



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION: LRC 250 COMMUNITY ROOM

Guests may attend on Zoom: <https://ccd-edu.zoom.us/j/84934648543> | Meeting ID: 849 3464 8543
Meeting documents are also available in the [AS SharePoint](#) (CCCD login required)

Mission: The Golden West College Academic Senate’s mission is to serve its faculty, promote the best interests of higher education, and to represent the faculty in campus, district, and state-level senate charges by carrying out the primary functions as delineated in the CA Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 53200, which includes both academic and professional matters, and consulting collegially with the local campus and district governing boards. For additional information on the Academic Senate and its mission, please visit the [Academic Senate for California Community Colleges](#).

Vision: The GWC Academic Senate represents all faculty in the shared governance process. We are deeply committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for faculty to express their diverse viewpoints and concerns while maintaining focus on curricular and professional activities. Our campus culture serves to express the collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, innovation, self-expression, and talent that our faculty invest in their work. The GWC Academic Senate will continue to focus on promoting excellence, access, opportunity, and inclusion on our campus and in our programs.

Please note: All GWC Academic Senate meetings are subject to audio and/or video recording at the Academic Senate’s discretion to maintain a record of the proceedings. Agendas and minutes will be archived online through the [Academic Senate’s SharePoint](#). (Employee log-in may be required to access links).

ACADEMIC SENATE ROLL CALL	
Bold = Executive Board ■ Strikethrough = absent ■ <i>Italics</i> = Zoom ■ Zoom guest = not counted towards quorum	
Jennifer Bailly, CCI Chair	Nikki Nguyen – Classified Senate (<i>non-voting</i>)
Amanda Best - Arts	Phuong Nguyen – Nursing/Health Professions
Pete Bouzar - Vice President Mathematics & Engineering	Teresa Nguyen – ELL/ESL/GED
Dawn Brooks - Performing Arts	Joel Powell - Social Sciences
Annamaria Crescimanno - Biological Sciences	Tiffany Ruggeri (Comm Studies) - Part-time Faculty At-large
Laura Duvall - Psychology	Samantha Sarmiento – ASGWC (<i>non-voting</i>)
Matthew Flesher - Kinesiology, Health Ed, Athletics	Matthew Shimazu - Physical Sciences
Sara Ghadami – Computer Science	Justin Smith – Vice President History & Education
Kate Green - IPD Chair	<i>Julie Terrazas</i> – Library
Damien Jordan – President Counseling & EOPS	Tammie Tran - World Languages & Sign Language
John Kasabian - Auto Tech, Digital Arts, Drafting	Aleksandra Uchlik - Business, Account, Marketing, Management
Heather Kelley - Communication Studies	Michelle Veyette (English PT) – Distance Education Coordinator (<i>non-voting</i>)
Theresa Lavarini - English	Derrick Watkins - Criminal Justice
Noah Levin – Liberal Arts & Culture	VACANT - Cosmetology

**** ACADEMIC SENATE MEMBERS – bring your laptop or other device for the ISER breakout session ****

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- A. Call to order – AS President Damien Jordan
President Jordan called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.
- B. Welcome Guests
 - 1. Meridith Randall, GWC President (1:05 p.m.)
 - 2. Sacha Moore, HSI Title V Grant Project/STEM Director (1:10 p.m.)
 - 3. Joel Powell and Harry Anderson, Umoja Coordinators (1:20 p.m.)
 - 4. Jeannette Jaramillo-Hernandez, Acting Academic Support Coordinator (1:30 p.m.)
 - 5. Jolynna Dang, Aspire Program Coordinator (1:40 p.m.)
 - 6. Lauren Davis Sosenko, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness
- C. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

