



Evergreen Valley College

Academic Senate Minutes

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Mishra Conference Room

Present: David Hendricks, Tina Iniguez, Henry Estrada, Juan Gil, Melissa Hornstein, Nancy Lin, Eric Narveson, Grace Estrada, Binh Vo, Laura Garcia, Sravani Banerjee, Judith Girardi, Tejal Naik, Rahmon Pashtunyar, Fahmida Fakhruddin

Absent: Alessandro Bailetti Saez

Guest(s): VP Dickerson, Sylvia Min, VP Ligosio, President Lopez, Prashant Shinde

I. Call to Order – 3:02 pm

II. Adoption of Agenda with amendments – (Grace 1st), (Tejal 2nd), unanimously approved.

- Judy moves to add to Consent - Emily Banh (English) Department Representative for PDC.

III. Approval of Minutes from September 15, with amendments – Tejal (1st), Grace (2nd) unanimously approved.

- Update - DE Committee report, second to last bullet point -
 - The committee is planning an introductory asynchronous module on UDL Mindset.

IV. Public Comments (Limited to 3 minutes per person/ 5 minutes per item)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for items not on the agenda. Law does not permit action or extended discussion of items not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Senate action is required, it can be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

- Grace – speaking on behalf of Sylvia Min regarding the potential elimination of the loaner laptop program and impact on equity, online learning, and Adobe software access.
- Fahmida – additional faculty training and improvements related to the Ellucian Insights dashboard and program review data is needed. Navigation training is not enough.

V. Committee Chair Reports (3 minutes per report as needed)

1) **All College Curriculum:** Grace Estrada

- We have 613 active courses of which 97.7% are in compliance with 14 courses needing action.
- Funding was discussed for Associate Faculty as 19 departments out of 59 have no full-time faculty. This needs to be brought up in Budget.
- Reviewed proposed 2026-27 committee goals.
- Approved 2 course revisions, one new course, 14 program proposals, and 7 programs on consent for a total of 27 items.
- 2 student representatives will be joining the committee; Student Trustee Adrian Lopez and ASG Senator Joseph Barrajas.

2) **AB 928:** Laura Garcia

- No update.

3) **AB 1111:** Grace Estrada

- No update.

- 4) **Universal Design Learning (UDL):** Grace Estrada
 - We created a draft of the rubric for catalogue descriptions which will be finalized at the next meeting pending student feedback.
- 5) **Student Learning Outcomes:** Rahmon Pashtunyar
 - Reviewed recent CurriQunet changes that recently went live.
 - We finalized our yearlong goals:
 - Review and potentially redesign the PLO assessment process.
 - Update Canvas and SLOAC webpage resources.
 - Review Handbook Policy to update and clarify special situations.
 - Investigate UDL principles into the SLO process.
 - Discussed the potential for SLOAC to be involved in the eLumen Insights project which is awaiting further guidance.
- 6) **Guided Pathways:** Tina Iniguez
 - Tina shared a new brochure helping students connect with each other which will be available at student events.
 - Five student ambassadors were added, and student outreach efforts were expanded.
 - Continued counselor pop-ups and student resource promotion.
 - Students are encouraged to make an appointment as graduation petitions are due in the middle of the month and Spring registration starts November 2.
 - CAPS Day may be multiple days this year to expand faculty involvement.
 - Program Maps updates are in progress and should be available next week.
 - Improvements to degree audit and education planning are underway. We hope to be able to auto populate education plans.
- 7) **Credit for Prior Learning (CPL):** Juan Gil
 - Faculty outreach and credit-by-exam discussions are ongoing; math, Spanish, and chemistry.
 - CPL approval process improvements are underway to streamline processes with state partners.
 - Collaboration discussed with the Dean of Counseling. Support was requested from counselors to participate in CPL efforts.
 - October 23 CPL working session on October 23 at Merrit College from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, RSVP by the end of this week.
 - CPL Committee meets every 3rd Thursday of the month on Zoom.
- 8) **Distance Education (DE):** Tejal Naik
 - We drafted committee goals focused on UDL and RSI.
 - An introductory UDL module development is underway, with release expected this fall.
 - The DEC requests the Academic Senate's help and support in reviving the AI workgroup and creating a cross functional AI workgroup.
 - Reviewed updates to certification requirements and increased flexibility for faculty.
 - Acknowledged collaboration on DE contract and certification updates.
- 9) **College Budget:** Henry Estrada
 - The first meeting was chaired by Antoinette due to co-chair vacancies/absence.
 - The committee will continue to meet online in the fall and meet in person when allocating funds.
 - VP Ligioso attended and reviewed budget information, discretionary funding, and inflation impacts on purchasing power with the committee.

