

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES  
ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES  
October 22, 2024

ASM 24-6 DRAFT

A. Natarani, A. Carnevali, B. Baker, B. Hoffman, J. Garrison, M. Runnels, O. Bernal, P. Huynh,  
R. Vellanoweth, R. Vogel, S. Lopez, Y. Li

ABSENT

Chair Avramchuk convened the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

Senator Meyerott read the Tongva land acknowledgement.

1. 1.1 Chair's announcements:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.1.1 The Land Acknowledgement will now be read in the Academic Senate meetings as originally conceived per the Senate resolution passed on April 27, 2021. As part of the campus re-education about the land Acknowledgement, the resolution will be distributed again to all on the Academic Senate distribution lists. The Executive Committee encourages all entities on campus to follow the Guidelines in the resolution for the appropriate and respectful use of the Land Acknowledgement.

1.1.2 Please vote on the Academic Senate CSU Constitution Amendments ratification AS 3660 Amending the Constitution of the Academic Senate of the California State University to add three designated Lecturer Faculty positions. Voting closes today at 11:00 p.m. The ballot was emailed 10/18 to all Unit 3 employees.

1.2 Senator Ramos announced: CFA-LA has its assembly this past weekend and there are a lot of resolutions that I think it would be great for faculty to hear about. There is a general membership meeting this Thursday in the afternoon and everyone has received an invitation. Please RSVP. It's going to be in the Community Room in the Library and in addition, it will be on Zoom. There are many things that we want to share, but also as we are going into bargaining and we really need your feedback in the bargaining survey, especially around workload, issues with protecting our academic freedom, and protecting our curriculum with AI.

2. It was m/s/p (Meyerott) to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 8, 2024 (ASM 24-5)

APPROVAL OF THE  
MINUTES

3. It was m/s/p (Deshazo) to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE  
AGENDA

4. 4.1 Chair Avramchuk reminded the body that they were in the middle of a motion.

4.2 The Warter-Perez motion passed by acclamation.

4.3 The recommendation PASSED. (V: 36/4/4)

4.4 It was m/s/p (DeShazo) to forward this to the President ahead of the approval of the minutes. (V: 40/0/6)

PROPOSED POLICY  
MODIFICATION:  
DEFINITION,  
PHILOSOPHY, STUDENT  
LEARNING OUTCOMES  
AND CRITERIA FOR  
GENERAL EDUCATION  
REQUIREMENTS,  
FACULTY HANDBOOK,  
CHAPTER IV (24-1.1)  
*Second-Reading Item*  
Forwarded to the President

5. 5.1 It was m/s/p (Harris) with a substitute motion to delete the policy instead of modifying it. (V: 37/2/7)

5.2 Debate ensued.

5.3 The recommendation PASSED. (V: 35/3/7)

PROPOSED POLICY  
MODIFICATION:  
MINIMUM GRADE POINT  
AVERAGE IN GENERAL  
EDUCATION, FACULTY  
HANDBOOK, CHAPTER  
IV (24-2)  
*Second-Reading Item*  
Forwarded to the President

PROPOSED POLICY MOD-  
IFICATION: FACULTY  
RIGHTS, FACULTY HAND-  
BOOK, CHAPTER VI  
(23-10)

*Second-Reading Item*  
Forwarded to the President

PROPOSED POLICY  
DELETION: LIBRARY  
CUBICLES, FACULTY  
HANDBOOK, CHAPTER VIII  
(24-3)

*Second-Reading Item*  
Tabled

PROPOSED NEW POLICY:  
EXTENDED DEADLINE  
CONSIDERATION FOR  
GRADUATE APPLICANTS  
IN NCAA ATHLETICS  
PROGRAMS, FACULTY  
HANDBOOK, CHAPTER V  
(24-4)

*Second-Reading Item*  
Referred back to the  
Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSE POLICY MOD-  
IFICATION: POLICY ON  
ELECTIONS, FACULTY  
HANDBOOK, CHAPTER II  
(24-6)