1. Agenda – February 11, 2025. Request to amend the Consent Agenda to include Items 5-7. **MOTION** by VP Bouzar to amend the agenda as presented. Seconded by Senator Crescimanno. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.
 2. Minutes – [December 10, 2024](#). **MOTION** by VP Bouzar to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Senator Crescimanno. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.
- D. Announcements, Congratulations, and Appreciation
- Senators interested in attending the [ASCCC Spring Plenary](#), held April 24-26, 2025, in Irvine or virtual, should contact the Senate Office by February 25th to qualify for advance registration payment.
- E. Opportunity for Public Comment (*3 minutes per speaker*) - *Members of the public have the opportunity to address the Academic Senate on any item that has been described in this notice, before or during consideration of the item. We ask that you keep your comments to three minutes. Thank you.*

Instructor Jeanette Adame informed us that she met with SOMOS last week to discuss the availability of red cards. She created a document with translations of the red cards in all languages available on the website, which she’s happy to share. She plans to discuss the red cards further during her presentation to the AS on February 25th. President Randall added that the red cards are restocked in Financial Aid and available in five different languages for anyone, not just students, especially those concerned about immigration.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Appointment of the following faculty members to campus committees:

President Jordan requested a separate motion for the Faculty Hiring Search Committees. **MOTION** by VP Bouzar to approve item 1 and the Info Item of the consent agenda. Seconded by Senator Crescimanno. President Jordan informed the AS placed a call for a fourth member to the Ethnic Studies Faculty Hiring Search Committee and a special election resulted in Joel Powell receiving majority votes. **MOTION** by Senator Lavarini to approve the Faculty Hiring Committees to include Joel Powell. Seconded by Senator Kelley. Hearing no objections, both motions passed.

	FACULTY	DISCIPLINE	COMMITTEE	POSITION	TERM
1	Derrick Watkins	Criminal Justice	Academic Senate	Criminal Justice	2023-26
Info item	Michael Tran	Counseling	Planning Council	Transfer Center (Was moved from Faculty At-large to this new position)	Position based
FACULTY HIRING SEARCH COMMITTEES					
2	Max Brinkman-Marheine	Auto Technology	Automotive Technology Faculty Hiring Search Committee (FT Tenure-Track position)	Full-time faculty	Fall 2025 Hiring cycle
3	John Kasabian				
4	Mike Russell				
5	Ruth Calcanas	Ethnic Studies	Ethnic Studies Faculty Hiring Search Committee (FT Tenure-Track position)	Full-time faculty	Fall 2025 Hiring cycle
6	Francisco Najera (OCC)				
7	Jordan Stanton (OCC)				
Special election results	Joel Powell	Political Science		Full-time Tenured Faculty Member (4 th member)	

III. NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Full and Part-Time Faculty members are encouraged to nominate themselves.

Visit the [Academic Senate's Faculty Service Opportunities webpage](#) to view committee openings, review committee description, meeting information, and to submit your nomination. (PATHWAY: GWC Homepage > Quick Links > Academic Senate > Committees – Vacancies & Nominations)

A. Election of (1) Full-time Tenured Faculty Member to serve as the 4th faculty representative on the Ethnic Studies Faculty Hiring Committee. (Refer to consent agenda)

B. Call for current Spring vacancies and terms starting Fall 2025.

First call for committee nominations closes at 5 pm on Wednesday, February 19, 2025. If the position remains unfilled, it will remain open until filled. Nominations submitted by noon on the Friday before a Senate meeting will be included on the agenda for committee appointment. [Committee vacancies and nomination links](#)

President Jordan highlighted the significant turnover in committee memberships in 2025, with numerous AS positions opening for three-year terms, alongside the AS President and Vice President roles for two-year terms. He emphasized the opportunity for Senators to renew their terms and encourage their colleagues, including part-time faculty, to get involved in committee work and leadership positions.

