



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 28, 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, Hidalgo, Hutchinson, Irish (O’Conner), Jenkins, Kaiser, Kralj, Larson, McBride-Praetorius, McKee, Medic, Millard, Miller A., Miller M., Monet, Musvosvi, Newell, Ormond, Paiva (Chair), Peterson, Rios, Rosso, Seipel, Sherman N., Sistrunk, Snyder, Son, Sparks, Trailer, Young, and Walter.

Absent: Boura, Buffardi, and Sherman.

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

1. Approve Minutes of May 11, 2021; [October 14, 2021](#)
Minutes of May 11, 2021 approved. Minutes of October 14, 2021 approved.
2. Approve Agenda
Agenda approved.
3. Announcements
 - a. Senator Ferrari announced that Faculty appreciation evening is today at Barn.
 - b. There is an open call for a HyFlex fellow. Encouraged faculty to apply and participate. Link to the application form for Hyflex faculty fellows: <https://forms.gle/LegGeyJoRC1jFWcw7>
4. University Reports – Hutchinson/Larson/Sherman/Boura/Rios/Miller
Hutchinson:
 - a. COVID update: we have 93% vaccinated students, and 98% student and 97% faculty attestations. Masking at campus continues. FDA announcement included eligibility for booster shots. Currently we have between 10-15 active cases.
 - b. Chancellor Castro will be visiting campus on November 2 (Tuesday). Multiple meetings will include cabinet, Senate officers, Labor Council, student representatives, open forum.
 - c. Search for the Vice President for Information Technologies and CIO is coming to the final stage. Expect announcement at the end of next week.

- d. The search for Vice President for Student Affairs is continuing. Position description is finalized, search firm secured. Expected interview process will occur in early spring.
- e. At Senate today there will be an information item presented Interim policy University Police and Public Safety Advisory Committee.

Larson:

- a. Spring schedule updates: 66% in person courses, 6% Chico Flex MOI and 28.6 % fully online courses.
- b. Chico State Enterprise updates:
 - i. research expenditure was up 16.8 % in last 2021 fiscal year;
 - ii. FNA return was up 5.3 % within the CSU.
- c. CSU Chico is #6 among research funded sponsored programs.
- d. TEA (The Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program) was approved and will continue to bring educators to Chico. This is continuing program where 20 participants just finished their 6 weeks work. Most are high school secondary educators teaching English. Next group will come to Chico January 25th – March 11th.
- e. CSU held graduation initiative 2025 convening on October 22nd. Chancellor Castro and Dr. Alba (Executive Vice Chancellor) provided stories and shared data from different CSUs. Regarding goals as a system, we are doing well. However, CSU Chico is struggling in closing that the equity achievement gap for underrepresented students.

Rios:

- a. At the California Collegiate Athletic Association's championship the men's cross country took first place and the women's took second place.
 - i. Anita Barker, athletic Director reported that in 2021, overall student athlete GPA was 3.1 and out of 334 student athletes 70% had a 3.0 or higher GPA.
- b. ARC (Accessibility Resource Center) has about 1432 students that have documented disabilities:
 - i. 64% of those students are non white, and
 - ii. 16% are Latino students.

Miller A.:

- a. Classroom tech project was funded. New construction and ordering equipment will happen in late November, early December.
- b. Laptop loaner program update: those who have received laptop loaners can continue using them; if they are not using them then they can return them. Next week there will be a campus announcement that will clarify this.
- c. Conversation with Deans, addressing issues on how to support and provide faculty with teaching tools in classrooms and labs.
- d. Hiring problems continue at campus level. Plans to continue recruit efforts to fill in positions.

5. Statewide Academic Senate Report – Ford/Boyd [CSU Academic Senate \(3:15 pm\)](#)

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

Ford: <https://csuchico.app.box.com/file/878645747675?s=8jx89sez34ziddcggklygia036angvmh>

Report attached, provides more details.

- Plenary meetings will be held next week Tuesday through Friday.
- AB 928 passed and will have implications on transfer GE curriculum. Campus will be able to require 34 instead of 39 units. CSUs will be asked to consider value in terms of GE knowledge, skills, and abilities from transfer students.
- Contact Statewide Senators Boyd and Ford with feedback on these.

Question: What is the status of AS 3501? This is the request for continued accommodations and flexibility in a time of COVID-19, and campuses to be flexible, compassionate, accommodating and responding to the evolving conditions due to the COVID 19 pandemic. This was a first read (in September) and next time will be discussed at plenary as an action item in November. Senator showed support for AS 3501.

- Accommodations for virtual and in-person meetings is another topic that have been present at multiple CSUs. If these types of concerns are present, please refer them to Statewide Senator Boyd. In addition, reach out to CFA, Deans and Chairs.

