MINUTES
May 6, 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, L. Branen-Ahumada, J. Bush, J. Davis, K. Fortunati, K. Frindell Teuscher, G. Garcia, T. Jacobson (Petaluma), D. Lemmer, D. Lukas, S. McGregor-Gordon, T. Melvin, G. Morre, J. Nieto, M. Ohkubo, A. Oliver (Petaluma), MJ Papa, N. Perrone, N. Persons, S. Rosen (Petaluma), T. Ruiz (Petaluma), E. Schmidt, I. Tircuit

ABSENT: S. Avasthi (no proxy), V. Hamilton (proxy K. Fortunati), J. Kremer (proxy N. Perrone)

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

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT - The Land Acknowledgement 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: G. Garcia

Open Forum G. Garcia.pdf

1. **G. Garcia**
G. Garcia expressed the challenges faced by the counseling department following the implementation of the new Banner system. Counselors reported that tasks previously completed efficiently, such as checking prerequisites, searching for courses, and building education plans, had become more time-consuming and less streamlined under the new system. Concerns were raised about manual prerequisite verification, disorganized course listings, delays caused by system lag, and the inability to add multiple semesters at once. These limitations increased student wait times, reduced counselor productivity, and affected the overall quality and timeliness of counseling services. Requested support in restoring key system functions and improving planning tools to better support academic standards, institutional effectiveness, and student success.

MINUTES

Minutes of April 29, 2026

Senator Lukas moved to approve the Minutes of April 29, 2026; Seconded. Approved by 25 yes, 2 abstentions, 1 absent.

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 (proxy N. Perrone)	yes	M. Papa	abstain
S. Avasthi	absent	D. Lemmer	yes	N. Perrone	yes
L. Branen-Ahumada	yes	D. Lukas	yes	N. Persons	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 to action. A Senator requested to move item #2 from consent. No opposition, items moved to Action.

REPORTS

1. **President's Report – J. Stover** President's Report

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the following:

- The ASCCC Non-Credit Institute was inspiring and insightful.
- The college's future depends on better serving vulnerable and underserved populations, including:
  - First-generation students
  - Students from non-English-speaking families
  - Non-credit students
- Expressed the need to improve and institutionalize pathways from non-credit to credit programs.
- Recognition was given to the amazing team that attended the Noncredit Institute.
- A Banner update will be given under reports today.
- Committee appointments are ongoing:
  - Contract faculty are encouraged to volunteer for committee service.
  - There are over 100 committee seats available.
  - Senators are asked to encourage constituents to volunteer.
  - Associate faculty have four committee seats available and are encouraged to apply.
- Officer elections for Vice President will take place today, with four candidates.
- Welcomed new members joining the body:
  - Senator Bunas
  - Senator Hsieh
  - Senator Stockburger
  - Senator Tran
  - Senator Wheeler
- Congratulated departing Senators:
  - Senator K. Frindell Tuescher
  - Senator D. Lemmer
  - Senator S. McGregor-Gordon
  - Senator G. Morre
  - Senator N. Persons

2. Student Equity Committee - D. Kingwill [Student Equity Committee](#)

L. Jay reported on behalf of D. Kingwill.

- The committee focused on providing recommendations for implementing the approved Student Equity Plan 3.0 (2025–2028).
- The work aimed to ensure compliance with state guidelines and alignment with institutional priorities.
- The committee reviewed student success, access, and retention data to identify equity gaps.
- Recommendations were developed for the following areas:
  - Successful enrollment
  - Completion of transfer-level math and English
  - Persistence
  - Completion
  - Transfer
  - Comprehensive educational plans
- A summary of recommendations and strategy themes across equity metrics was created to show how recommendations in different areas were interconnected.
- Examples highlighted under the completion metric involved:
  - Meeting student needs through data-informed class schedules
  - Guiding students through program mapping and comprehensive educational plans
- A key implementation strategy included integrating evening, online, and hybrid class options into mapping tools to better support working adults.
- The Student Equity Plan 3.0 Goal Areas and Implementation Framework is planned to be presented to Cabinet at a later date.
- During the academic year, the committee also:
  - Reviewed implications of the Banner rollout through an equity lens
  - Provided input on periodic equity data reports shared with campus stakeholders

