



ACADEMIC SENATE

The primary voice of the faculty in academic and professional matters at Santa Rosa Junior College.

MEETING MINUTES

April 1, 2026, 3:15 p.m.

Santa Rosa: Senate Chambers, Doyle 145

Petaluma (New): Mahoney Library 726, 2nd Floor, Petaluma.

ZOOM ID: 958 4627 3808

PRESENT M. Anderman, L. Aspinall, A. Atilgan Relyea, S. Avasthi, L. Branen-Ahumada, J. Bush, J. Davis, K. Fortunati, K. Frindell Teuscher, G. Garcia, T. Jacobson (Petaluma), J. Kremer, D. Lemmer, D. Lukas, S. McGregor-Gordon, T. Melvin, G. Morre, J. Nieto, M. Ohkubo, A. Oliver, M. Papa, N. Perrone, S. Rosen (remote), T. Ruiz (Petaluma), E. Schmidt, I. Tircuit
ABSENT V. Hamilton (proxy K. Fortunati), N. Persons (proxy L. Aspinall)

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by President Stover, the Chair, at 3:15 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT The Land Acknowledgement statement was read by the Chair.

We acknowledge that we gather at Santa Rosa Junior College on the territorial traditional land of the Pomo People in Santa Rosa and the Coast Miwok People in Petaluma, past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations.

OPEN FORUM None

JUST CAUSE FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION The Chair inquired if there were any objections to remote participation by Senator Rosen. Seeing none, remote participation was approved.

MINUTES [Minutes of March 4, 2026](#)

A Senator requested to add departments to the open forum statements that were read on behalf of other departments. Senator requested a correction on wording to change from “on” to “to” page 4 of the minutes. Senator Lukas made a motion to approve the minutes with the proposed changes. Seconded. 27 yes votes, 1 abstention.

M. Anderman	yes	V. Hamilton (proxy K. Fortunati)	yes	M. Ohkubo	yes
L. Aspinall	yes	T. Jacobson	yes	A. Oliver	yes
A. Atilgan Relyea	yes	J. Kremer	yes	M. Papa	yes
S. Avasthi	yes	D. Lemmer	yes	N. Perrone	yes
L. Branen-Ahumada	yes	D. Lukas	yes	N. Persons (proxy L. Aspinall)	yes
J. Bush	yes	S. McGregor-Gordon	yes	S. Rosen	abstain
J. Davis	yes	T. Melvin	yes	T. Ruiz	yes
K. Fortunati	yes	G. Morre	yes	E. Schmidt	yes
K. Frindell-Teuscher	yes	J. Nieto	yes	I. Tircuit	yes
G. Garcia	yes				

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

A Senator requested to move item #1 from Consent and move it to Action. The Chair asked if anyone opposed, seeing none the Consent item was moved to Action.

REPORTS

1. President’s Report - J Stover

- The Chair welcomed everyone back from Spring Break and reviewed the remaining meeting dates: April 15, April 29, and May 6.
- Four workgroups were active: the 16-week Academic Calendar, Resolutions, Site-Specific Faculty Forums (led by the Chair), and the Petaluma-based Honors Program. These groups represented faculty input on the 16-

week semester, statewide resolutions for the ASCCC Plenary, strengthening faculty voice across sites, and equity-focused honors curriculum. An Honors update was expected later in the semester.

- The Chair reported progress on proposed amendments to AP 7120A, noting that fall revisions laid groundwork to complete this long-standing effort by the end of the academic year.
- The Chair continued work with Program Review and FPDC, emphasizing alignment across committees. FPDC benefited from AFA input, while Program Review collaborated with chairs and faculty to support resources and planning tied to enrollment goals.
- A GenAI survey received over 600 student responses in 24 hours. The Chair co-led this effort and multiple committees, alongside other faculty leaders contributing across governance groups.
- An upcoming election for Vice President was noted following T. Jacobson's resignation from the role due to workload, though T. Jacobson will remain a Senator. Appreciation was expressed for this service.
- The Senate's 10+1 role in areas such as curriculum, equivalency, and professional development was reaffirmed. The Senate functioned as a recommended body, contributing through collaboration with the district.
- Nineteen Senators are registered to attend plenary. New Senators would be welcomed, and departing members recognized, at the final meeting. Contributions to the Senate fund were encouraged due to declining participation.

