

COLLEGE OF MARIN ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

April 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: 12:45 PM

LOCATION: AC 303

Senators Present: Maria Coulson, Gina Cullen, Luna Finlayson, Alex Jones, Dave King, Cara Kreit, Kevin Muller, Ron Oxford, Caitlin Rolston, Rebecca Beal, Kristin Perrone, LyRyan Russell, Ian Sethre, Logan Wood

Senators Absent: Kyle Beattie

Invited Guests: None

- I. **Agenda:** Approved (Beal/King)
- II. **Minutes:** Edited and approved (Muller/Beal).
- III. **Public Requests:** None
- IV. **Officers Reports**
 - a. **President:**
 - i. President Coulson attended a recent meeting of the Federal Action committee. Based on a review of resolutions at other colleges, and COM's general council's advice, College of Marin will not adopt resolutions that are not enforceable. Mia Robertshaw informed the group that she would be happy to attend an ESL department meeting any time. There will be an emergency handbook coming out soon, and President Coulson asked that it be accessible via QR code.
 - ii. The issue of make-up testing is ongoing. The chair of Physical Sciences (Patrick Kelly) sent an email to Stormy Miller-Sapia and Gail Ann Rulloda, inquiring as to the status of this unfulfilled need.
 1. President Coulson responded to Patrick Kelly that she had reached out to several people, but there is no employee at COM currently designated to take it on. She asked Cari Torres-Benavides to look into it, who then followed up with Dana Emerson, where the issue currently stands. Coulson also noted that the Senate was not consulted prior to testing being sent to faculty individually.
 2. Coulson reported meeting with Wanden Treaner and President Eldridge on Friday. The discussion addressed issues with top-down directives, PRAC, and cultural shifts. She affirmed her commitment to upholding the 10+1 process for budget development as the Senate's purview, and emphasized that faculty need information that is correct, timely, and open, with collegiality on matters within that purview.
 3. Coulson reported on attending the Board Meeting
 - a. Gina Cullen was also present. The student winner who received a COM grant through the Ideation Challenge to develop a creative idea, presented ARI, an AI bot designed to assist with transfer demystification and Educational Plan development. While they described it as a creative idea, Cullen and other counselors voiced concerns that counselors have not yet seen the tool and were not consulted at any time before the award was announced.
 - b. Stacey Lince and Dana Emerson presented on AI, which included a slide on DEC committee recommendations. Coulson noted that Dana later indicated the DEC recommendations had been presented to the Board as part of the AI presentation.
 - iii. **VP Report:**
 1. **Conferences & Learning Communities**
 - a. [ASCCC Noncredit Institute: From the Margins to the Moment: The Noncredit Movement Starts Here](#), April 30th-May 1st, San Jose
 - b. [Advancing Open Education Together: An Intersegmental OER Summit](#), May 15th at UC Irvine.
 - c. [GAAD Accessibility Workshop](#), May 21st online
 - d. [Faculty Leadership Institute](#), June 11th-13th in Long Beach.
 - e. [Online Teaching Conference](#), June 23rd-25th in Anaheim.

2. Webinars

- a. Friday, April 24th, 12:00pm: [Celebrating Part-Time Faculty Wins](#)
- b. Tuesday, April 28th, 12:00pm: [The Next Chapter in AI: Integration and Best Practices](#)
- c. Wednesday, April 29th, 1:00pm: [AI & Pedagogy Brown Bag Office Hour with Online Education & Educational Technology Committee](#)
- d. Tuesday, May 5th, 12:00pm: [Getting Started with LibreTexts ADAPT Open Homework and Assessment Platform](#)
- e. Tuesday, May 5th, 1:00pm: [What Does It Mean to Volunteer for ASCCC Statewide Service?](#)

b. Committees

- i. **PRAC** (Maria Coulson): Lauren Servais presented on Humanities, Arts, Library, Communications, English, Film, and ESL. Jeffrey Reeder also presented on MSN, MESA, Farm, and Bolinas Lab. Former Senate President Meg Pasquel's renewed participation on PRAC was noted as valuable, given her extensive institutional knowledge and willingness to contribute. The meeting was not recorded.
 - ii. **Bookstore**: Ron Owen reported that the contract situation has been ongoing for four to five months, with eight months remaining before the contract expires. No Senate members have heard any updates.
 - iii. **OER, AI, and Instructional Technology**: The only update available to the Senate was Dana Emerson's presentation at the Board Meeting, as referenced above.
 - iv. **Program Review (Logan Wood)**: The committee reviewed comments, incorporated them into the template, and will add sections on accessibility before soliciting feedback from chairs. Senators or other faculty interested in piloting Insights should reach out to Senator Wood; SLOs have already been imported into Insights in Canvas.
 - v. **College Council (Cara Kreit)**: COM is exploring working with Redlands University on student dormitory housing at their San Anselmo campus. Initial conversations are underway.
 - vi. **GRC (Dave King)**: The committee is working with constituency groups to establish next year's PGS committee membership this spring. Manager assignments have been made.
- V. **Senate Units**: Unit calls need to be reviewed and distributed for fall. The **PR working group** and **AP/BP position** can be rolled over, with current holders reapplying. The **Curriculum** position and **Secretary** each have another year remaining. The **Website** position was temporary.
- VI. **OER Resolution**: Approved (Muller/Perrone). All ayes. Kyle Beattie absent.
- VII. **APs and BPs**: deferred.
- VIII. **All else**: deferred.
- IX. **Adjourned**: 2:00 PM.

For more information about COM Academic Senate Minutes, contact Senate Secretary Caitlin Rolston, crolston@marin.edu