- Largest part of the budget is benefits and salaries at over 95%.
- Over 2 million in discretionary funding for the district, with this committee only responsible for \$285,000.
- We currently roll over funds from year to year, which does not account for inflation. There is a need to look at actual yearly costs.
- Reviewed the committee charge and identified goals to evaluate the allocation model, update the AURR process, and consider bylaws.
- We are seeking a Language Arts faculty representative due to current faculty sabbatical.

10) **District Budget:** Henry Estrada & Eric Narveson – no report

11) **Institutional Effectiveness:** Fahmida Fakhruddin

- There are 34 program reviews underway: 25 new, 5 pending from last year, and 4 deferred.
- Mentors and readers are assigned; December 1 is the submission deadline. Ongoing support sessions are available through the deadline.
- We approved three committee goals
 - Support completion of the Midterm Report which is due October 15, 2027.
 - Develop guidelines and accountability tracking to reduce pending program reviews.
 - Evaluate and analyze the new Insight data dashboard.

12) **Campus Technology:** RJ Ruppenthal – no report

13) **College Safety and Facilities:** Vince Cabada – no report

14) **Student Equity:** Ebonnie Berry and Dean Villalobos – no report

15) **College Council:** Dave Hendricks

- President Lopez plans to resume campus forums in late October/November and one in the spring.
- Educational Master Plan committee formation is underway. Two more faculty are needed, they will meet at the end of October.
- VPAS is currently doing a budget review/budget build. Ongoing expenses, mission critical items, should be built into the regular budget. There will be an effort to look at Fund 10 as a starting point for budgetary obligations.
- SEM Academy project continues development of new certificate pathways in Personal Health Aid and Community Service.
- Faculty Hiring Prioritization Committee and Program Viability Review (wastewater management) activities are underway.
- Updates were provided on priority registration, the 50 to Finish completion initiative, and counselor summit planning.
- College Council discussed, but did not support, renaming the committee to College Advisory Council.

16) **Chancellor's Advisory Committee:** Tina Iniguez

- The District Council was renamed at some point to the Chancellor's Advisory Committee without committee input.
 - Henry expressed concern about the Senate 10+1 and AP series with this name change.
- Annual Board Policy review process is underway.

- Reviewed district North Star Goals and priorities: student success, employee success, fiscal sustainability, and community engagement.
- Discussed Chancellor evaluation (due yesterday), associate faculty compensation, and special assignments.
 - SJCC is looking at associate faculty compensation for involvement in the Senate and high compensation for special assignments.
- Reviewed dual enrollment and student completion data which is skewed by bots.
- Continued emphasis on faculty consultation and enrollment concerns.

17) **District Academic Senate: David Hendricks** – no report

18) **Professional Development:** Sylvia Min – no report

VI. Academic Senate President's Report

- Senate meetings are now available via Zoom to increase accessibility, for viewing only.
- Dave is working on connecting with the ASG.
- Dave voiced his strong support for the loaner laptop program, which is vital for students. SJCC ended their program, and we are in competition with other colleges that do offer loaner laptops.
- PD Committee has been exploring remote participation options. Dave will permit them to have Zoom access.
- AP Task Force work continues.
- Bylaws Task Force is reviewing potential revisions, including tie-vote procedures.

VII. Academic Senate Vice President's Report

- SEM project planning -
 - SEM site visit from coaches on Monday.
 - Spring 2027 Community Services Officer cohort.
 - Summer Bridge expansion and enrollment initiatives are underway, transitioning from senior year into college.
- The Budget Committee had a positive discussion about broader review of funding and advocacy efforts.
- Tina strongly supports retaining the Laptop Loaner Program as an invaluable tool for the students she supports.
- The use of Ellucian Insights for program review and data analysis is encouraged.

