

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

OCT 24, 2024
2:20 P.M. - 4:15 P.M .
MC SEC –354

<https://wvm-edu.zoom.us/j/94677189943?pwd=L3DLYzJjT0R4ADQ2N2NWmMLMAWPUQT09>

Meeting ID: 946 7718 9943, Passcode: 248314

Also using Brown Act Teleconferencing option from 24196 Loma Prieta, Los Gatos, CA, 95033

Membership

[x] Joanna Sobala, AS President	[x] Christine Tuato’o, Creative Arts & Communication
[x] David Piper, Associate Faculty	[x] Max Sklar, Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
[x] Samir Magid, Associate Faculty	[x] Lauren Javier-Tolentino, AS Vice President, Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
[x] Daniel Arias, Bus. & Educ & Service Industries	[x] Helen Sun, Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
[x] Willy Kwong, Bus. & Educ & Service Industries	[a] Michele Hittleman, Counseling & Learning Services
[x] Lania Williams, Public Safety, Health & Wellness	[a] Theresa Lawhead, Counseling & Learning Services
[x] Brenna Wundram, Public Safety, Health & Wellness	[x] Priscila Moreira, ASG Representative
[x*] Matthew Johnston, People, Culture and Society	[x] Liz Bogatin-Starr, Administrative Assistant
[x] RaeAnn Ramsey, People, Culture and Society	
[x] Elaine Wong, Academic Services	
Guests: Jissel Alvarez, Jonah Isaac Pirnejad, Isaiah Tracy, Associated Student Government (ASG);	
*online and/or excused	

- I. Call to Order
Quorum met 2:20pm.
- II. Approval of Agenda
MOTION to approve Agenda as written. (S. Magid/R. Ramsey) (M/S/P) None opposed. Two abstentions. Passed.
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes (A)
MOTION to approve the October 10, 2024 Meeting Minutes as written (R. Ramsey/Christine Tuato’o) (M/S/P) None opposed. One abstention. Passed.

October 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes postponed to next Senate meeting.

IV. Oral Communication from the Public (3 minutes/person) (I)

NONE

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Senate on any matter not on the agenda. No action will be taken.

V. Information & Announcements (College & District) (5 minutes) (I)

Senator David Piper is requesting approved minutes for one Academic Senate meeting AY 2022-2023, date tbd.

Senate President Joanna Sobala: District Academic Senate (DAS) meeting is Thursday, Oct 31 at WV. Everyone is welcome to attend. Upcoming meetings: ASCCC Plenary Nov 7-9. No regular Academic Senate meeting that week. Senate convenes again November 14: Faculty Hiring Prioritization only. November 21 and December 5 are regular Academic Senate meetings.

VI. Unfinished Business

None

VII. New Business

1. Second Read: Mission College Academic Senate Constitution Amendment: Consideration of clarification/inclusion of ASG Representative vote (advisory or full) and ability to make and second motions -- 20 min (D/A)

Senate President Joanna Sobala: Article II, Section 1: Membership of Constitution says nothing about Associated Student Government (ASG) membership on Academic Senate.

In First Read Senate discussed ASG membership and constituents feedback about two possible amendments requiring a two-thirds vote to pass. Senate has tried to always have an ASG Representative but should have something formal in our Constitutional Charge and make clear what powers and rights the ASG Representative(s) have.

- Does the Senate want to have one or two ASG Representatives?
- Does the Senate want to have a vote for the representative and if so, what kind of vote, a full or an advisory vote?
- Should ASG Representative make and second motions?

Senate Discussion

Senate President Joanna Sobala, in the absence of Senators Michele Hittleman and Theresa Lawhead, read a memo with constituent feedback from Counseling and Learning Services.

- There was a bit of trend in one direction for two ASG Representatives, advisory vote rights not counted in final votes, and should have the ability to make and second motions.
- We're not trying to minimize student voice but Academic Senate is primarily for faculty voice with consultation with students.
- We don't see ASG or Classified Senate letting faculty vote on their issues and topics.
- Students may not have the full picture the way faculty do when voting on critical issues.

Priscila Moreira, ASG Representative, gave reasons why ASG Representative should have a vote on the Academic Senate.