- Academic Senate | Term: three years unless otherwise specified
 - President | 2025-27
 - Vice President | 2025-27
 - Arts
 - Auto Tech, Digital Arts, Drafting
 - Biological Sciences
 - Computer Science
 - Cosmetology | 2023-26
 - Liberal Arts & Culture
 - Mathematics & Engineering
 - Performing Arts
 - Physical Sciences
 - Social Sciences

- Council for Curriculum & Instruction (CCI) | Term: three years unless otherwise specified
 - Art | 2023-26
 - Auto Tech, Digital Arts, Drafting
 - Business, Accounting, Management
 - ELL/ESL/GED | 2023-26
 - Kinesiology, Health, Athletics
 - Part-time Faculty At-Large
 - Performing Arts
 - World Languages

- Distance Education Advisory Committee (DEAC) | Term: three years unless otherwise specified
 - Criminal Justice | 2024-27
 - ELL/ESL/GED | 2024-27
 - Kinesiology, Health, Athletics
 - Large Class Factor
 - Liberal Arts & Culture
 - Library
 - Mathematics & Engineering
 - Part-time Faculty At-Large
 - Performing Arts
 - Social Sciences

- Institute for Professional Development (IPD) | Term: three years unless otherwise specified

- IPD Chair | 2025-27
- Auto Automotive Technology, Digital Arts, Drafting | 2024-27
- Communication Studies
- Computer Science | 2023-26
- Cosmetology | Spring 2025
- Cosmetology | 2025-28
- Criminal Justice | Spring 2025
- Criminal Justice | 2025-28
- ELL/ESL/GED | 2023-2026
- Kinesiology, Health, PE, Athletics | 2023-26
- Library | 2024-27
- Mathematics & Engineering
- Nursing/Health Professions
- Part-time Faculty At-Large | Spring 2025
- Part-time Faculty At-Large | 2025-2028
- Psychology

- Planning Council
 - Faculty At-Large | Spring 2025
 - Faculty At-Large | 2025-27

- Classified Senate
 - Full-time Faculty At-Large | 2025-26

- College Technology Committee | Term: two years unless otherwise specified
 - DEAC rep | Spring 2025
 - DEAC rep | 2025-27
 - Library
 - Faculty At-Large

- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility Committee | Term: two years unless otherwise specified
 - Math/Science
 - Social Sciences/Liberal Arts & Culture/Psychology
 - Faculty At-Large (Preferably not from Math, Science, English, Counseling, Social & Behavioral Sciences since these areas are already represented)

- Institutional Effectiveness Committee | Term: two years unless otherwise specified
 - Faculty At-large

- Sustainability & Facilities Committee | Term: two years unless otherwise specified
 - Quadrant 3: Native Garden, LRC, GE, Lang Arts, Bookstore, Student Svs Ctr, Forum II, Music, Communications, Theater, Q3 Grounds & Parking
 - Quadrant 4: Math & Science, Forum I, Swap Meet Office, Public Safety, Nursing, Bldg. 26 (old CJ), Bldg. 33 (Annex), Administration, Business, RCJTC, Q4 Grounds & Parking

- Safety Committee | Term: two-years unless otherwise specified
 - Full-time Faculty At-Large

IV. GUEST REPORTS & UPDATES *(max 5 minutes per item; 5-10 minutes total)*

- A. ASGWC Report – Samantha Sarmiento, ASGWC Vice President of Student Advocacy (no report)
- B. Hiring updates – Meridith Randall, President (1:05 p.m.)
 President Randall shared a [flyer](#) that was distributed to the campus to guide how to respond to immigration customs enforcement (ICE) on campus. She emphasized that faculty could ask for IDs from anyone entering their classrooms and should contact Public Safety when needed. She also discussed signs for certain areas,

considering alternatives to make them more welcoming, such as indicating "classrooms are for students and instructors only."

President Randall informed that Dean Vu left the CJRTC at the end of January and VP Hicks is providing temporary oversight until Interim Director, Paul Garavan begins his duties later this month. Mr. Garavan is currently a part-time faculty member in the Criminal Justice department. Due to the rules concerning professional experts, President Randall informed that he was hired as a temporary full-time faculty member with release time. She clarified this is a limited-term contract and that he is not taking a full-time faculty member's position.

She provided an [update on the faculty hiring process](#) reporting that during the AS meeting in December, based on Senate prioritization, she presented four faculty hiring requests to the Chancellor for Automotive, Cosmetology, Ethnic Studies, and a Transfer Counselor. The first three were approved and states to have continued discussions with the Chancellor regarding the Transfer Counselor position, including the use of categorical funding to support it. Additional information is forthcoming.

