COLLEGE OF MARIN
ACADEMIC SENATE — Minutes
February 5, 2026
Call to Order: 12:45 PM — AC 303

Senators Present: Dave King, Kristin Perrone, Gina Cullen, Maria Coulson, Luna Finlayson, Ian Sethre, Logan Wood, Ron Oxford, Kevin Muller, Rebecca Beal, Kyle Beattie, Caitlin Rolston, Alex Jones
Senators Absent: LyRyan Russell
Guests Present: Dana Emerson

I. Agenda: Edited and approved (Muller/Oxford).

II. Minutes: Revised and approved (King/Beal).

III. Public Requests: None.

IV. Officers' Reports
President

- President Coulson hopes that the Senate will support a resolution reaffirming Senate rights and responsibilities named in Title 5 (10+1). She will present a draft later in the meeting.
- An important software used by the Math department (MathType) could be discontinued soon as part of ongoing accessibility requirements and compliance with federal law. Adopting or elimination of instructional technology that affects curriculum and teaching should fall under 10+1, so further guidance is needed.

Vice President

- **OERI**: February newsletter available--ZTC feasibility study, OERI discipline leads wanted
- **Common Course Numbering**: Phase III paused to sort out UC transferability.
- **Conferences & Learning Communities**
  - Noncredit Regional Meetings, February 27th at Laney College. Registration deadline February 23rd.
  - WebAIM Accessible Documents Training for CCCs, March 2nd-May 27th cohort accepting registrations.
  - 19th Annual African American Male Student Success Summit, March 5th-6th in Long Beach. Accepting scholarship applications for faculty.
  - *Curriculum Regional Meeting (Area B),* *March 14th at Evergreen Valley College.* *Survey about topics to cover.*
  - Artificial Intelligence and Academia 2026, March 19th-21st in Costa Mesa. Calls for proposal open until 1/30.
  - Spring Plenary, April 9th-11th in Santa Rosa. Scholarships available.
  - Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education, April 12th-14th in Anaheim. Scholarships available.
- **Webinars**
  - Thursday, February 12th, 12:00pm-1:00pm: **Planting the Seeds of Systemic Change: Incorporating IDEAA in Faculty Evaluations**
  - Thursday, February 19th, 10:00am-11:00am: **Realize the Pride: Panel Discussion with CCC Faculty Equity Practitioners**
  - Friday, February 20th, 2:00pm-3:00pm: **Effective AI Prompting for Educators**
  - Monday, February 23rd, 2:00pm-3:00pm: **Minimum Qualifications and the Disciplines List Process: Faculty Stewardship of Academic Standards**

- o Monday, February 23rd, 3:00pm-4:00pm: **Follow Up Office Hours: Minimum Qualifications and the Disciplines List Process**
- o Tuesday, February 24th, 12:00pm: The Next Chapter in AI: Integration and Best Practices
- o Wednesday, February 25th, 12:00pm-1:00pm: **Transparency in Practice: The Brown Act and Recent Legislation**
- o Wednesday, February 25th, 3:00pm-4:30pm: **The Counselor's Role in a Changing Landscape: Technology, Equity, and Vision 2030**
- o Friday, February 27th, 12:00pm: The Next Chapter in AI: Integration and Best Practices ("Deep Dive")

V. Committee Reports
GRC: Dave King
- Steve Carerra (Chair of FPS) attended to voice questions about revisions to rental facilities procedures, wondering where these fees go.
- Next GRC meeting will commence PGS evaluation process.
- All PGS committees report to PRAC, but PRAC organization is currently experiencing organizational and planning challenges. Senators mentioned their desire that PRAC function smoothly, for the good of the PGS.

Program Review Coordinators (Logan Wood):
- Coordinators met with Department Chairs, requested feedback from them, and are envisioning how different departments will complete their PR. Next week, Senator Wood will provide a draft of the new template with curriculum embedded. All Chairs agreed that PR should be completed over one semester, on a 4-year cycle.

ZTC (Ron Oxford):
- ZTC Degree Pathways are ready, but not yet marked in the COM course schedule. A Communications degree is now operative, with Anthropology and Geography to follow very soon. The question now is how to market these majors to students. The grant ends in June, and the degrees must launch in Fall 2026.

VI. Invited Guests: Dr. Eldridge did not attend, but **Dr. Emerson** was available and engaged with Senators in a robust discussion of 10+1, Academic Freedom, communication with faculty at large, concerns about moratorium on changes in the new CSS building and its impact on student and employee safety and accessibility, and concerns regarding custodial maintenance, and the chair's role in fielding student concerns or complaints via COMCares.
- Thanked those who had attended ribbon cutting ceremony.
- Asked that the Senate inform her of how they would like to proceed with a joint statement on Academic Freedom, looping UPM in as needed.
- Senators discussed that faculty who are concerned about academic freedom, student complaints, or district support in tense political climate should turn to Senate and UPM — Faculty concerns about District support indicate a need to disseminate information about rights and responsibilities of Faculty and Academic Senate (10+1).
- Dr. Emerson emphasized her desire to return to a culture of planning at the College, and mentioned Program Review as an important part of this work.
- Major custodial planning neglect causing potential health hazards and cleaning work for faculty in Fine Arts building.
- Explained expectations regarding Chairs' role in COMCares concerns/complaints about faculty. Deans see reports and speak with Chairs; the chair then has a conversation with faculty. Chair does not see the report, and HR is not involved.

- Will look into changes made to CSS Counseling floor plan after it was approved: Counselors currently do not have unobstructed path to the door, putting them at risk in case of an incident. Other accessibility issues inside the new SAS space for persons with disabilities also remain.
- Dr. Emerson had another meeting and other concerns were tabled for a future visit.

VII. Equivalency:
- **AP 7211**: Changes include designating an EQ committee, not a designee of the committee. AP approved by consensus (King/Muller).
- **AP 7212** (Temporary Faculty): After striking the definition of the EQ committee and replacing it with "the Senate," approved by consensus (King/Muller).
- **Equivalency Bylaws for website: ASEC** (the Academic Senate Equivalency Committee) will:
  - Function ad hoc, on an as-needed basis
  - Be composed of 5 members, the President and VP of Senate and three other current Senators. Spring 2026: Senators Coulson, King, Cullen, Jones, and Russell.
  - Operate in confidentiality.
  - Accept appeals to rejections of equivalency applications, reconvening at a mutually convenient time.
  - Be added to Senate website when language is finalized. Consultation of COM web manager may be necessary for any major website changes (TBD).

VIII. Individual Reports -- none

IX. Future Business – a draft of a Senate Resolution on 10+1 was distributed for next week.

XII. Adjourned: 2:00 PM

For more information about Academic Senate minutes, contact AS Secretary
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