- The committee expressed interest in continuing with the same membership for continuity.
- Future goals included:
    - More opportunities to review and discuss data
    - Updates from groups conducting student equity work
    - Discussion of support needs related to equity initiatives

3. **Faculty Equivalency** - V. Hamilton, L. Hsu [Faculty Equivalency]

   The Faculty Equivalency Committee oversaw faculty equivalency determinations in accordance with state regulations.
    - Responsibilities included reviewing equivalency requests, advising screening committees, maintaining records, and recommending determinations to the President and Board.
    - During 2025–2026, the committee reviewed 22 cases and recommended approval for 20.
    - The committee continued supporting hiring and screening processes and worked with HR to improve clarity and efficiency.
    - Continuing goals included:
        - Better education on equivalency requirements
        - Improved support for candidates and committees
        - Refinement of processes and resources

4. **Gen AI Taskforce - A. Garcia, L. Jay**

   L. Jay reported on the following:
    - A 43-member Generative AI Task Force was formed with representatives from faculty, classified staff, administration, and students.
    - The group focused on:
        - Teaching and learning
        - Ethics and Equity
        - Workforce and technical operations
    - Major work included:
        - Conducting a District-wide AI survey
        - Reviewing AI policies at other community colleges
        - Helped develop a draft responsible AI use procedure
    - The task force completed significant work on 3 of its 10 charge items.
    - Progress was slowed by a late start, the committee's large size, and scheduling challenges.
    - A one-year extension through 2026–2027 was requested to complete the remaining work.
    - Next year's priorities included:
        - Academic integrity standards
        - Student and instructional guidance
        - Professional development
        - Final policy recommendations: The task force requested members to return to support continuity.

5. **District Technology - A. Pulos** [District Technology]

   A. Pulos is unable to attend the meeting to deliver the District Technology Committee report. The Chair asked if there were questions on the report that could be conveyed. No questions were brought forward.

6. **IDEAA Taskforce - N. Perrone** [IDEAA Taskforce]

   N. Perrone reported on the following:
    - The task force first convened in September 2024.
    - Progress was delayed due to the results from the National Assessment of Collegiate Campus Climates survey were not received until spring 2025.
    - The committee spent the past year reviewing survey data and identifying key campus issues.
    - Key student-related findings included:
        - Need for improved onboarding and student belonging
        - Greater emphasis on racial literacy and learning exposure
        - Development of cultural crisis response protocols

- Key staff concerns included:
  - Decision-making and communication transparency
  - Inclusive participation and structured engagement
  - Professional development and workplace belonging
- Faculty-related themes included:
  - Onboarding and retention of faculty of color
  - Equity-minded syllabus practices
  - Racial literacy and culturally responsive teaching
  - Organizational restructuring during the review period affected decision-making and implementation planning.
  - The task force requested a one-year extension to continue analyzing data and developing recommendations.
- Future work will include:
  - Using survey data to guide workplace culture strategies
  - Addressing fatigue related to organizational change
  - Comparing results with a future 2027 survey to measure progress
  - Transitioning to a tri-chair leadership model
- The extension request was presented to the College Council for consideration.

INFORMATION

1. Banner Implementation Update 6 May 2026 *including presentation from 29 April 2026*

   R. Holcomb provided a Banner update:
   - An updated Banner rollout and implementation update was shared via email and posted on the student information system website.
   - Recent updates focused largely on Canvas shells for instructors teaching summer courses.
   - A prominently placed web form was added for faculty to submit Banner training needs and feedback.
   - About 16 responses were received, and the feedback was being used to improve training resources and support materials.
   - Upcoming resources included a step-by-step training video on emailing students through Banner.
   - Additional instructional materials were being developed to help faculty use Banner more effectively.
   - The curriculum office was working to finalize and correct the fall schedule to meet the scheduled publication date of May 12, 2026.
   - Significant attention and effort were being directed toward schedule preparation and Banner implementation support.