- C. [Special Programs update](#) – Sacha Moore, HSI Title V Grant Project/STEM Director (1:10 p.m.)
Professor Moore reported on the HSI (Hispanic Serving Institution) Title V STEM grant emphasizing its purpose and goals. The grant aims to expand educational opportunities and improve academic attainment for Hispanic students, particularly in STEM fields.
- The grant's goals include improving student success, enhancing transfer rates, promoting financial literacy, and providing professional development for faculty.
 - One major focus is addressing financial barriers to student success, with workshops on topics like budgeting and investing. The HSI grant team has developed various programs, such as a peer mentor program and financial literacy workshops.
 - She acknowledged the uncertainty surrounding the Federal Government's recent actions but emphasized their commitment to serving the students.
 - Professor Moore highlighted the importance of collaboration between various departments and programs, particularly with Basic Needs, Raices, and MESA, to maximize student support and make the work sustainable.
 - They received a one-year extension on the grant, providing the team with more time to continue their work until 2027. She discussed the potential for seeking future grants to continue supporting these efforts.
 - Their work also focuses on data evaluation and institutionalizing successful initiatives. She noted they are actively working on refining their logic model to ensure sustainability. They are focused on collecting data to evaluate what is working, identify gaps, and determine areas for improvement.

Professor Moore closed by encouraging faculty and staff to get involved, attend events, and spread the word to ensure the sustainability of the HSI grant efforts.

- D. [Umoja update](#) and proposed [Syllabus Statement](#) – Joel Powell, Umoja Coordinator (1:20 p.m.)
Dr. Powell discussed the progress and future plans of the Umoja program:
- The Umoja program has seen significant growth, with the number of students increasing from 19 in Fall 2023 to 103 in Fall 2024. The program is supported by 14 dedicated faculty members and offers 22 courses across multiple sections. Efforts to track high-touch scholars—those who interact with the Umoja team more than twice a week—are proving beneficial, as these students generally have higher GPAs.
 - He stated the Umoja program supports all students, not just African American students, and that it is about providing all students with the same level of support. He encouraged faculty to try to connect with interested students, to refer them to the program, and requested their support of upcoming events and initiatives.
 - [The Black History Month events](#) on campus have begun and the program encourages more faculty and staff involvement. There are also opportunities for professional development, including the [A²MEND](#)

[conference](#), Summer Learning Institute training this summer, and Black Student Success Week. [SEAP funding](#) is available for faculty interested in Umoja and other equity-minded professional development.

- Dr. Powell presented a first reading of the proposed Umoja syllabus language which received the support from the Office of Instruction. Faculty that are part of an Umoja support class were requested to consider adding syllabus language to their syllabi. President Jordan informed that a second reading will be presented at the next AS meeting in addition to a formal vote on the AS Syllabus Checklist.

E. [Academic Success Center update](#) - Jeannette Jaramillo-Hernandez, Acting Academic Support Coordinator (1:30 p.m.)

Ms. Jaramillo-Hernandez provided an update on the services available this spring:

- The [Academic Success Center](#) offers free academic support, including 30-minute tutoring in subjects like math, English, economics, and accounting, available both in-person and online. Students with special needs may be eligible for additional time. The center provides math labs, writing assistance, English conversation labs, and various workshops. Resources such as study rooms, computers, printers, and free supplies are also available. The center is located on the first floor of the LRC and is open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. [Faculty may refer their students](#) if they notice a student who may be struggling and could benefit from their services.
- She informed on plans for a new name for the center, with recommendations from the student government. A soft launch will take place this spring, and an official launch will follow next fall.
- She aims to enhance the center's services by evaluating its impact on student success through assessments and feedback, focusing on improving processes, technology, and space for a welcoming environment. Additionally, she values faculty partnership and welcomes their feedback.

