



## OFFICIAL MINUTES

### I. Call to Order

ASP mitchell read the land acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 9:03am.

### II. Remote Member Attendance

Description: *Academic Senate will consider remote participation of members under the provisions of AB2449, if any.* None.

### III. Roll Call

Present: curry mitchell (ASP), Sean Davis, Jim Sullivan (President-Elect), Afifa Zaman, Jeff Murico, Julie Graboi, Ghada Osman, Kristine Arquero, Robin Allyn (CO), Brian Page, Sarah Gross, Sunny Cooke (ex-officio), Krista Warren.

Absent: Alexis-Tucker Sade.

Others present: Luke Lara, Hayley Swartzkopch, Daria Davis, Jennifer Streagle, Toni Sharp.

### IV. Persons Wishing to Address the Senate

*Members of the public shall have an opportunity to address the committee either before or during the committee's consideration of each item of business to be discussed at regular or special committee meetings, including closed session items.*

*Senator Tamura* welcomed attendees to the Community Learning Center (CLC) and read two statements submitted by noncredit faculty (M. Silva, full-time; K. Reyes, part-time). The statements advocated for equitable access for noncredit students to main campus programs and services, including intentional bridge-building to credit pathways. Faculty emphasized strategic invitations to campus tours, academic and career pathways, and career education showcases to support noncredit students in achieving postsecondary educational goals. The comments noted alignment with the institution's Strategic Goal #1. Due to time constraints, the Academic Senate President allowed limited additional time for the senator to conclude the public comment.

*Senator Warren* invited all to learn more about non-credit programs at the institution, sharing the impact that the CLC has on the region in terms of English as a Second Language (ESL), Adult High School and other non-credit programming. She shared that the district is the sole provider of Adult Education for Coastal – North County.

### V. Consent Calendar

A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 21, 2025

B. MiraCosta 2025-26 ASCCC Hayward Award nominees

*Description: The award honors community college faculty who demonstrate outstanding commitment to student learning, leadership on campus, and service to the profession. After review and discussion, the Faculty Awards Committee recommends the following nominees: Claudia Flores and Shawntae Mitchum.*

**Item B was pulled for discussion by CO Allyn. A Motion to approve Item A MSU (Graboi/Page) carried.**

**Dicussion:** Allyn provided context on the ASCCC's Hayward Award application process – out of five applications that were received – the Awards committee selected Shawntae Mitchum and Claudia Flores. Both nominees will be acknowledged and presented with certificates during the Spring Celebration.

### VI. Action Item, Second Read

A. AP 4236 Advanced Placement Credit [9:30; 10 minutes]

*Description: Small language adjustment to clarify that some credits may be transferred, rather than that they will be. Also clarified to suggest that students need to submit AP information to be considered.*

**A Motion to approve revisions MSP (Murico/Osman)/passed. Sullivan opposed.** Discussion: *President-elect Sullivan questioned the change and opposed the amended language, “leaving a little room for interpretation is okay.” Daniel Ante-Contreras mentioned that similar things came up in AAC. Specifics were left for the catalog – a common place for student access.*

B. BP 5500 Standards of Student Conduct

*Description: No changes*

**A Motion to approve BP 5500 MSU (Zaman/Page) carried.**

C. AP 5500 Standards of Student Conduct

*Description: Changes made to account for new state policies regarding the inclusion of hazing in this policy; references regarding Title IX added; some small changes made, especially in aligning language now used (unlawful rather than illegal)*

**A Motion to approve revisions of AP 5500 MSU (Zaman/Davis ) carried.**

D. AP 5520 Student Conduct Procedures [9:40; 1 minutes]

*Description: Some changes to language (such as inimical to harmful) to align with other policies; references regarding Title IX added; further explanation of the role of advisors within student conduct procedures given; clarification of process about appeals*