- Students are the core of this institution and Senate decisions directly affect student lives, whether it's about classes, resources, or student services. When students don't have a vote, students feel left out of the decision. One example was the graduation time during exam week last year when students had no input.
- Voting promotes real collaboration and shared governance with everyone at the table, and having a vote on decisions, especially when students are one of the biggest groups impacted by decisions and choices made here. Decisions being made should consider the student experience more fully.
 - A full vote would be great, three other community colleges have a full vote. ASG is open to an advisory vote as well. And, ASG is in favor of making and seconding motions.

Senator David Piper: There is no real rationalization as to why ASG sitting in this body cannot vote and make motions and seconds. There is no real evidence that the student vote would harm any actions that the faculty takes on the Academic Senate. The student vote would be a change for the Senate and the Senate can benefit from the student vote and pave the path for other ASG Officers to make significant contributions. There is no foundation, no research, no background on why ASG should not have a vote on Senate.

Senate VP Lauren Javier-Tolentino: STEM Constituents responses are in Senators' meeting folder. In summary, STEM reached out to Classified Senate and they have two ASG Representatives with advisory voting rules. The number of ASG Representatives varies between one and two students. ASG Representatives are not permitted to make motions or second motions. An Agenda item provides an opportunity for ASG Representative to provide feedback and Classified Staff also asks if there's anything they can do to support students. It was fairly unanimous, Classified Senate only permitted an advisory vote and not voting rights.

STEM constituents: Majority is No on Representatives given the opportunity to make motions and second motions and should be limited to voting Senators.

Senator Max Sklar: Some of the fears that we're hearing is faculty also are concerned about not having a voice on campus. Faculty brought up graduation date in Senate and response was that College didn't think it would be problem. We're concerned that an ASG Representative full vote takes away more of the faculty voice. Math Dept is going under a huge amount of upheaval because of administrative decisions that are being made across the state without listening to math faculty. The general sense of faculty is we absolutely want to hear students but this is a body where faculty has some semblance of voice, and want to keep our voice as faculty with information from students.

If we had two ASG Representatives and they got full vote, they would essentially have the same amount of vote as an entire division. There is that kind of power in the decision making.

A full vote is not supported by our STEM constituents but an advisory vote is absolutely suitable.

Senator Christine Tuato'o: Most people in English said two representatives is fine. 100% advisory vote only. The majority said they were not in favor of ASG Representatives making motions or seconds to motions. There is concern about faculty voice being diluted.

ASG Representative Priscila Moreira: The Student Senate for California Community Colleges has an alternate

representative to have a full vote in the absence of the first representative and be one and not two votes, as an option. But ASG is also considering having two ASG Representatives with advisory votes.

Senator David Piper: I think we would be better served if ASG Representatives have a full vote and not take less. Push for the full vote. Nothing justifies ASG not having at least one full vote on the Senate.

Senator Matthew Johnston: Students making motions and seconds to motions does not seem a problem at all. Senate can still vote down motions.

Senator RaeAnn Ramsey: The problem potentially of making motions and seconds is it forces a body to address an issue before certain parties are in play or there is enough time for dialogue. Also, whether someone likes the idea of having a student representative on the faculty senate is not correlated with whether they are pro student. Many of the senators have been at Mission over 20 years and spent our careers here and are pro-student but have a different set of needs because of our longevity here. I don't see a problem with an advisory student.

MOTION that Academic Senate have two ASG Representatives appointed each year to serve on the Academic Senate. (H. Sun/S. Magid) (M/S/P) 2-No. 1 Abstention. 10-Yes. Passed.

Senator RaeAnn Ramsey: Point of Order to have further discussion.

Senator Max Sklar: There might be a little bit of an operations issue depending on how the student vote turns out. We might want to put in the stipulation about the alternate or not, or just an advisory vote.

MOTION to extend time ten minutes. (S. Magid/R. Ramsey) (M/S/U). None opposed. No abstentions. Unanimous.

MOTION for two ASG Representatives on the Senate to have a full vote on the Senate.
(D. Piper/W. Kwong) (M/S/F) 9-No. 2 Abstentions. 2-Yes. Failed.

MOTION that Academic Senate gives advisory vote to two ASG Representatives on the Academic Senate that happens before the Senate vote.

Friendly amendment accepted.