F. [ASPIRE update](#) – Jolynna Dang, Program Coordinator (1:40 p.m.)

Ms. Dang shared an overview of the program's mission and upcoming events:

- The [ASPIRE program](#) at GWC supports Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) students through cultural events, leadership development, and academic support. The program, led by Ms. Dang and Counselor Sabrina Nguyen, works with campus staff to host [events](#) like the Lunar New Year celebration and AAPI Month. Aspire offers resources such as career panels, resume-building workshops, and social events to engage students and promote cultural awareness.
- ASPIRE aims to provide tailored, culturally responsive support, career development, and mental health resources, while also focusing on leadership growth and engagement. Ms. Dang emphasized the value of collaboration with faculty and staff to enhance the program and reach more students. She encouraged faculty to promote ASPIRE events, collaborate on workshops, and attend events to support students. The program is funded by a three-year grant, focusing on cultural learning, counseling, career readiness, and student leadership.
- Future goals include expanding ASPIRE's visibility, strengthening branding, and offering more leadership opportunities through volunteer programs, clubs, and mentorship. Ms. Dang invited faculty and staff to connect with the program to help it grow.

V. UNFINISHED DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS *(max 5 minutes per item; 5-10 minutes total)*

A. Breakout session: [ISER, 2nd reading](#) – Lauren Davis Sosenko, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness
Academic Senate members please bring your laptop or other device for the breakout session.

Dean Davis Sosenko organized the Senators into smaller groups to facilitate the continued review of the ISER's Standard 2 Student Success and Standard 4 Governance and Decision Making.

- She reported the focus in this revision dated January 30th is on outcomes, in response to changes in ACCJC standards. Feedback from across the campus highlighted these outcomes, and they are now highlighted in green at the start of each standard. Evidence for some areas is still being gathered, and she is working on securing the remaining pieces, which will be marked in gray.
- The draft has involved over 20 contributors to ensure inclusivity, though the document might read inconsistently due to varying writing styles.
- Senators recommended more inclusive language to represent the entire student body, not just marginalized groups, and a need to highlight general campus-wide engagement.

- Faculty were encouraged to participate in the upcoming accreditation event and provide feedback on all sections, including the introductory portion that represents the college’s overall identity.
- Feedback is due by February 21, 2025 via this link: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8083040/GWC-ISER-Feedback> with a fast turnaround for the next revision.

VI. NEW DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS *(max 5 minutes per item; 5-10 minutes total)*

A. Role of AS in addressing systemic inequity and institutional barriers as it pertains to academic and professional matters - Acknowledgement * Accountability * Action

1. Call for Nominations: Academic Senate President and Vice President – Damien Jordan, AS President
 - [AS Bylaws – Eligibility](#) | Terms: 2025-27

President Jordan and VP Bouzar reported that the current AS President, Vice President, and IPD Chair are finishing their terms, and presented the election timeline.

- The AS Bylaws state that the President position needs to be confirmed first, so Vice President candidates know who they'll work with. However, if there is no nomination for the President position the election deadline would need to be extended which would impact the timeline for the other officers.
- There was a recommendation for VP Smith to consider running for President, but if he's not ready, that others should be prepared to step up. Support from past officers will be available to guide the new leaders.
- VP Bouzar recommended opening the election process to include nominations for both President and Vice President concurrently. It was stated that if a President is not appointed, it would place a larger expectation on the two Vice Presidents to assume the Presidential duties; in addition to assuming the duties of the CCI and IPD Chairpersons if those positions are unfilled. The need for a single person in the President role was emphasized, as shared leadership in this case may lead to confusion.
- **MOTION** by VP Bouzar to open nominations for the AS President and Vice President concurrently for two weeks, with an option for a Q&A if multiple candidates come forward. Seconded by Senator Lavarini. Hearing no objections, the motion passed. The Senate Office will place a call for nominations immediately following the meeting.

B. Other Agenda Requests

VII. STANDING DISCUSSIONS & ACTION ITEMS *(max 5 minutes)*

A. Program Review

VP Bouzar informed that the Faculty Prioritization Task Force is set to meet next week, with progress updates to be shared with the Senate for feedback. The Program Review Work Group will be reconvened.