*First-Reading Item*

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT

INTENT TO RAISE  
QUESTIONS

6. 6.1 It was m/s/p (Ford Baxter) in line 8 to delete COACHES, COUNSELORS, LIBRARIANS, AND . (V: 28/9/7)
- 6.2 Debate ensued.
- 6.3 The recommendation PASSED. (V: 40/1/6)
7. 7.1 It was m/s/p (Harris) to table to recommendation in order for the Library Subcommittee to revisit it. (V: 37/3/3)
- 7.2 A discussion was held regarding tabling an item.
8. 8.1 Debate ensued.
- 8.2 It was m/s/ (Porter) in line 6 to delete STUDENT ATHLETE and insert WHO ARE ATHLETIC RECRUITS after "APPLICANTS".
- 8.3 Debate ensued.
- 8.4 The Porter motion failed. (V: 15/19/7)
- 8.5 Debate ensued.
- 8.6 It was m/s/p (Wells) to return this recommendation to the Educational Policy Committee. (V: 40/1/4)
9. It was m/s/ (Wells) to approve the recommendation.
10. None.
11. 11.1 Chair Avramchuk provided the following response from Linda Lopez, Director of Financial Aid to Senator Porter's intent to raise questions from the meeting of September 24, 2024 (ASM 24-4):  
As we respond to the concerns, please keep in mind that the FAFSA Simplification project for the 2024-25 aid year caused significant delays and much heavier demands on Financial Aid (FA) offices across the nation. We were able to successfully award aid and allow students to enroll if their awards were still pending. We made every effort to support students experiencing frustration with the new FAFSA form.  
**Staffing:** We are prioritizing the recruitment of additional financial aid personnel to mitigate response times and improve overall accessibility. Currently we have several vacancies we are attempting to fill.  
**Dedicated Contact Methods:** Due to high volume of inquiries, we established specific channels for inquiries on the FA Website and set clear response time expectations. – FA Advising Request, FA Email  
**Resource Workshops:** Since March 2024, we doubled the number of informative FA Drop-In Workshops designed to assist students on financial aid processes. The sessions provided a platform for real-time questions. All students were invited to attend. Workshops were promoted on FA Website and via email.

INTENT TO RAISE  
QUESTIONS (continued)

**Ongoing Professional Development for Staff:** Financial Aid staff receive continuous training to stay abreast of best practices and regulatory changes, equipping them to provide informed and effective assistance to both students and campus community.

**Enhanced public presence:** FA Director and FA Staff continuously attend public forums to gather student/campus feedback to ensure that we remain responsive to the needs of our students (i.e. Advising Forum, Associated Students Board Meeting).

**Long Term:** We are working on collaborations for financial literacy info for students focusing on non-FA specific information such as budgeting better use of existing technology. Improved/increased collaboration with student organizations and faculty outside of peak times in the aid cycle to better prepare all faculty and staff who support students through without expecting them to answer specific questions about actual aid awards. Additionally, in preparation for the next aid year, Cal State LA is participating in beta FAFSA so that we have more awareness and input on the issues that may arise with the ongoing FAFSA improvement project.

- 11.2 Senator Riggio (on behalf of the Cal State LA Faculty Policy Committee) announced her intent to raise the following questions:  
How much did Commencement ceremonies cost in Spring 2024 with use of the Los Angeles Convention Center? How does this cost compare with costs for having Commencement ceremonies on campus? Can Commencement ceremonies be held on campus instead of the Convention Center if costs are lower? Savings could then be applied to the Colleges to maintain opportunities for undergraduate students to engage in research, scholarly, and creative activities in 4990 (Directed Undergraduate Study) courses, and to restore other course cuts to academic Departments. Thank you.

12. The following questions/concerns were raised from the floor:

- Is the “pay first” policy still in place for students prior to enrolling in classes?
- There are staff vacancies in Financial Aid. Is the hiring freeze impacting Financial Aid?
- Deans were informed about the number of students who did not pay their tuition after the start of the semester. Were any students disenrolled due to not paying first? If so, how many were there and were they given additional time to pay?

Responses were provided by Margaret Garcia, Associate Dean, UGS/Director Enrollment Management and Claudio Lindow, Interim CFO/VP of Administration and Finance

13. It was m/s/ p (Baaske) to adjourn at 3:44 p.m.

QUESTIONS FROM THE  
FLOOR

ADJOURNMENT