(M. Johnston/H. Sun) (M/S/F) 2-No. 3 Abstentions. 8-Yes. Failed.

Senator RaeAnn Ramsey: Friendly amendment that the ASG Representatives two advisory votes are done before the Senate vote.

Senators discussed how one vote can be cast.

MOTION for the Senate to give two ASG Representatives one full vote on the Academic Senate, and ASG can decide a procedure for determining which one of the two ASG Representatives will cast one full vote.

Friendly amendment accepted.

(M. Sklar/D. Piper) (M/S/F) 9 No. Motion Failed.

Friendly amendment, Senator David Piper. ASG Representatives will be eligible for one full vote on Academic Senate and ASG can decide procedure for casting one vote.

Senator Daniel Arias clarified that the ASG Representative with voting rights would be held to the same responsibilities as Senators. Senator Arias called the question for a vote on the motion on the table.

Senate Discussion

Senator Matthew Johnston: Robert's Rules of Order (4:56) say that the presiding officer will be precluded from voting except in the following cases: when the vote is by ballot, or whenever his or her vote will affect the result. The presiding officer can vote in the affirmative or abstain when there is a tie. MCAS Constitution and By-Laws. Article IV, Meetings B. The President votes only in the event of a tie or in the presence of a unanimous vote.

MOTION that the ASG Representatives can have one advisory vote each happening before the Senate votes. (R. Ramsey/S. Magid) (M/S/P) 2-No. 2 Abstain. 9-Yes. Motion passed.

MOTION that the ASG Representative can make and second motions. (M. Johnston/L. Javier-Tolentino) (M/S/F) 9-No. 3 Abstain. 1-Yes. Motion failed.

Motion to extend time. (D. Arias/L. Javier-Tolentino) (M/S/U) None opposed. No abstentions. Unanimous.

MOTION to rescind ASG Representatives Advisory votes. (D. Piper/W. Kwong) (M/S/F) 6-No, 4 Abstain 3-Y. Motion failed.

2. Second Read: Mission College Academic Senate Charge (Joanna Sobala, Willy Kwong) --20 min (D/A)
Senate President Joanna Sobala presented several changes in charge that incorporated Senate comments.
 - The Senate appoints 5 (five) MCAS Senators to serve on the District Academic Senate (DAS); the Senate President will serve as a co-chairperson of the DAS, as in the DAS Constitution.
 - 2 (two) ASG Representatives (advisory vote). An advisory vote is not included in determining the vote required to carry any motion or resolution of the Senate and is cast before the rest of the Senators vote.

MOTION to pass Mission College Academic Senate Charge as it stands;
(R. Ramsey/C. Tuato'o) (M/S/P) 1-No. 12-Yes. Passed.

3. Mission College Academic Senate President election timeline –10 min (I/A)
Senate President Joanna Sobala discussed the Call for Applications for Academic Senate President, June 2025 – Spring 2027 term and elections timeline.
10/25, Friday: send out Call for nominations
11/12, Tuesday, 5pm: Applications due (review applications as they're received)
11/14, Thursday, noon: send out Ballot
11/21, Thursday, noon: voting ends (Joanna, Liz, and Lauren will meet to review votes)

11/21, Thursday: confirm Pres-Elect, MCAS meeting

4. Review of ASCCC (Academic Senate for California Community Colleges) Fall 2024 Plenary Resolutions—10 min (D/A)

Senate President Joanna Sobala reviewed several Resolutions taken up at Area B meeting. Pulled off Consent items, 101.01 F24 Adopt Using Outcomes for the Course Outline of Record in Title 5. Academic Senate had issues with 101.01 F24 in the last meeting that Joanna can bring up at Plenary along with additional opinions today.

Senate Discussion

Resolution 101.01 F24

- Course Objectives would no longer be required in the course outline of record (COR)
 - Course objectives are tied to course content and topics and give more information.
 - Would like to see Course Objectives in CORs across the state colleges and universities
- Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) would be requirements in Title 5 to align with accreditation requirements
 - SLOs are very broad, three or four themes
 - SLOs don't reflect what the course is even about a lot. Giving a few tests doesn't really tell people what's going on in the course
 - Accreditation asks for outcomes

Senate President Sobala: Senators here are not in favor of this resolution. If you hear otherwise from constituents, please email me so that I can debate it and vote in an informed fashion.

