Evergreen Valley College

Academic Senate Minutes

Tuesday, October 20, 2026
Mishra Conference Room

Present: David Hendricks, Tina Iniguez, Henry Estrada, Juan Gil, Melissa Hornstein, Nancy Lin, Grace Estrada, Alessandro Bailetti Saez, Binh Vo, Laura Garcia, Sravani Banerjee, Rahmon Pashtunyar, Fahmida Fakhruddin
Absent: Eric Narveson, Judith Girardi
Guest(s): VP Dickerson, Sylvia Min, Joyce Lui, Andrew Takimoto, Kelly Nguyen-Jardin
Zoom: Tejal Naik

I. **Call to Order –** 3:02 pm

II. **Adoption of Agenda -** Alessandro (1st), Sravani (2nd), unanimously approved.

III. **Approval of Minutes** from October 6, with amendments – Henry (1st), Fahmida (2nd) approved with Alessandro abstaining.
- Update 3rd bullet of Distance Education report to read - The DEC requests Academic Senate's help and support in reviving the AI workgroup and creating a cross functional AI workgroup.
- Update 4th bullet of ACC report – Reviewed to Approved and divisions to revisions. Added Adrian Lopez as Student Trustee and Joseph Barrajas as ASG Senators.

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.
- Rahmon raised a concern from Associate Faculty regarding the lack of communication and implementation of the Early Alert process this semester. Opportunities to support struggling students may have been missed

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

1) **All College Curriculum**: Laura Garcia
   - UDL rubric for catalog descriptions was finalized.
   - COR areas continue to be reviewed.
   - We are updating the ACCC Handbook
   - It was decided not to further explore how to assign disciplines as we move to a new curriculum management system.

2) **AB 928:** Laura Garcia - no report.

3) **AB 1111:** Laura Garcia
   - Most Phase 2B Common Course Numbering program revisions have been completed.

4) **Universal Design Learning (UDL):** Laura Garcia

- CAST-led UDL training scheduled for November 13 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm for Curriculum Committee members and select campus partners.

5) **Student Learning Outcomes:** Rahmon Pashtunyar
   - Approximately 145 courses were taught in the last 2 years that we need data from. 30 active reports were sent back and are actively being worked on.
     - Deans will receive updated reports regarding outstanding assessments.
   - The November 13 SLOAC meeting will be moved to November 20.
   - PLO assessment process revisions remain a priority, with plans to bring recommendations to the Academic Senate.
   - Reminder: PLO assessments are due November 1.

6) **Guided Pathways:** Tina Iniguez
   - Annual goals were established with a focus on Pillar 1.
   - The catalogue went live. Program MAPS are expected to go live soon; faculty were asked to review maps for accuracy.
   - Discussion was held regarding consolidating evening classes into centralized campus locations to improve access to student services and enhance safety. Faculty were asked to obtain department feedback.
     - VP Dickerson will provide data on evening classes.

7) **Credit for Prior Learning (CPL):** Juan Gil
   - Work continues to expand CPL opportunities and establish processes for veterans and other students.
   - Faculty compensation for CPL will be under discussion for the next Senate meeting.
   - Will follow up with the Dean of Counseling regarding counselor support and a CPL counselor.
   - Next CPL Committee is meeting scheduled for November 19.

8) **Distance Education (DE):** Tejal Naik - no report.

9) **College Budget:** Henry Estrada
   - No resolution on chair or co-chair situation.
     - Dave encouraged Budget to pursue the co-chair structure through College Council, as they granted permission for CTC to use this model as they looked at revising their current handbook.
   - VPAS gave members an overview of the district's basic-aid funding model and the need for improved allocation processes.

10) **District Budget:** Henry Estrada and Eric Narveson - have not met.

11) **Institutional Effectiveness:** Fahmida Fakhruddin
   - Reviewed student success trends; 2025-26 rates rose to 78.1% after several years in the low 70% range.
   - Discussed 2026-27 institutional standards and stretch goal recommendations.
   - Added mentor responsibilities to the Program Review Handbook.
   - Program Review deadline: December 1, with support sessions continuing through November 30.

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

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

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

15) **College Council:** Dave Hendricks
- SEM update provided; two certificate programs in development.
  - Community Service Officer and Public Health Aide pilots planned for Fall 2027.
- Educational Master Plan work underway. The faculty team is being assembled, including STEM representation. Additional Business and Workforce Development faculty representative being recruited.
- CTC Bylaws for co-chair model was discussed.

16) **Chancellor's Advisory Committee:** Tina Iniguez
- Will meet next week.
- After some research Tina found the Committee name was changed sometime last year, but with the same purpose and charge.

17) **District Academic Senate: David Hendricks**
- The committee had a first reading of proposed changes in by-laws. Mostly focused on change in the term of presidency. To be discussed further in Discussion, item E.

18) **Professional Development:** Sylvia Min
- Faculty are hosting a Decoding Propositions event covering the 14 Ballot Measures next Monday, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm, LA Patio.
- The Professional Development funding process was updated and simplified. Faculty are encouraged to apply for funding.
  - New three-step process: application, Concur, reimbursement.
  - Eligibility and funding requirements were clarified.
  - Unused funds may be reallocated.
  - Associate faculty with SRP is now eligible for up to $1,200.