**A Motion to approve revisions MSU (Arquero/Murico) carried.**

VII. Action Item, First Read

A. [Propose Changing Academic Senate Meeting](#) to Thursday 1-3pm - mitchell

*Description: Changing the Academic Senate Meeting would establish Thursday afternoons as a time designated for 10+1 discussions and decisions. The Academic Senate would meet 1st and 3rd Thursdays, CPC would continue to meet 2nd and 4th Thursdays, and a 5th Thursday could be utilized for town-hall style discussions of salient 10+1 issues.* Discussion: Many concerns were raised regarding the day change, including affects to future recruiting of senators and current retention, equitable representation across FT and AF senators (*Cotnoir, Gross, Arquero, Tamura*), it was made clear that several senators would not be able to serve if the change was approved because governance is not priority over instruction. Another concern was the impact to the return of college hour on the main campus (*Murico*), Thursday is the desire day for this event and it would interfere with faculty’s ability to engage with students during a time of community. *Warren* wanted to know why the day change was proposed and shared that if will hurt AFs ability to participate.

*Sullivan* spoke in favor of periodically reexamining long-standing Senate practices and acknowledged the concerns raised by multiple senators. He noted that MiraCosta College is among the few academic senates that convene on Friday mornings.

*Senators Zaman and Cotnoir* recommended that the Senate survey the full constituency to gather feedback on how the proposed change might affect faculty members’ ability to serve. Both opposed advancing the item to an action stage prior to soliciting broader input. *Sunny* noted that the college conducts a governance survey every three (3) years in the spring and indicated that the Spring 2026 survey could incorporate the questions faculty wish to explore, allowing the issue to be addressed through an established assessment process. **A motion to extend discussion time by five (5) minutes (Warren) carried. A motion to survey the college community (Sullivan/Graboi) carried; Davis abstained.**

VIII. Information

A. Faculty Response to the Director of Employee Development & Training position [10:00; 15 minutes]

*Description: Faculty ask the following be stated in the posting for the position: At MiraCosta College, the programs for*

employee development & training and the programs for faculty professional development are managed through separate processes. The Director of Employee Development and Training will not have responsibility for the vision, leadership, development, coordination, management, organization, documentation, reporting, or budgeting of the faculty Professional Development Program and its committee, the faculty FLEX program, faculty professional development activities, or the faculty C3 Teaching and Learning Center, which will remain the responsibilities of the Academic Senate and the faculty.

*ASP mitchell* read a statement on behalf of faculty explicitly outlining the Senate's position regarding the Director of Employee Development & Training. The statement noted that, as Academic Senate President, he could not in good faith recommend that any faculty member participate on the hiring committee for this position at this time.

*President Cooke* referenced the formal assessment of professional learning included in the President's Report and acknowledged that improvements had been made in response to several concerns raised by faculty colleagues. She took responsibility for the Program Review's limited discussion on professional development, stating it was "less thoughtful that I would have liked." Cooke emphasized that the college does not intend to impinge upon faculty professional development, noting that there will be occasions for collaboration between faculty and administration, such as last year's 5th Friday AI event. Cooke further acknowledged that her office has not consistently or transparently communicated the evolution of professional development efforts following Achieving the Dream, including the PD Steering Committee, Program Review, and the development of the Director position.

Concerns regarding trust between faculty and administration were raised, noting that the relationship between Director and PDP Coordinator should happen organically (*Davis*). *Sullivan* stated that the person hired for the role will undoubtedly face skepticism from faculty, but appreciated Sunny's leadership and transparency.

**A Motion to extend conversation by five (5) minutes (Warren/Davis) was approved.** *HR VP Hayley Swartzkopf* – HR has incorporated wonderful feedback from faculty into the job description. Noting that they are willing to adjust the interview questions to meet the request of faculty where the language would be more appropriate. She also noted that there was some language in the description that will be removed based on Title 5 regulations such as the [director] co-chairing the PDP committee].

