



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE

May 11, 2026

APPROVED

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Ben Adams, Russell Backman, Elijah Barnes (ASG), Mary Ellen Brooks, William Dalrymple, Heather Elliott Pham, Kelly Falcone, Jason Jarvinen, Scott Klinger Lawrence Lawson, Melissa Martinez, Vickie Mellos, Michael Mufson, Beth Pearson, Russell Sheaffer, Tanessa Sanchez, Karl Seiler, Nina Shmorhun, Nicole Siminski, Alyssa Vafaei, Ashley Wolters, Anastasia Zavodny

ABSENT: Alexandra Doyle Bauer, Gene Gushansky

GUESTS: Gheni Abla, Veronica Aguilera, Hossna Sadat Ahadi, Peter Chen, Erin Feld, Matt Grills, Mariana Guzman, Sherehe Hollins, Bill Jahnel, Cheryl Kearse, Adrienne Rae, Elena Villa Fernandez de Castro, Natalia Volodina

All votes are presumed unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Faculty Senate President, Elizabeth Pearson, in LRC-116 at 2:32 p.m. The meeting was also streamed live on ZOOM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sherehe Hollins, representing the Palomar Black Faculty and Staff Association (PBFSA) and Umoja students, read a letter of support for Richard Carr to continue as Umoja Coordinator. She detailed Carr's diligent work in building a community space that fosters belonging and excellence, specifically citing his coordination of climb nights, park cleanups, the Rites of Passage Ceremony, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities tours.

Hossna Sadat Ahadi also spoke in support of Professor Carr, emphasizing the importance of racial identity and representative leadership for African American students. She urged the Senate to vote with intentionality, keeping anti-racism and student success at the forefront of their decision.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gheni Abla, serving as the AI coordinator, announced a new partnership between the California Community Colleges and Google. This partnership, signed in September 2025, aims to bring Gemini and NotebookLM to colleges for free, providing career certificates and professional development for faculty and students. He proposed the creation of a task force to handle Canvas integration and suggested running a faculty cohort in Fall 2026.

Senator Adams shared sports highlights, noting that the volleyball team reached day two of the state championship tournament and the softball team won their Super Regional to qualify for the state championship tournament next weekend. He also mentioned upcoming home baseball games against Saddleback.

Senator Mufson invited everyone to the faculty dance concert featuring a diverse array of styles, including Brazilian, Afro-Cuban, and hip-hop.

Senator Sanchez provided a detailed report regarding a week-long Canvas hacking incident that caused significant disruption. She explained that while the hackers primarily extracted names and emails, phishing remains a major concern. She advised faculty to download their gradebooks and Canvas shells. It was noted that the blockage was nationwide and that the college is being lenient with student deadlines as the semester concludes.

AGENDA CHANGES

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC: Shmorhun/Sanchez

Faculty Senate to approve the minutes for May 4, 2026 as amended.

The motion carried.

Abstentions 1: Senator Falcone

ACTION

A. Committee on Committees - (Exhibit 1), Zavodny

MSC: Zavodny/Mufson

Faculty Senate to approve the results of the

ballot for the EEDCC Committee.

The Motion Carried.

EEDCC:

Krista Carraway (ESL), Faculty, at large (26-28)
Chase Way (Philosophy & Religious Studies), Faculty, at large (26-28)
Alia Barkzi (ESL), Faculty, at large (26-28)
Briana Stanley (Art), Faculty, at large (26-28)

MSC: Zavodny/Mufson

Faculty Senate to approve the results of the
ballot for all regular committee appointments.

The Motion Carried.

Academic Review Committee:

Patrick O'Brien (Counseling), Faculty, Counseling (26-28)

Behavioral Health and Campus Wellness Committee:

Heather Pham (Child Development), Faculty, Instructional (26-28)

Campus Police Committee:

Lisa Casas (ECE Lab School), Faculty, request for a counselor (26-28)

Career Education Committee:

James Colston (Fire Technology), Faculty CTE (26-28)

CALM Committee:

Alyssa Vafaei (Instructional Designer), Faculty, at-large (26-28)
William Carrasco (World Languages), Faculty, L&L (26-28)
Maryan Rizk (Biology), Faculty, MSE (26-28)

Curriculum Committee:

Candace Rose (Cinema), Faculty, AMBA (26-29)
Marisa DeLuca (Art), Faculty, AMBA (25-28)
Tina-Marie Parker (ESL), Faculty, L&L (25-28)
Gary Sosa (ESL), Faculty, L&L (26-29)
Stacey Trujillo (English), Faculty, L&L (25-28)
Rafaela Cervantes (World Languages), Faculty L&L (24-27)
Maryan Rizk (Biology), Faculty, MSE (26-29)

DE Committee:

Elena Chirkova-Sikora (Fashion and Cooperative Education), Faculty, at large (26-28)
Jonathan Sleeper (Earth, Space, and Environmental Sciences), Faculty, MSE (26-28)
Jacob Shiba (Trade and Industry), Faculty, CTE (26-28)

DFA Committee:

Marlo Willows (Behavioral Sciences), Faculty, Full-Time (26-28)

Anastasia Zavodny (EHPS, Business), Faculty, Part-Time (26-28)

Equitable Placement and Completion Committee:

Erin C. Feld (English, Humanities, and Reading), Faculty, Reading (26-28)

EESSC:

Chase Way (Philosophy & Religious Studies), Faculty, Senate appointed (26-28)

Evaluations Appeals Committee (EAC):

Krystal Rypien (Biology), Faculty (tenured), at large (26-27)

Juliane Van Houten (Nursing), Faculty (tenured), alternate (26-27)

Maryellen Ross (Nursing), Faculty (tenured), at large (26-27)

Faculty Position Prioritization Committee:

Heather Pham (Child Development), Faculty, SBS (26-28)

Anastasia Zavodny (EHPS, Business), Faculty at-large (25-27)

GE Subcommittee:

Gary Sosa (ESL), Faculty, Area 3 Arts, Humanities (26-28)

Sara Krause (Biology), Faculty, Area 5 Physical Science, Biological Science, Laboratory (for Phys/Bio Science course) (26-28)

Daniel Balaszek (Military Leadership), Faculty, CTE (26-28)

Infrastructure and Sustainability Council (ISC):

Krista Carraway (ESL), Faculty (Senate-appointed) (26-28)

Institutional Effectiveness, Planning and Fiscal Stewardship Council (IEPFSC):

Krista Carraway (ESL), Faculty, Part-Time (non-voting advisory vote; appointed by Faculty Senate) (26-28)

Jonathan Walker (EHPS), Faculty, Senate appointed (26-28)

International Education Advisory Committee:

Heather Hosaka (ESL), Faculty, at-large (26-28)

Ladylyn Dominguez (Counseling), Faculty, Counseling (25-27)

Learning Outcomes Council Subcommittee:

Jason Jarvinen (Workforce Development), Faculty at-large (26-28)

Learning Outcomes Taskforce:

Annette Squires (Math), Faculty MSE (facilitator for Math)

Noncredit Advisory Committee:

Wing Cheung (Earth, Space and Environmental Sciences), Faculty, MSE (26-28)

James Eighmey (Anthropology), Faculty SBS (26-28)

**Pride Center Committee to Combat Hate (PC3H):
Devon Smith (Sociology), Faculty, at-large (26-28)**

**Professional Development (PD) Committee: E
Erin C. Feld (English, Humanities, and Reading), Faculty L&L (26-28)
Steve Perry (CSIT), Faculty, MSE (26-28)**

**Sabbatical Leave Committee:
Elena Villa Fernández de Castro (World Languages), Faculty, Tenured L&L (26-29)**

**Student Equity Plan and Pathways Oversight Committee:
Cynthia Cordova (Counseling), Student Services Faculty Representative, appointed by Faculty Senate
(26-28)**

**Student Journey: Enrollment to Completion Committee:
Kristen Marjanovic (EHPS), Faculty, Instruction (appointed by Faculty Senate) (26-28)**

**Team Life Committee:
Mariana Guzman (Student Services), Faculty, at-large (26-28)
Weston Titus (Health/Kinesiology), Faculty, Representative from Kine/Athletic Department (26-28)**

**Tenure and Evaluation Review Board (TERB):
Katy Farrell (Library), Faculty, at large (appointed by Faculty Senate) (26-28)**

**Transfer Advisory Committee:
Hannah Nahm (English), Palomar College English professor (26-28)**

B. Curriculum Committee

MSC: Mellos/Sheaffer

Faculty Senate to approve the curriculum actions made during the May 6, 2026 Curriculum Committee meeting.

The Motion Carried.

C. 2026 Senate Seat Elections - (Exhibit 3), Pearson

MSC: Lawson/Klinger

Faculty Senate to confirm the uncontested seats to the Faculty Senate

**Full Time: Term Ending in May 2027:
Lawrence Lawson (ESL)**

**Full Time: Term Ending in 2029:
Jason Jarvinen (Coop Ed)
Russell Sheaffer (Media Studies)
Nina Shmorhun (ESES)
Ben Adams (Kinesiology)
Bill Jahnel (Poli Sci)
Patrick Obrien (Counseling)
Mercedes Tiggs (Behavioral Health/Counseling)
Ben Mudgett (Business/AMBA)**

**Part Time: Term Ending in 2028:
Marisa DeLuca (Art)**

**Part Time: Term Ending in 2028:
Will Dalrymple (English)**

**Part Time: Term Ending in 2029:
Gheni Abla (CSIT)
Krista Carraway (ESL)**

D. Umoja Faculty Coordinator Election- (Exhibit 4), Pearson

MSC: Shmorhun/Klinger

Faculty Senate to approve the results of the ballot for the Umoja Faculty Coordinator reassigned time position.