   L. Beach provided an update on the following:
   - Planned Banner and Canvas integration dates were shared:
   - Summer Canvas course shells planned for the week of June 1
   - Fall Canvas course shells planned for the week of June 15
   - Beginning the week of June 1, Banner would officially integrate with Canvas, allowing enrollment changes in Banner to automatically update in Canvas.
   - Faculty who wanted to prepare courses before integration could request Canvas sandbox courses to build content in advance.
   - Instructions and videos were being provided to help faculty transfer content from sandbox courses into official Canvas courses.
   - Special accommodation available for early-start summer courses:
   - Canvas courses could be created early upon request
   - Student enrollments would remain static until Banner integration became active
   - The new Banner waitlist process was reviewed:
   - Waitlisted students were no longer considered officially enrolled
   - Students on waitlists would not have access to Canvas courses
   - Faculty and staff could not manually add waitlisted students to Canvas due to FERPA regulations

   The following questions were raised:
   - Copying content from old Canvas courses into new Banner-linked courses

- Retention and archiving of legacy grade and course data

A procedural question was raised regarding the action item process.
It was noted that action items were scheduled to occur after the elections.
The scheduled break time was identified as 4:15 p.m.
A Senator reviewed that the meeting was running approximately 12 minutes ahead of schedule.
It was estimated that allocating five minutes to each consent item would put the meeting in two minutes overtime.
The Chair asked if there was any opposition to proceeding in the proposed order. No opposition.

CONSENT *(both items moved to Action Agenda #1 and #2)*

ACTION

1. Does the Academic Senate wish to recommend $30 as a "low textbook cost" standard as per new guidelines from the state.
   Support Documents Include:
   - **Resolution passed 21 April 2026: Recognition of Course Sections with Low-Cost Course Material Options in the SRJC Online Schedule of Classes**
   - **April 21, 2021 Academic Senate minutes**
   - **XB12 Instructional Materials Cost Document**
     - A Senator stated that the $30 threshold was too low based on most reviewed materials.
     - Many resources discussed a $50 price point, originally referenced from 2021 guidance.
     - Concerns were raised that inflation since 2021 made both $30 and $50 thresholds less reflective of current textbook costs.
     - A Senator stated that calculus textbooks cost about $45 direct and $55 through the bookstore.
     - Concerns were expressed that a $30 threshold would exclude many viable instructional resources across disciplines.
     - A Senator suggested that the item be revisited in a fuller discussion during the fall rather than moving forward immediately.
     - Concerns were raised that acting quickly could create future inconsistencies if thresholds needed to be revised after approval.

   Time expired on this item. This will be brought back on a Fall agenda.

2. **Resolution in Honor of President Emeritus and Senator N. Persons**
   The ASEC Committee presented Senator Persons with a Resolution in honor of her retirement.

BREAK Senators, current and future, took a group photo with a staff photographer.

ELECTIONS (ASEC Officer: Vice President Candidate Statements) Ballots will be paper-based, and voting will take place in the Senate Chambers and in our SRJC Petaluma location. Election Taskforce Senator Members V. Hamilton, T. Melvin, and N. Perrone will confirm the results of the election for the body.

a. **ASEC Ballot Template Sp26 Elections**
b. **Elections Taskforce Certification Report**

- The Chair reviewed the voting process for Vice-President. The ballots were collected by Election Committee Members, Senator Melvin, Senator Perrone, and Senator Jacobson (Petaluma).
- Ballots have been collected, and the committee members have moved to a separate room to tabulate the votes.
- The meeting was called back to order.
- The Chair thanked everyone that ran for Vice-President. With a majority of the vote, Senator Ohkubo has been voted in as Vice-President. In the Fall, elections will be held for Executive Secretary which Senator Ohkubo has vacated.

ACTION (continued)

DRAFT

3. [Expanding Faculty Fund for Advanced Studies to Associate Faculty] (FFAS) *A motion and second to approve the recommendations a. and b. below was made on 29 April 2026. The item was tabled after reviewing "**ARTICLE IX: CHANGES TO BYLAWS, Section 1:** Changes or additions to the Bylaws will be placed on the agenda at two meetings in succession. Bylaws changes may be adopted by the Senate at the second or subsequent meeting and require a two-thirds vote."*
    - **a.** **Recommending the following changes to the Bylaws (link here)** as per Article IX, Section 1 of the Academic Senate Bylaws.
    - **b.** Recommending the referral of the wages and working conditions to AFA and the District.
        - The Chair reviewed the motion was left on the table to approve recommendations A and B. This item is before the Senate for a second time and requires a two-third vote to pass. No further discussion. Approved by 27 yes, 1 absent.

