

THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
5200 N. Barton Ave UL34
Fresno, California 93740-8014
Office of the Academic Senate
(559) 278-2743

(AS-1)

September 8, 2025

Members excused: Bhawani, Sagata; Eldeeb, Mazen;
Jiménez-Sandoval, Saúl; Mine, Aric; Roach, Andrea; Van Camp, Tinneke

Members absent: Harrison, Daniel; Keyser, Vadim; Kim, Hyung Tae;
Xiao, Ting

Attendance: 51

The Academic Senate was called to order by **Chair Hall** at 4:06 p.m. in Library room 2206.

1. Approval of the Agenda

MSC

2. Approval of the Minutes of 5/5/2025

MSC

3. Installation of New Senators

4. Communications and Announcements

Communications from the Provost

Welcomed everyone back and noted will be sharing 3 updates soon - on budget, research, and strategic plan progress.

Our enrollment is 3% higher this fall than last fall (especially due to the number of transfer students). Thanked everyone for adjusting to this.

- We added 68 GE classes.
- Students are taking an average of 30 units.

- Confirmed in response to a question from Senator Holyoke (university-wide) that the Chancellor will be fully funding us for this additional enrollment.

Communication from Statewide Senator Schlievert

- Chancellor Garcia met with Statewide Senators and answered questions
- Year of Engagement was presented and Student Success Framework
- Committees gave reports: e.g. GE Advisory Committee (not a standing Committee) indicated that credit for examination is going through formal process
- Guiding notes for CAL-GATC course review were approved
- The new Vice Chancellor also spoke.

Communication from Statewide Senator Pitts

- We now have lecturer representation (3 Senators) on Statewide Senate
- Statewide expenditures for higher education is only 7%.
- Passed resolution 3761 to protect HSI programs
- Passed resolution 3762 that emphasizes the importance of our international students, expressing concern about visa issues

Senate Chowdhury (Art) asked about whether union negotiations were brought up with Chancellor

- Senator Pitts indicated that most questions to her were centered around budget, but welcomed direct requests from any Senators with concerns to be raised.

Introduction to Matt Hawkins, Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer

CFO Hawkins introduced himself.

Communications from Chair Hall

Notified Senators of the new platform adopted for our student ratings replacing Explorance called SmartEvals

- Only the platform has changed, which is significantly cheaper than Explorance; the survey instrument remains the same
- One change is that there will be a standard two-week window for completing ratings for all classes, which is standard across the CSU
- Paper surveys will no longer be available due to the cost.

Notified Senators of Interim 217 policy adopted by the Senate Executive Committee over the summer due to issues identified by the Registrar's office in implementing the new policy. Shared 3 key changes:

- Students given the 2-year promise couldn't be guaranteed that the promise would be fulfilled without changes, so waivers for additional university graduation requirements (AUGRs) were approved for programs needing them for transfer students.
- All AUGRs must double-count with GE requirements.
- New A/H courses are needed to require an additional university requirement for A/H as any courses required that are currently in GE would automatically double count (and therefore not actually be additional requirements)

Senators asked for some clarifications about the A/H double counting and the deadline for adopting changes.

- Chair Hall noted the Executive Committee is working on a revised APM 217 to bring to the Senate.

5. New Business

Senator Panagapoulus (Computer Science) indicated he would like to propose revisions to APM 338 on office hours regarding where office hours take place.

- Since this policy is currently under review and will come to the Senate soon, Personnel Committee Chair Low suggested the proposed changes be sent to him

6. APM 406 - New Policy on Priority Registration - Second Reading

Registrar Yager re-introduced the policy and changes and reminded slides were shared.

Friendly amendment accepted regarding "new students" in IV.C.

Registrar Yager indicated there are plans to add a student and faculty member to the Strategic Enrollment Management Committee.

- Vice Chair Ram asked if this was reflected in the new policy.
- Sen. Walsh (Educational Leadership) motioned to to add ASI President or designee to committee
 - *Motion approved*

Sen. Bryant (PLSI) noted the Graduate Dean title needed to be changed.

- *Friendly amendment accepted on this and other title corrections.*

ASI President Salah asked for clarification on why the Director of Housing and Director of Brand Strategy and Marketing are included.

Senator Rindahl (Council of Chairs Vice Chair) motioned to call the question. MSC

Motion to approve resolution adopted 32-3 with 1 abstention

7. APM 237 - Policy on Faculty Responsibility for Accessible Instructional Materials - First Reading

AP&P Chair Walsh introduced the policy

- Noted we need to adopt a policy to be in compliance with federal law
- Anything that is digital must be accessible
- After 4/2026, we could be audited to confirm compliance
- Faculty are personally responsible for implementing the policy if you digitize any materials
- IDEAS had to pilot some work; they run reports on Ally and reach out to faculty to see if they need assistance making changes
- Some parts of the policy (e.g. regarding Remediation Phase 1) were recently updated by AP&P in consultation with ATI and appear in the document as comments by Senator Walsh

Some Senators expressed concern about making all of their materials accessible. For example, Senator Briggs (Music) asked what happens if your material is not accessible after the deadline because it is very expensive to fix for music.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be September 22, 2025.

Submitted by
Melanie Ram
Vice Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by
Ray Hall
Chair
Academic Senate