2. AP2410 Process Update re: AP7120 – M. Ohkubo

Senator Ohkubo gave an update on the AP2410 process and reviewed the meetings that were held to make sure the support document was a true reflection of the process and the District's understanding. The following items were reviewed:

1. Student Interaction demonstration language designed to provide an equivalent experience to all applicants when possible. No feedback was received from the District.
2. Reference feedback from Senate discussion was shared, and the consensus was to take out who and how the reference checks are done to leave flexibility for future changes to best practices or other changes. The vote to replace lines 147 to 148 with "a student representative recruited and appointed by the committee in collaboration with the SGA when possible" and take out "a student representative appointed by the SGA in collaboration with the committee co-chairs. The consensus from the District is that Title V, 51023.7 states the selection of student representatives to serve on college or District committees, task forces, or other governance groups shall be made after consultation with designated parties by the appropriate, officially recognized associated student organizations, What the Senate voted to approve is not allowable per Title 5.
3. It was reviewed that a motion could be entertained to rescind the vote and retain original language, which would need a two-thirds vote. Another option would be to forward the new language to the District, despite it conflicting with Title V, knowing that the District would have to revert to the original language.

3. Faculty Fund for Advanced Studies – J. Arild

Jocelyn Arild, Disability Specialist, reviewed the Faculty Fund for Advanced Studies (FFAS) which has worked to ensure equity, transparency and impartiality in the award selection processes. J. Arild reviewed the process in which this was done by anonymizing applications, updating the rubric used to evaluate grant applications and making changes to how applicants who are on the FFAS committee participate in conversations. The past year conversations have been had regarding how to be more inclusive of associate faculty. This fund was initially created to only provide funds for full-time faculty, and FFAS would like to create a second fund. Research has been done regarding how to do this.

ACTION

- 1. Does the Body wish to accept the recommendation of the Faculty Professional Development Committee on the following topic: To Change the Name of "PDA Day" to "All College Day" (See History/Rationale) (pulled from the Consent Agenda)**

A Foster was present to answer questions as needed.

Discussion:

- A Senator raised a constituent concern about the name change in light of the fact that the Tauzer

Lecture does not fit the concept of all college activity, as it is arranged by a self-selected group of faculty, and no other activity is available during that time.

- Spring PDA there is not a separate call out to the Tauzer Lecture in the title.
- If the name is changed to All College Day, we should make sure to include the long-standing tradition of the Tauzer Lecture as part of the day.
- A Senator clarified that if it is called All College Day, there is limited faculty participation as far as presenting, and there is not an alternative for classified staff if they do not choose to participate in the Tauzer Lecture.
- Many events are geared towards certain constituencies, so we should think about how to keep things united for PDA Day.
- A concern about the possibility of having allied faculty considered in the future.
- The Faculty Professional Development Committee is the body making this recommendation, so they would be taking this up; both Ann Foster and Alexa Forrester are on that committee.
- Concerns raised regarding the day not really being an All College Day as some groups are not included or paid to attend.

Time expired on the item and will be brought back to the next Academic Senate meeting.

ACTION

1. **AP7120A: Addressing Final Concerns (including updated AP7102A document reflecting Senate’s recommendations to date)** (M. Ohkubo) The Academic Senate will again review the changes approved by the body in Fall 2025 and address final questions and concerns in support of finalizing our mutual collaboration with the District. (35 min **including BREAK within item**) (Action Item {11/19; 12/03; 2/4; 2/18; 3/04; 4/01} and Discussion Item {10/01; 10/29; 11/04} histories)

Senator Ohkubo highlighted that the AP2410 process regarding AP7120A was reviewed under reports.

- For numbers 1 and 2 of the support documents there were no questions or concerns
- A Senator proposed an option 3 to the student selection topic to slightly adjust the language to be more in compliance with Title 5: “a student represented, recruited, and nominated by the committee for appointment by the Student Government Assembly.”
- A Senator suggested "search and interviewing committees can" versus "will".
- Point of clarification: would this change need to be two separate motions, one to vacate the previous language, and then one with the new language?
 - The cleanest and easiest thing to do would be to rescind the previous vote and start over with a new motion.
- Rescinding a vote requires a two-thirds vote which is 18.67 of what we have today, which is 28, and so we need 19 votes.
- Original language: “A student representative recruited and appointed by the committee in collaboration with the student SGA when possible.”

Senator Lucas made a motion to rescind the previous vote. Seconded. 27 yes votes, 1 no.

M. Anderman	yes	V. Hamilton (proxy K. Fortunati)	yes	M. Ohkubo	yes
L. Aspinall	yes	T. Jacobson	yes	A. Oliver	yes
A. Atilgan Relyea	yes	J. Kremer	yes	M. Papa	yes
S. Avasthi	no	D. Lemmer	yes	N. Perrone	yes
L. Branen-Ahumada	yes	D. Lukas	yes	N. Persons (proxy L. Aspinall)	yes
J. Bush	yes	S. McGregor-Gordon	yes	S. Rosen	yes
J. Davis	yes	T. Melvin	yes	T. Ruiz	yes
K. Fortunati	yes	G. Morre	yes	E. Schmidt	yes
K. Frindell-Teuscher	yes	J. Nieto	yes	I. Tircuit	yes
G. Garcia	yes				

Further discussion took place:

- A review of Title 5, 51023.7 language.
- Senator Tircuit made a motion to approve the following language, “A student representative appointed by the Student Government Assembly after consultation with the committee co-chairs. The hiring committee may recruit and nominate a student or students for consideration by SGA.” Seconded. The

motion passed unanimously.