- The goal is to finalize the faculty prioritization process by the end of the semester. Senators interested in joining the task force may contact VP Bouzar.
- For Fall 2025, there are updates to Program Review for student services and administrative services, which will focus on improving the understanding of student outreach, unique student services, and better support for students in need. Key areas of improvement will include tracking unduplicated headcounts, enhancing support for underrepresented students, and refining metrics like completing math and English in the first semester, improving in reach and confirming if students are receiving a Pell Grant or the Golden Promise.

B. AI (Artificial Intelligence)

President Jordan discussed adding AI as a standing agenda item for informational purposes and open discussions. He clarified that the discussions will be for informational purposes only, emphasizing the need to keep an open mind about AI's potential to improve processes and that various disciplines and students are already using it. The goal is to foster open discussions and share insights from professional development sessions.

- VP Bouzar shared his experience using NectirAI in his classes as part of the State Chancellor’s office pilot program. He encouraged faculty to consider participating in similar pilots.

- There was acknowledgment of the fast-paced development of AI and the need for ongoing discussions in the Senate. While some faculty may be hesitant about using AI in certain subjects, such as English composition, there's consensus that AI's rapid growth requires the Senate to stay informed and involved in shaping policies. The goal is to ensure the faculty's input is considered as District develops AI-related policies.
- Senator Watkins reported on AI-related scams and law enforcement efforts to combat them.

VIII. REPORTS & UPDATES *(max 3 minutes per report; total time 15 minutes (@ 2:45 pm)*

Electronic copies of written reports are due to the Senate Office by Thursday at 5:00 pm the week preceding the meeting for which the report is attached to the agenda.

- A. AS President's Report – Damien Jordan (no report)
- B. AS Vice Presidents' Reports – Pete Bouzar and Justin Smith (no reports)
- C. Council for Curriculum & Instruction (CCI) – Jennifer Bailly, Chair (no report)
- D. Institute for Professional Development (IPD) – Kate Green, Chair
Chair Green reported that the IPD's February 20th meeting was canceled due to Spring Summit. She encouraged faculty to continue applying for services but requested their patience since the approval process would be slightly delayed until the IPD reconvenes on March 6th.
- E. Distance Education Advisory Committee (DEAC) – Michelle Veyette, DE Coordinator
Instructor Veyette introduced herself and shared that she is currently working with the VPI on RSI support. She will be offering a breakout session at the Spring Summit and invited the faculty to attend.
- F. Union Update – Rob Schneiderman, CFE Union President, or Theresa Lavarini, GWC representative
Senator Lavarini reported that Coastline is participating in a pilot for Competency-Based Education (CBE), which allows students to demonstrate learning through skills rather than being bound by traditional classroom hours.
 - Students progress at their own pace and take tests or complete assessments to show proficiency.
 - The potential workload for faculty year-round is uncertain, and the program will begin in the summer with key dates this spring.
 - The Union's stance on CBE is of particular interest, as students can demonstrate competency at any point, moving beyond the traditional 16-week semester. This raises questions about the overlap between credit for prior learning and competency-based learning, which involves two components: assessing what students already know and evaluating what they learn moving forward.
- G. Special Reports (as requested by Academic Senate)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Move to Adjourn. Thank You! – Senate President
President Jordan moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 pm.

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Senate Scholarship Fund Balance: Endowed balance: \$7,417. Recommended 2024-25 scholarship: \$350
(Contact the Foundation Office to submit donations)
- B. Senate Sympathy and Salutations Fund – *(Senators may contact the Foundation Office to submit donations)*
- C. 10+1 Senate Purview
 1. Curriculum including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines *(rely primarily)*
 2. Degree and certificate requirements *(rely primarily)*
 3. Grading policies *(mutually agree)*
 4. Educational program development *(rely primarily)*
 5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success *(rely primarily)*
 6. District and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles *(mutually agree)*
 7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports *(rely primarily)*
 8. Policies for faculty professional development activities *(rely primarily)*
 9. Processes for program review *(rely primarily)*
 10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development *(mutually agree)*

Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate (*mutually agree*)