AB1705 Resolutions

Senator Max Sklar: Taking a closer look at first pass of Resolutions in Math Dept and knowing who authors are, likely would be in support of it. As background, current Resolutions about AB1705 affect English faculty, Math faculty, ESL faculty and a lot of students that are going into every class. There has been a movement to try and push back against, in particular, the law that was passed and to try and get the State Chancellor Office to align their implementation closer with the letter of the law. Understand that this got proposed through Area A meeting out of the folks in the junior colleges.

Joanna is sending Resolutions to Senators when they get updated. Please let Joanna know thoughts related to your Departments.

5. Update from the Academic Directions Committee (Jeff Cormier) -- 15 min (I/A)

Jeff Cormier, Chair of Academic Directions Committee, a subcommittee of the Senate, reviewed ADC work since making recommendations to the Senate in May 2024.

The District Athletic Program was placed under Revitalization.

Jeff Cormier has met with different stakeholders since summer and started to craft a knowledge base to unpack and then make recommendations.

- Consulted with Dean Roy Vasquez, Public Safety, Health, and Wellness, Athletics District, Office of Instruction, and different stakeholders and formed a small work group. Reaching out to Student Services at some point. There does not have to be consensus on ideas brought to the ADC.
- ADC meeting is Nov 21 to discuss in a deeper dive
- Recommendations looking at collaboration with Athletics
 - Students have been really negatively impacted and current program is not benefitting our students. We only have splinters of the Athletics program from years ago. We don't have a current Athletics program. The Mission Baseball team is now at WV and 50 student players are competing for a spot on a team.
 - A long term solution would be decoupling our Kinesiology and Athletic courses.
 - Athletics would become a new program housed somewhere under Instruction. Ten courses in Athletics would be moved and better focused.
 - Kinesiology can then focus on the academic pieces.
 - Logistics plan could provide 10+1 pieces on academic side alongside what falls in other areas.
 - Pushing for short term and long term master plan. Current data and decision making is lacking that would be needed for making multimillion dollar decisions. A subgroup from Executive Cabinet should vet what the District is doing with recommendations on Athletics.
 - Should ask the District and our College to do an in-depth community and market analysis for sports within the community. What does Athletics mean at Mission?
 - Do community members have to go all the way to WV to play sports? Should we fix that?
 - District Athletics acknowledged that they are in Revitalization and at least are definitely supportive of the idea of going through revitalization process.

Jeff Cormier: Athletics revitalization research and findings will be presented in the ADC Nov 21 meeting. I wouldn't move to take Athletics off Revitalization with the caveat of specific goals for the next year.

Senate Discussion

Senator Brenna Wundram: The Athletics Program is something we've been trying to manage for decades. Athletics is currently housed in Kinesiology. Although it is an academic program now, it is being run by a District employee that is removed completely from the Kinesiology department. The impact on the department from a faculty perspective is Athletics courses are highly loaded academic classes and very low student enrollment. A class gets at least a .5 load, or more, and they typically have 6 to 8 students. Athletics is not removed from the dept data set determining the dept efficiency and how dept is functioning. The Dept then appears inefficient and dysfunctional.

The person who is currently running Athletics is a district employee and has a higher classification than the president of our college.

WV is hiring coaches as district employees and not under classification of certificated employees. My suggestion is to move Mission Athletic courses into Student Services and not to keep it as a Mission Academic program run by the District.

Jeff Cormier: ADC is considering options. Mission managing Athletics program separate from District is one

option. Kinesiology should be able to thrive focusing again on the academic pieces and hire own coach in dept. ADC will approve some recommendations and bring to Senate this December 5.

Senator Brenna Wundram: Kinesiology over the decades went from 12 full time faculty to 2 today. We have no full-time coaches. There has never been a full time athletics director with the exception of one year and that position was not replaced. Karen Yoder left citing lack of support for Athletics on campus. Suddenly, the Athletics Director of West Valley was assigned to oversee Mission Athletics without any discussion from our Kinesiology department faculty. This is a disservice to our campus and taxpayers and we should get somebody to run a program that is vital for students. If we want Athletics we have to support it. And if we don't, the Athletics resources could be used in other places.