Question: Regarding AB 928 will there be time for campus feedback? When and by whom the decisions will be made? The Intersegmental Committee from Academic Senate has the authority to decide what the singular pathway will consist of; they have the obligation to come up with that pathway before May 31, 2023. It has been clarified that this is coming from FCC and is not officially a proposal from the ASCSU. It is expected to come at ASCSU Senate soon.

- AB 1111 calls for a single course naming system.
Concern was shared that this course number change will impact a team in charge of transfer students' admission as PeopleSoft system will not recognize new numbers. Therefore, with 115 California Community Colleges there will be a significant need to support this change and implement it within campus system.
Senator Boyd shared she is working on a funding resolution and this information will be included to help CSUs to obtain funds for these costs.
- AB 927 allows community colleges to have 4-year degree programs.

6. Standing Committees Reports (at 3:32 pm)

- Educational Policies and Programs Committee – Kralj

EPPC did not meet since last Senate meeting.

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

- [Executive Committee](#) – Medic

Reports are attached. No additional questions for Standing Committee Chairs nor for Senate Secretary.

7. [Associated Students Report](#) – Young/Rosso (at 3:35 pm)

- a. Government Affairs filled in all 17 positions. New Director of Social Justice and Equity is Melvin Quezada Haro.
- b. Rosso will be studying abroad next semester and they will find a substitute for her position in November.
- c. \$25,000 will be used for student technology support.
- d. The Student Academic Senate is putting out a few different surveys for student feedback.
- e. Request was made for student senators to submit their report.

8. [Staff Council Report](#) – Peterson (at 3:42 pm)

Presentation is attached.

- a. Joy of giving is a program that helps Chico State work with Butte County Social Services to provide gifts for families.
- b. Colleges and Departments participate together and provide kids with toys, clothing, books and other educational items, household items etc.
 - i. Each family will receive \$50 gift card.
 - ii. 46 departments will help 97 children this year.
- c. Packages will be delivered at the Farm on December 7th and 8th and will hold a reception at the Pavilion (University Farm).

9. [Campus Sustainability Committee Report](#) – Mike Guzzi (3:00 pm)

Sustainability report is attached and provides additional details.

Campus Sustainability Committee was led by Cheri Chastain, Director of Energy and Sustainability. Here are few highlights from the report:

- a. Subcommittee worked on priorities and plans how to implement these within EM. This allowed campus to promote climate change, sustainability and resilience across the curriculum implemented by faculty members in their courses.
- b. Research subcommittee created a database of all the research in sustainability and resiliency that has been done on campus.
- c. There has been social media outreach and student engagement activities like campus tours.
- d. Alternative Transportation Subcommittee worked on creating bike lanes on campus, bike parking areas, security issues.
 - i. Suggestion was made to consider pedestrian friendly and safe campus
- e. Efforts toward zero waste includes changing tops for trash bins (color coordinated e.g. blue top for recycling).
- f. The Procurement Subcommittee worked on adjusting marketplace menus to eliminate additional trash.

- g. The Water Subcommittee worked on refillable water bottles to minimize plastic water bottles usage, focus on water saving capabilities throughout the campus.
- h. The Natural Environment Subcommittee worked on upgrade of the riparian area next to the creek and species protection.
- i. The Agriculture Subcommittee developed ways to measure carbon sequestration on campus and at the University Farm which can offset GHG emission.
- j. The Strategic Energy Master Plan focus on major energy savings on campus.
- k. This Way to Sustainability Conference was successful and is connected to work we do at Chico State.

10. Proposed New Undergraduate [Option in Structural Engineering](#) - EPPC - Action Item (at 3:48 pm)
Vice Chair of Academic Senate and Vice Chair of EPPC Allen introduced action item 10. 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). All three proposed options will not create new courses in the department. They would help structure students' coursework. Chair Steffen Mehl was here to respond to any questions.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an action item.

11. Proposed New Undergraduate [Option in General Civil Engineering](#) - EPPC - Action Item
Vice Chair of Academic Senate and Vice Chair of EPPC Allen introduced action item 11. 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.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an action item.

12. Proposed New Undergraduate [Option in Environmental and Water Resources Engineering](#) - EPPC - Vice Chair of Academic Senate and Vice Chair of EPPC Allen introduced action item 12. This proposed option would be a blend of environmental and water resources with a strong water focus. It is restructuring students' coursework in more coherent way.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an action item.

13. Proposed Department Name Change: [International Languages, Literatures and Cultures to Languages and Cultures](#) - EPPC - Action Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced action item 13. Items 13 and 14 are connected. The Department of International Languages, Literatures and Cultures is changing their name to better reflects the purpose of the department. Department would like to drop the word "International" as it implies across the nations. Additionally, literature is seen as not really a separate topic but as a subset of culture.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an action item.

