major. The proposal states that the hierarchy and the funding will continue to be the same. Thomas Welsh, Chair of the Department wrote the proposal.

Question: If people donate funds to the station, will there be an explanation to the community of how those will continue to be used? Answer (provided by EPPC Chair, Thomas Welsh was not present at the meeting): it was assumed that there will be an announcement regarding the change if this item is approved. Website has the information about the hierarchy and the flow of the organization. This will not change the way the radio station run; proposal is to reorganize and transfer responsibility to the department. Additional clarification was made that this is college radio station that operates at Chico State and not public radio station.

Comment was made that the proposal here is an older version presented at the EPPC. Revised version should have contained that this agreement is for 3-year period (limited time) after which it will be reassessed. Another suggestion was made to include, as an opening statement, history of the radio station and to distinguish this from e.g. North State Public Radio station and source of its funding.

Question: Looking at the budgetary breakdown proposal states there is annual fee of around \$550. How would this continue to be supported e.g. student learning fee, MADT budget? Is this going to be part of decentralized budget or there is a different way to accommodate budget? Suggestion was made to clarify this in revised version. Answer: The agreement represents the 3-year memorandum of understanding with option of renewal. Therefore, they can renegotiate this at the of 3 years. It will continue to be a contact program and funded by associated students. Historically AS provided \$2,500 annual allocation to the department on a semi-annual basis. This is a realignment of placement of the oversight that can be integrated within the curriculum and serve better students.

Question: What procedures and legal aspects are once the university assume the responsibility? Any licensing requirements, copyright royalty board sound exchange etc.? Answer will be provided at the next meeting.

Updated document with all questions addressed will be shared at the next meeting. With no objections, item was approved as an introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

17. Proposed [New Minor in Heavy Construction](#) - EPPC - Introduction Item (at 3:56 pm)

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced item 17. This is a new minor requested from construction management in collaboration with civil engineering. There is a request from industry partners to increase the focus on heavy construction, civil construction, to overseas building of dams, bridges, treatment plants, power facilities, highways infrastructure. Construction Management and Civil Engineering students represent at least a third of the company's recruitment. There is a need to fulfill heavy construction components and have enough graduates that can be academically prepared and respond to a job demand. The industry partners have written letters of support and in past have provided financial support, internship opportunities for students, skill set and hands on learning opportunities. In addition, it would be an adjunct for the civil engineering students. This proposal is supported by both the Civil Engineering Department and Construction Management. Chris Souder and Steffen Mehl are here to answer any questions.

Senators shared their support for this proposal. This is a valuable skill to have in the State of California especially considering roads, bridges, collapse of Oroville dam and rebuilt of the same.

Question: If certain courses wouldn't be offered for the minor, does that mean they are not available or they are offered elsewhere? (reference to page 5, letter G, item 2 are these courses needed for the major?) Answer: All these courses are offered and are mandatory for construction management students. In addition, they will allow the civil engineering students to come in and take these five courses plus an internship to earn the minor in heavy construction.

With no objections, item was approved as an introduction item. As an action item will be at the Academic Senate on October 28th.

18. Ask the Administrator (at 4:03 pm)

No questions.

19. Other (at 4:04 pm)

No other items.

20. Adjourn at 4:04 pm on Thursday October 14th.

Respectfully submitted,
Ana Medic