AP 7160 requires significant revision, as it has not been updated since 2010 and there is real opportunity to work collaboratively. *President Cooke and VP Schwartzkopf* are very open to working collaboratively with faculty colleagues. *ASP mitchell final remarks*, he appreciated ongoing discussion and adjustment to concerns. The current issue for Senate is the structure of the position in relationship with the vision for the college. **Senators took a four (4) minute recess after this, returning at 10:30am.**

## IX. Discussion

- A. Faculty Leadership - ASCCC Plenary Reports, Plans for Spring Elections [10:15; 30 minute] *Description:* *Attendees of the ASCCC 2025 Fall Plenary will share highlights from notable sessions and resolutions and will engage senators in discussion about how our local senate can apply takeaways from the conference.* Faculty leaders who attended the ASCCC Fall 2025 Plenary shared highlights from conference sessions and resolutions, engaging senators in discussion about potential local applications. Presenters noted that resolutions broadly focused on curriculum, technology, and student support, with particular discussion on counseling's role in educational technology, digital literacy pedagogy, and online proctoring tools. Additional sessions addressed implicit bias and the need for caution in interpreting research, as well as the expansion of community college bachelor's degrees, primarily in healthcare fields.

The ASCCC resolution process was reviewed, including the use of a consent agenda and the ability

to pull items for discussion or acclamation. Questions were raised regarding Common Course Numbering (CCN), with it noted that Chancellor's Office presentations on CCN templates were carefully managed. Luke Lara shared on leadership development and mentorship opportunities through ASCCC, including roles in AFILA which is an avenue Luke Lara advocates and heavily encourages participation in governance work. Reflections included consideration of applications for noncredit and career education faculty to serve in leadership positions and support of efforts inclusive of classified professionals such as Arielle Locke being invited and attending this year's Fall Plenary alongside senators.

#### X. Reports

- A. Academic Senate President – *MITCHELL* ([access report](#))  
Mitchell shared details about January's meeting; it will be scheduled as an afternoon meeting and possible combined townhall with Faculty Assembly. An invite for 11:30am-2:00pm was sent. The ending of AB2449 goes into effect December 31, 2025, therefore no longer will members of any Brown Act committee will be allowed to participate remotely as a voting member. Members may join a meeting remotely, but participation will not count towards quorum. An email was sent to all Brown Act committees by Arielle Locke in December with guidance and updates for agenda templates. ASCCC announcements were linked to Mitchell's report and senators and other participants were encouraged to review for the most up-to-date
- B. College Superintendent/President – *COOKE* ([access report](#))  
President Cooke provided updates on faculty hiring, enrollment, and ongoing professional development work at MiraCosta College. She announced that, following review of budget projections and institutional needs, the college will hire nine faculty for fall 2026 in disciplines prioritized by the Academic Affairs Committee and approved by the Academic Senate, including completing two previously unsuccessful searches. She reported strong spring enrollment growth, with headcount up approximately 15% and FTES up 10% compared to last year. President Cooke also shared an extensive historical overview of professional development efforts dating back to the Achieving the Dream initiative, outlining nearly seven years of assessment, facilitated dialogue, and collaborative work across faculty, classified professionals, and administrators. She emphasized that while faculty currently have multiple dedicated professional development roles and release time, other employee groups do not, creating an institutional gap. To address this, the college is moving forward with the creation of a Director of Professional Development & Training by repurposing an existing vacant position, aligned with a shared mission, vision, and values developed through the Professional Learning Steering Committee. She underscored that this role will not infringe upon faculty autonomy over professional development, but instead seeks to provide cohesive, equitable support for employee groups currently underserved. President Cooke affirmed the administration's commitment to transparency, shared governance, and continued collaboration with faculty, including making historical documents publicly available and inviting faculty representation on the hiring committee for the new director position.
- C. Classified Senate – *STREAGLE* ([access report](#))  
Jennifer shared that Classified Senate is working on preparing for the Year End Celebration Luncheon which will be held at El Camino Country club on Friday, December 19th from 12:30-4:30. This event is open for all MiraCosta Employees, not just Classified Professionals.
- D. Associate Student Government – *JAMES* ([access report](#))  
No report given
- E. Senator Reports – ([access report](#))  
No report given

XI. The meeting was adjourned at 11:03am.