VIII. Consent Items

- Student Equity Committee, STEM Representative – Parran Vanniasagaram
- District Technology Planning Committee - Tejal Naik
- Professional Development Committee –
 - MSE Representative - My Phuong Le
 - Library/English Representative - Emily Banh (English)
- Screening Committee(s)
 - Evaluations Specialist, Senior – John Ruys
 - Student Retention Assistance (Outreach-FYE) - Delia (Monica) Galvan
 - Student Retention Assistance (Counseling-Early Alert) - Pretti Srinivasan

IX. Information Items (limited to 3 minutes per item)

- ITSS Reorganization - Prashant Shinde
 - The shared services model increases flexibility while maintaining campus-based support.

- Students continue to be supported through the Help Desk; employees through CTSS.
- Staff can assist across colleges when specialized expertise or additional resources are needed.
- IT support staff remain at their respective colleges with no reduction in campus support. There are 4 staff at each college and one at the district.
- This model supports collaboration on large projects and high-demand periods.
- Implementation began September 1, 2026, with no reported service disruptions.
- Colleague was updated over the summer. 95% of applications came through, but several hundred paper applications did not go through. Help Desk was taking those calls which caused hour long wait times.
- Data Center consolidation is in process as the servers at each college need to be upgraded by June 2027. They will back up in real-time in the cloud.
- Always on VPN is in the pilot stage.
- Loaner laptop – President Lopez supports the program and is discussing with Library. Data is being gathered to look at the age of the current laptops which have been in use since before Covid. Newer technology with applications in the cloud could cut down on IT maintenance, updates, and costs. Also looking into a year-long program, rather than by semester.

B. Update on Campus Priority Groups – President Lopez

- Thanked the faculty for their service.
- Reviewed the four institutional priorities:
 - Data informed student-centered scheduling.
 - Equity strategy.
 - Continued expansion of workforce pathways, short-term credentials, and career-connected programs.
 - Highlighted the success of RISE, and Minecraft programs, with plans to scale effective support services as funding allows.
 - Student support, persistence, and completion.
 - Focus on increasing student completion, including outreach to students nearing degree completion. Approximately 300-700 students are within 50 credits of graduation with an AA or AS.
 - FYE has done great work with wraparound services and high touch areas. Highlighted in our application for the Seal of Excelencia.
 - Micro-credentials and Dual Enrollment – SEM Academy is focusing on short term credentials.
 - Health Care and Community Services certificates will start in the Fall.
 - Increased partnerships.
- Our institutional priorities align around our Educational Master Plan (EMP) 2027-2034 and the North Star Goals -
 - Student Success
 - Economic Mobility
 - Community Impact
 - Institutional Excellence

C. Coursera & eLumen Insights Update – VP Dickerson

- The district is transitioning to Coursera, eLumen Insights, and Canvas-based assessments.
 - Coursera for Curriculum and (Catalog later), moving away from CurriQunet.
 - eLumen Insights for Program Review.
 - Canvas for Assessments.

- Implementation teams are conducting system setup, testing, and training with a launch planned for Spring 2027, with campus use beginning in the Fall 2027.
 - VP has asked that EVC have training outside of the group of 5 cohorts as much of the training does not apply to us.
- Communication and training efforts are underway starting to prepare users with regular updates to be provided through campus governance and committee meetings.
- Timeline:
 - Outreach to college starting in October.
 - November user testing.
 - April product is launched for the implementation team, live in the Fall.
 - VP Dickerson will have an update for January PDD as this is a systems change shift.
- Software cost is split-shared with two colleges and the district. After 2 years, the college will have the cost.

D. Bookstore Update – VP Ligioso

- Discussed issues with the VitalSource online bookstore, particularly for students using book vouchers.
 - Book vouchers only cover required, not optional, materials.
- Working with the vendor to improve processes and student access to materials, meeting monthly.
- Fall 2026 textbook adoption rate was 78%.
- Earlier and longer-term textbook adoptions are encouraged to reduce student costs.
- Learning guides to properly adopt can be found in the portal.

E. Proposed Teleconferencing Request Forms for Senate Subsidiary Committees – Sylvia Min

- Please review the forms provided by Sylvia before the meeting for discussion on October 20.

X. Discussion Items (limited to 3 minutes per item)

- A. Innovation in Teaching and Learning Symposium – Tejal & Eric - tabled
- B. Facilities Staffing Shortages and Campus Impact - Alessandro Bailetti Saez – tabled

XI. Action Items

XII. Announcements & Recognitions

- Next Academic Senate meeting: October 20, 2026.

XIII. Adjournment – 5:04 pm – Juan (1st), Grace (2nd).