14. Proposed Graduate Program Name Change: [MA in Teaching International Languages to MA in Language Teaching](#) - EPPC - Action Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced action item 14. 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. Chair Golding is here to answer any questions. Question: Does this program use English as a second language? Answer: Teaching languages does include English.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an action item.

15. Proposed New Graduate [Option in Single Subject Credential \(Spanish\) within Teaching International Languages](#)- EPPC - Action Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced action item 15. This option would give students the ability to complete both a teaching credential and Master degree in Spanish in one program within a two-year timeframe and decrease students' cost. Chico State is a designated Hispanic Serving Institution and it supports the university's strategic priorities regarding Equity, Diversity and Inclusion this is well supported throughout the different stakeholders. 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 action item.

16. Proposed Department Name Change: [Geological and Environmental Sciences to Earth and Environmental Sciences](#) - EPPC - Action Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced action item 16 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.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an action item.

17. Proposed [KCSC Radio Reorganization \(Transfer from Associated Students to Dept of Media Arts, Design and Technology\)](#) - EPPC - Action Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced action item 17. 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.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an action item.

18. Proposed New Minor in [Heavy Construction](#) - EPPC - Action Item

EPPC Chair Kralj introduced action item 18. This is a new minor requested from construction management in collaboration with civil engineering. There is a strong support from stakeholders and there are no additional courses required. 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.

There were no questions. With no objections, item was approved as an action item.

19. Information Item: [University Police and Public Safety Advisory Committee Interim Executive Memorandum](#) (at 4:07 pm)

President Hutchinson introduced the information item University Police and Public Safety Advisory Committee Interim Executive memorandum:

- a. Important step in the process of becoming an anti-racists institution.
- b. Brief description of steps that led to this item: a faculty letter in protest of hiring a police chief, resolution passed by Academic Senate, Task Force charge and recommendation report.
- c. Work of faculty, staff and students, cabinet, EC, Academic Senate, past Chair Boyd and current Chair Paiva were recognized in development of this interim policy.
- d. This is an interim EM and the next step will be to develop a permanent policy.
- e. Tomorrow this item will go to EC for a final vote.

Questions: If this goes to EC tomorrow, will it come back to Senate? When will this go in effect e.g. next semester? Answer: the policy on policies allows for interim policy creation. When under specific circumstances e.g. as an interim policy, this will go to EC tomorrow for a vote. Once President signs it, this immediately allows recruiting people for committees and subcommittees work to begin.

Senator provided an example from the Campus Sustainability Committee. The committee charge subcommittees to work on different areas of concern after which recommendations are made and discussed at the main committee level. Anyone across the university can participate and contributes. This will be part of work to develop a permanent policy.

Recommendations were made that EC consider the following:

- a. Under subcommittee membership, second to last sentence “The subcommittees are intended to offer... should seek broad and diverse representation from across the campus community and recruit members from within campus, faculty and staff associations.”, to consider adding “and student’s associations”.
- b. Voting members and non-voting members are separated. However, subcommittees membership does not include clearly who can be on those, are they voting/non-voting members, specific representation from faculty, staff and student members on subcommittees.

Clarifying if these members can be voting members at the subcommittee level although not-voting members at the committee level, and if this is appropriate.

Senator commented that this is an important work done at campus, involved diverse groups across the campus and allowed many voices and concerns to be heard. It represents a great start and a scope to operate within.

20. Ask the Administrator (4:16 pm)

Question: What is the status of the policy on the use of digital technologies for learning and teaching? There are some recommendations regarding MOI that can influence faculty choice of teaching modality. Was this signed EM and permanent policy? Answer: Last year was very productive and many policies were made due to which this EM has still not been signed by the President.

Question: Can we have library available 24 hours, similar to many universities? This can provide a resource to a quiet study place for those that work or care of family members during daytime or for those students that have nocturnal schedule or don't have access to place to study and available resources (technology access, Internet availability, quiet environment). Answer: Attendance at the library provided information that small number of students uses library after 7 or 8 pm. Other reason is staffing issues, lack of available personnel and/or students hired to work and be there 24 hours per day.

Questions and comment: WREC and other buildings e.g. new science building are closed over the weekend. This can impact the recruitment and enrolment of students. Those coming to visit campus over the weekend might not be able to have access to what we have to offer. What can we do to make the weekends more accessible to the campus tours? Answer: staffing issues, still being in pandemic are few reasons for the current status. We will work on this. In normal year, WREC is open during weekends, but now is closed. Associated Students estimate that about 40% of student workers are still missing due to which some facilities can't be accessible all the time.

21. Other

Senator Ferrari announced that on Friday (October 29th) from 12 – 1 pm FDEV is organizing Friday forum that focusses on lecturers' support and resources.

22. Adjourn at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ana Medic (Secretary)