BREAK

Time expired on the item. Senator Ohkubo reviewed that when this item comes back, it will be a clean document with the recent vote included, and hopefully it can be finalized.

2. ***Does the Academic Senate wish to recommend the establishment of a CTE Faculty Liaison? [urgent*]***

If the body moves to recommend today the position can still be funded in the current funding cycle (March 2026). If no action takes place, no further action is possible this AY2025-26 and the item will be tabled until next AY2026-27.

[Support Document: CTE Liaison Summary for Academic Senate 18 February 2026](#)

[Proposed CTE Liaison Summary of Responsibilities at SRJC \(as inspired by Allan Hancock College\)](#)

[The Importance of Designated CTE Liaisons for Local Senates \(October 2016\)](#)

[Elevate the CTE Faculty Voice \(February 2021\)](#)

The Chair introduced the item with the following:

- Funding concerns were acknowledged, as well as perceptions that these responsibilities may already be addressed within existing roles. However, the work proposed for the CTE faculty liaison position is not currently being performed in a coordinated or formalized way. This recommendation outlines a role intended to increase the visibility of CTE programs and establish representation that does not currently exist. Senators spoke in favor of really needing this position.
- Senator Nieto made a motion to have Academic Senate establish a CTE faculty liaison position for Strong Workforce. Seconded.
- Discussion addressed the goal-aligned metrics, noting that they did not reference the California Adult Education Program grant or the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant, both of which applied to noncredit CDCP classes. The need for alignment was identified. A Senator raised concerns that this has not been considered to provide support. Rachel Smith, Director of the Workforce Program, shared that the request being put forward is to get support from Academic Senate to submit an application for the funding, not necessarily to establish a position. The request would still go through the normal application process which would be either recommended or not by the review team then presented to the Cabinet for ultimate approval.
- Further discussion took place regarding the application and the position.
- Senator Lemmer called for the question.

The motion is to establish a CTE Liaison position with the understanding that this is a vote to submit an application, and the position would need to be approved for funding through the process. Motion passed unanimously.

Appropriate follow-up will be conducted, and available updates will be brought forward. Consultation with other constituencies regarding pay and reassigned time will also occur.

DISCUSSION

1. Does the Academic Senate wish to accept the recommendation of the Faculty Professional Development Committee as follows: "The FPDC recommends the adoption of the Vision Resource Center to the Academic Senate"*

(Summary of feedback from the Faculty Professional Development Subcommittee included here).

- The Chair introduced the recommendation to adopt the Vision Resource Center. Ann Foster and Alexa Forrester Coordinators of the Faculty Professional Development Committee were present.
- A discussion took place:
- A Senator indicated we are not ready to do this, two major concerns in the supporting documentation is that VRC does not support the professional development reporting and currently in a state of transition with Banner and has potential of going extremely wrong.
- A Senator spoke in favor of using the VRC tool as it is easy to keep track of your transcript, every hour, every minute, when on any kind of training. There is also an ability to join statewide communities where there are hundreds of other faculty to collaborate and have discussions with and or seek advice.
- VRC is not available to faculty, but classified staff has been using the VRC for years

- Senators spoke in favor of the VRC as it is robust and gives incredible access to workshops and trainings and connections with colleagues.
 - When SIS retires for tracking faculty flex, we need a replacement, and we are actively working on the Faculty Professional Development Committee to find one.
 - A Senator spoke in favor of continuing to use SIS for at least the coming academic year, and to allow the discipline experts in the Faculty Professional Development Committee to continue to vet different replacements for SIS.
- A. Forrester reviewed the following:
 - The VRC keeps a transcript of all completed activities, but has no way of knowing how much you owe and comparing that against the transcript of what you have completed like SIS does.
 - The Professional Development Coordinators have spoken to people at other colleges who had to write their own programs to do the reporting piece, and we do not currently have anybody to write those programs.
 - One way or the other, we are going to be using SIS.
 - VRC is like Canvas. It has a lot of amazing functionality. Some of it will not be relevant to our entire community or parts of our community.
 - Various colleges have staff members who have this as their full-time job.
 - The Chair pointed out that we could advance this from Discussion to Action and know that SIS is going to be used to track faculty professional development requirements going forward for the foreseeable future.

Senator Lemmer moved to move this item to Action at the next Academic Senate meeting. Seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 28 yes votes.

ADJOURNMENT 5:00 p.m.