Jeff Cormier: District Athletics has a direct impact on the Kinesiology Dept, the actual courses, the load, the morale, and scheduling processes. I don't see any way of leaving this program as it is.

VIII. Administrative Business/ Actions/ Appointments (I/A)

1. Initiative Updates & Reports

2. Committee Appointments

DAS AI Taskforce: Isaiah Tracy (ASG)

DAS passed a motion "to form District-wide task force to develop recommendations on ethical use of AI in the classroom including drafting language for a Board policy on Academic Integrity in regard to generative AI."

MOTION to appoint Isaiah Tracy to the DAS AI Taskforce as Student Representative. (S. Magid/D. Arias) (M/S/U) None opposed. No abstentions Unanimous.

MOTION to authorize MCAS President to make any nominations or appointments or take any necessary action on behalf of the Senate until November 21st in consultation with the MCAS VP.

(L. Javier-Tolentino/S. Magid) (M/S/U) None opposed. No abstentions. Unanimous.

MOTION to nominate Steve Lipman and James Baker for Faculty Common Course Numbering (CCN) Phase II December convenings. (M. Sklar/H. Sun) (M/S/U) None opposed. No abstentions. Unanimous.

3. President's Report – Joanna Sobala

Board Policy: Public Funding BP 5900. The Board authorizes the Chancellor to implement the Free Community College Program pursuant to AB 3158. Under this law, the district is authorized to utilize local unrestricted general funds to provide tuition and fee waivers to eligible students. The Board directs the Chancellor to develop administrative procedures to operationalize this program.

Joanna: BP 5900 is coming to District Council very soon. Please give feedback. So far, Senate is mostly in favor of this.

Nov 21 Senate meeting is a good time to ask Chancellor questions about BP 5900. Questions on financial implications can also be addressed in Budget training the same meeting.

MCAS Presidential Elections

As per MCAS Election of Academic Senate President Rules and Procedures: “The Office of President is open to any full-time, tenured faculty member who has served at least one year as a Senator at Mission College, and who is willing to serve in this capacity.”

The minimum of one year service on the Senate can be in current or a prior year. Please encourage people to apply. President Sobala is not planning to apply. The Call for Nominations is going out Friday, October 25.

DAS (District Academic Senate) meeting is Thursday, October 31. Senators agreed on possible Agenda items: Academic Renewal, DAS AI Task Force updates. ASCCC Plenary Resolutions. Faculty Service Area could be an agenda item next semester.

ASG Representative Report - Priscila Moreira, ASG President

Dial for Democracy in collaboration with Center for Common Ground was a big success. Our phone bank reached out to 362 people in North Carolina. Response to Votechella was really good encouraging students in community service, several Non-profit organizations participated. The ASG Executive Board went to the student leadership conference in Los Angeles, workshops were good. In November, ASG is starting the basic needs Donation Center station at ASG and other college buildings for the winter to support students in need on campus. Request for donations of blankets, jackets, and socks.

Please read President’s report in Senators meeting folder.

Senator David Piper proposed Amendment for

Article III Officers. Section 1: Officers and Duties. A. President

Revised to say

The President of the Academic Senate shall be **elected from those faculty members who have served at least one year as a Senator at Mission College**, and who are willing to serve in this capacity, by a vote of a simple majority of all Mission College faculty members who vote. The Senate President and/or Academic Senate Secretary shall be responsible for this election.

President Joanna Sobala: The request for this Agenda item was submitted but Amendment was not agendized for today’s Senate meeting. Senate already voted and had multiple discussions on this topic. Senate formed a taskforce last year researching and hearing feedback from constituents. After robust discussions, Senate voted not to extend the eligibility of the President’s position to all faculty. This would be repetition of what Senate did.

Senator David Piper: Any Academic Senator has the option of opposing a Constitutional Amendment that was passed and can make a new motion and have a vote on the motion. We want to follow Robert’s Rule of Order. A Senator has the right to bring up a motion for discussion.



Several Senators commented that the Academic Senate has discussed and shared lots of constituent feedback, multiple times and voted on this amendment. We may want to give more background to new faculty serving on Academic Senate.

IX. Future Agenda Items

X. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn. (R. Ramsey/L. Javier-Tolentino) (M/S/U) None opposed. No abstentions. Unanimous.
Adjourned, 4:30pm.