

College of Marin Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2025

Location: AC 303

Call to Order: 12:45 PM

Present: Kristin Perrone, Gina Cullen, Maria Coulson, Luna Finlayson, Ian Sethre, Logan Wood, Ron Oxford, Kevin Muller, Rebecca Beal, Kyle Beattie, Caitlin Rolston, LyRyan Russell

Absent: Alex Jones

Guests: None

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- I. **Approval of Agenda (Finlayson / Wood)**
 - II. **Approval of Minutes (11/13) (Finlayson / Muller)**

III. Public Requests

Sarah Frye spoke about the new library in the new building (CSS):

- Pink Owl hours will align with presence of Library staff/Library hours
- Official schedule forthcoming, with Saturday openings
- Textbook program is being eliminated due to long-term sustainability and workload issues (process of phase-out started 10 years ago). One faculty member expressed concerns regarding elimination of LTP at Board meeting last week.

IV. Officers' Reports

President (Coulson)

- **Board Meeting** —made usual report; public comment focused on library.
- **Equivalency / HR Attorney**
 - Results from outside counsel: no procedure was violated;
 - Policies 7211 & 7212 conflict
- **Attorney will send memo to HR and Mia Robertshaw, which they will share with Senate**
- **HR is not concerned about violation of law**
- **The appealed EQ decision will be re-evaluated**
- **Committee appointment remains Senate purview; we will review in December**
- **The attorney believes EQ falls under Brown Act, although practice at other colleges indicates otherwise. COM Academic Senate could agendaize and allow public comment, prior to closed session review (see individual reports below)**
- **Expedited Hire**
 - Without Senate approval, a chair had replaced a Senate-appointed member of an expedited hire committee who was not going to be available for the committee; the Chair was unfamiliar with CC policies and has been informed collegially
- **Cabinet Meeting**
 - **President Eldridge invited Maria Coulson and Gina Cullen** to speak for 30 minutes about Senate matters. Cabinet members responded with gratitude and agreement to issues raised during the meeting. It is still unclear to Senate leadership why certain employees were present and others not. This invitation was a follow-up to communication efforts that began in May
- **ASCCC Request** — COM asked to consider hosting Curriculum Institute in spring

Vice President (Cullen)

- **Connecting Data to Decisions & Building a Culture of Data-Informed Equity**
Friday, December 5, 10:00 am-Noon
[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)
- **Bridging the Gap: Helping Students Translate Competencies into Career Success**
Date: Tuesday, December 9, 2025
Time: 1:00-2:00 pm (PST)
[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

V. Committee Reports

A. Program Review Working Group (Logan Wood)

- In-person meetings have been scheduled for Feb–Apr (Zoom links from the VP were sent mistakenly)
- Template revisions are ongoing
- Strong interest in facilitators for each department. Facilitator presence will be required across

departments. Facilitators may join/help with PRAC presentations.

- Need clearer framework to establish process, PRAC's role, and AP/BP alignment
- Senate will see/approve framework/template before presentation to Chairs

B. **Bookstore & Beyond (Ron Oxford)**

- Bookstore likely shifting online — decision pending
- Reprographics can provide first-two-chapter packets for Day 1 access (a requirement soon)

VI. **Campus Tour**

- Senate touring new building on December 4
- Wear sturdy shoes / pants
- Plan: classrooms, Counseling, SAS, but hopefully a complete walk-through

VII. **Invited Guest**

- Lauren Servais unable to attend
- Equity Plan has been given an extension

VIII. **BP/AP and Academic Standards**

- Academic Pause/Notice — coming soon
- Repeatability — coming soon
- SEP postponed — will be under purview of new VP
- Grading Symbols — will be pulled again for discussion with counselors on F variants and +/- system

IX. **Individual Reports**

A. **FDIP (LyRyan Russell)**

- Workshops are going well
- Mock interviews:
 - President Eldridge and VP Emerson will participate in May only
 - Mock interviews will be held in both December & May. Volunteers needed for December. Date TBA (2:00–2:45 PM).

B. **Equivalency (Maria Coulson)**

- The Senate questions whether EQ is Brown Act, as it is not officially a Senate subcommittee (at least as evidenced by other colleges)
- Regardless, EQ could be determined by Senators as a recurring closed-session item on Senate agenda, bringing in experts as needed; process would then comply with Brown Act.
- Need to clarify role distinctions: “discipline expert” vs. “discipline faculty”
- Discussion to be continued after we receive attorney/HR guidance

X. **Adjournment: 2:00 PM**