VI. Academic Senate President's Report

- Faculty Hiring Prioritization Committee working to streamline hiring processes.
  - Working with IEC and reviewing ways to better align program review data with hiring needs.
  - Exploring a spring request process for unexpected faculty vacancies.
  - Discussion emphasized separating replacement hires from new faculty positions. General support for automatically replacing retired or vacated faculty positions.
  - Concerns raised about ongoing unfilled faculty vacancies.
  - Accreditation positions should not be part of the prioritization process; Nursing and Auto.
  - Alessandro to draft a resolution encouraging leadership that in case of retirement those positions be filled without impacting the faculty hiring prioritization process.
- Dual Enrollment Director position added to improve oversight and build relationships with faculty.
- Reminder of transition in spring from MFA to Microsoft Authenticator.
- Faculty are encouraged to submit bookstore and OER/ZTC materials on time. Optional versus Required is important for vouchers as Optional cannot be used for vouchers.
- At the Board of Trustee meeting the need for consistent AI policies and campus guidelines was discussed.

VII. Academic Senate Vice President's Report

- Feedback requested on proposed District Senate Bylaw changes, including two-year terms and no proxy voting.
    - If the two-year term is approved, should it start now, or with the next incoming term.
- Reminder: High School Counselor Day is November 20. Faculty is encouraged to participate in tabling, tours, and department outreach activities.

VIII. Consent Items

A. SLOAC, Classified Representative - Vanphuong Nguyen

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

A. Accreditation Midterm Report – VP Dickerson
- Midterm Accreditation Report is in progress; completion targeted for Spring 2027, with a goal to be on the Board Doc in the Spring. The report is 11 pages, 4 sections.
- This report covers continuous improvement, student achievement, learning assessment, and self-study preparation.
- IEC will review first, then to the Academic Senate, with the English Department providing a final editing review.
- Board approval is required prior to submission. Both colleges will present on the same day.

B. Curriculum Pause – Laura Garcia
- Curriculum pause discussed due to transition from CurriQunet to Coursedog. Curriculum updates must be launched by November 10 to meet transition timelines.
- The goal is to complete curriculum work by March to allow data export and migration.
- Upcoming Senate action is expected to formalize the November 10 curriculum deadline.

C. Proposed AP4810: Burden-Free Access to Instructional Materials – Henry Estrada
- EVC is being considered for the Seal of Excelencia, a national recognition.
- A committee was formed to draft a burden-free instructional materials policy, which is under development. The policy encourages OER and low-cost materials while preserving academic freedom.
- Senate feedback is requested on the draft policy with further discussion on implementation and compliance planned.

D. Program Review Data - Joyce Lui
- EVC Program Review reports are available on the Insights dashboard. Reports include success, enrollment, demographic, and effectiveness. Data is unweighted.
    - Privacy protections suppress small data groups.
    - Technical difficulties over the summer caused issues with correct data.
    - Data validation and reporting improvements have been completed, with math and English being hand calculated against data results.
    - Ad hoc data requests remain available.
    - Additional reporting tools are in development.

E. Senate By-laws Update – Dave Hendricks
- Please review the draft Senate By-laws that were sent out. Do we want to change the bylaws and how the executive team terms are handled, if so, how would it look.

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

A. Facilities Staffing Shortages and Campus Impact - Alessandro Bailetti Saez
- Custodial staffing shortage is impacting campus operations, with staffing at least 5 short due to leaves and retirement.

- Existing staff are covering additional workloads and told to focus on garbage and not tidiness.
- Faculty are encouraged to be patient with facilities requests.
- Senate to explore support and advocacy for additional staffing, with Tina talking to CSEA.
    - The language test is a barrier to hiring.

B. Stand Alone Courses Out of Compliance – Grace Estrada
- Compliance challenges linked to the 19 departments without full-time faculty.
- Senate guidance requested on handling outdated courses.
- Accreditation and compliance concerns were noted as well as impacts to Program Review.
- There is a need for a formal process.
    - The pay of 4 hours per course is too low for Associate Faculty to want to cover.
    - Can we find full-time faculty to get an FSA or have City Faculty assist.
- Further discussion is needed.

C. Proposal on Delayed Course or Program Submissions – Grace Estrada and Laura Garcia
- Grace shared the current Course Review Process Workflow.
- Delays impact Board and Chancellor's Office timelines.
- Most faculty comply, but a small number of late submissions create significant workflow challenges. Faculty receive support and often only need to complete the final launch step.
- Curriculum Chair is asking for Senate approval for the following:
    - Setting proposal launch deadlines and sending reminders.
    - Allowing the Curriculum Chair to launch proposals if not submitted within three business days of the deadline.
- Will move to Action for the next Senate meeting.

D. Teleconferencing Request Forms for Senate Subsidiary Committees – Dave Hendricks
- Discussed a draft teleconferencing process for Senate subcommittees which was shared with Senators for review prior to the meeting.
    - Approval would be renewed every six months.
    - Clarified that members may still attend meetings in person even if they initially selected the Zoom option.
    - Reviewed disability accommodations and camera requirements.
    - Recommended minor form revisions for clarity.
    - To be brought back for further discussion and action.

E. Potential District Senate Bylaws Changes – Dave Hendricks
- Introduced potential District Senate Bylaw changes regarding term lengths, draft provided to Senators prior to the meeting.
- Discussed possibility of moving to two-year terms for continuity.
- Considered implementation timeline and transition options.
- Continued discussion deferred to a future meeting.

XI. Action Items

XII. Announcements & Recognitions

- Next Academic Senate meeting: November 3, 2026.

XIII. Adjournment – 5:01 pm – Laura (1st), Grace (2nd).