The motion carried.

Umoja Faculty Coordinator: Richard Carr

INFORMATION

A. ASG Report, Barnes

Elijah Barnes presented the ASG report announcing a mental health event scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, in the Student Union Quad.

B. Reassigned Time Position Reports – (Exhibit 5), Pearson

President Pearson presented a compilation of end-of-year reports from faculty in reassigned time positions, encouraging senators to review the extensive work completed.

Highlights included Nina Shmorhun's work on academic integrity resources, AI guidance, and the upcoming launch of a new faculty manual and SharePoint site. Gheni Abia was recognized for his AI newsletters and work on responsible AI use, while the curriculum chairs were noted for their efforts on Common Course Numbering and the transition from TOP to CIP codes.

Other reports covered the EDDCC committee's work following the deletion of BP3000, and professional development support for dual enrollment. The reports also detailed progress by SLO coordinators in aligning with Nuventive systems, the ongoing needs of the Umoja program, and the Pride Center's move to a new location.

C. DEIAA in Curriculum - Mellos

Senator Mellos provided a detailed update on DEIAA in the curriculum, explaining that new Title V changes require course outlines to advance equitable outcomes and ensure accessibility. While faculty are submitting DEIAA addendums, tech reviewers, who are not discipline experts, are finding it difficult to assess if these submissions truly meet pedagogical requirements. Tech review traditionally focuses on technical requirements like hours and textbook dates, leading to questions about whether a dedicated role should be created to provide guidance.

Discussion followed regarding the impact of adding another layer to the approval queue and the necessity of being mindful of faculty workload, with it being noted that previous additions to the distance education coordinator's role were made without increasing reassigned time.

Mellos planned to bring anonymized examples to a future meeting to show how faculty can effectively beef up their addendums.

D. Review 2025-2026 Faculty Senate Goals - (Exhibit 6), Pearson

President Pearson led a review of the 2025-2026 Faculty Senate goals .

Regarding enrollment, a work group met with outreach and public affairs to discuss visibility, discovering systemic challenges where departments struggle to get promotional flyers created by Creative Services.

In terms of institutional technology, although a resolution was passed, a requested website detailing employee technology access levels is not yet live.

It was also discovered that there are gaps in class note accuracy, finding many courses lacked Zero Textbook Cost icons or quality review badges. Faculty are urged to check their course listings and push back to their deans or the instruction office if inaccuracies exist.

E. Placement of Senator Committee and Chair Positions for 2026-2027 - (Exhibit 7), Zavodny

Senator Zavodny introduced the placement of senator committee and chair positions for the 2026-2027 academic year by noting that while senators who are leaving can ignore this item, it is critical information for those remaining on the Senate or just joining.

She explained that Exhibit 7 serves as a guide for specific roles reserved for senators on various committees, noting that the list is not exhaustive but contains essential appointments. An email will be sent to all senators to solicit interest and volunteers for these roles ahead of the next meeting to ensure everyone is situated as either a committee chair or a regular member.

It was explained that a dollar symbol indicates paid committees for Part time faculty, while a check mark signifies that she has already spoken with the current committee chair to ensure all information provided is up to date. Other notes in the exhibit are intended to be self-explanatory regarding the nature of each position.

A significant portion of the discussion focused on the opening of the Academic Standards and Practices chair. This specific role is a twenty percent reassigned time position that must be filled by a senator. President Pearson noted that the current chair, Senator Shmorhun, is vacating the role to step into a new position, and because no one currently serving on that committee has expressed interest in the chairmanship, it remains a major vacancy to fill.

President Pearson encouraged interested senators to reach out to the current chair for more information about the workload and expectations before the position is brought back for a final decision the following week

DISCUSSION

A. Reassigned Time Senate Pot and Positions- Pearson

The Senate considered the distribution of the Faculty Senate reassigned time pot, including an extra twenty percent to use as the Senate sees fit.

Senator Shmorhun proposed using this time for a dual enrollment faculty coordinator, noting that most dual enrollment courses are taught by part-time faculty who lack sufficient support and oversight. This idea was supported, citing numerous contract issues with dual enrollment.

There was a request that the time be continued for AI special projects. President Pearson noted that a decision must be made by next week for fall planning and mentioned that a poll would be sent out for summer emergency meetings to confirm hiring committees.

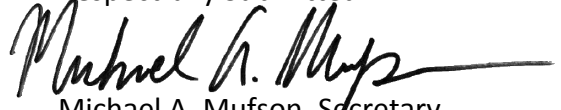
B. Eligible subsidiary bodies of Senate- (Exhibit 8), Zavodny

Tabled.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael A. Mufson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael A. Mufson, Secretary