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 (proxy N. Perrone)	yes	M. Papa	yes
S. Avasthi	absent	D. Lemmer	yes	N. Perrone	yes
L. Branen-Ahumada	yes	D. Lukas	yes	N. Persons	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				

4. **Does the Senate wish to accept this updated recommendation from the Faculty Professional Development Committee (April 23rd): *to adopt the Vision Resource Center as an avenue for faculty to access statewide PD opportunities and conversations.*** Additional detail in support of recommendation can be found here.
Senator Bush made a motion to accept the updated recommendation from the Faculty Professional Development Committee to adopt the Vision Resource Center as an avenue for faculty to access statewide professional development opportunities and conversations; Seconded. Approved by 27 yes, 1 absent.

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 (proxy N. Perrone)	yes	M. Papa	yes
S. Avasthi	absent	D. Lemmer	yes	N. Perrone	yes
L. Branen-Ahumada	yes	D. Lukas	yes	N. Persons	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				

The Chair invited A. Foster to the podium and recognized her for extensive service, commitment and significant contributions to the college community.

5. **Does the Academic Senate endorse this *Proposal for Pilot Consultation Process Between the Academic Senate and AFA (linked here)*?** This proposal was developed in consultation with AFA President(s) and Chief Negotiator and the Academic Senate Executive Committee (ASEC).
Senator Persons moved to approve the item as written; Seconded. Approved by 27 yes, 1 absent.

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 (proxy N. Perrone)	yes	M. Papa	yes
S. Avasthi	absent	D. Lemmer	yes	N. Perrone	yes
L. Branen-Ahumada	yes	D. Lukas	yes	N. Persons	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				

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DISCUSSION

1. **Establishing an Honors Transfer Program at Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC).** *Does the Academic Senate wish to endorse the two recommendations of the workgroup as previously presented:*
    a. Recommend that SRJC move forward with the creation of an Honors Transfer Program (HTP).
    b. Recommend an SRJC HTP meet the requirements of the Honors Transfer Council of California (HTCC) and UCLA Transfer Alliance Program (UCLA TAP)

    Support Documents Include:

    i. Honor's Program Workgroup Report
    ii. Honor's Program Workgroup Slide Deck
    iii. Honor's Program Full Research Report

    The Chair reviewed this is the first time this item has been a discussion item; the Senate has heard a previous extensive report at a previous Senate meeting.

    - A Senator reported seeing this as beneficial to our students.

    Senator Tircuit made a motion to move this item to Action; Seconded. 27 yes votes, 1 absent.

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 (proxy N. Perrone)	yes	M. Papa	yes
S. Avasthi	absent	D. Lemmer	yes	N. Perrone	yes
L. Branen-Ahumada	yes	D. Lukas	yes	N. Persons	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:

- Senator expressed support for the proposal and its potential value for students and requested the potential costs be included when the item is brought back to action.
- Concerns were raised about program costs during a time when existing programs were struggling to secure funding and resources.
- Senator reported the cost is $200 per year to participate in the Honors Transfer Account statewide
- Potential release time concerns
- A committee would need to be formed to determine the program's parameters and local implementation decisions.
- Requirements for participation included dedicated counseling support and faculty coordination release time, both of which would involve negotiated workload considerations.
- Concerns were raised about the difficulty of negotiating new release time during an ongoing multi-year restructuring process within the district.
- Senator acknowledged that the Senate could still express support for the overall concept of the proposal.
- It was proposed that additional discussions take place with relevant individuals to develop a broad cost estimate for presentation at a future Senate meeting.

The Chair gave closing remarks as it is the last Senate meeting of the year. Reflected gratitude for the opportunity to lead the group, appreciation for the executive committee and Senate members, and optimism about continuing in the leadership role over the next two years.

ADJOURNMENT 5:00 p.m.

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