COLLEGE OF MARIN ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES — Meeting I
May 14, 2026
CALL TO ORDER: 12:46 PM
LOCATION: AC 303 and Zoom

Senators Present: Maria Coulson, Gina Cullen, Luna Finlayson, Dave King, Cara Kreit, Kevin Muller, Ron Oxford, Caitlin Rolston, Rebecca Beal, Kristin Perrone, LyRyan Russell, Ian Sethre, Logan Wood, Kyle Beattie, Alex Jones
Senators Absent:
Invited Guests: Meg Pasquel, Jon Horinek

I. **Agenda:** Approved (Beal/King)
II. **Minutes:** Edited and Approved (King/Beal)
III. **Public Requests:** None
IV. **Professional Learning Update:** Steve Carrerra joined via Zoom, and made a report about satisfactory progress with PLC. The committee received over 40 Flex session proposals for the Fall, setting a record for desired participation. They are currently working on a calendar, forthcoming, and coordinating between experts exploring new topics, existing work, and standing committees. He also reported a high rate of Flex completion amongst faculty, and shared that he had been collaborating with SRJC to help them implement the technology COM uses to track Flex hours.
V. **Officers**
    a. **President**
        i. **PLC issue:** Classified Senators have brought an issue to VP King's attention regarding their charge, membership, processes, and chair. Currently, the employees who attend meetings as "resources" are non-voting members, and thus cannot technically chair the committee. VP King and President Coulson will clarify the above over the Summer, and will offer a 10+1 session during Fall 2026 Flex Week.
        ii. **Film crew on campus:** The COM Foundation is making a publicity video and crew have been interviewing students and stopping by classrooms.
        iii. **Cabinet Meeting:** VP King and President Coulson attended, with a list of discussion items. They discussed OER; DEC/AI and the concern regarding conflation of the two; Title II (ADA compliance of public facing materials; Title V changes and desire for leadership from the CIO; and the Canvas outage. They were not allotted enough time to get to the Ideation challenge or the President's discretionary funds in their allotted hour.
        iv. **Canvas**: in an abundance of caution, after grades are due, IT will remove every LTI and rewrite the keys, then activate thema gain. The connection between Zoom and Canas is currently broken. If any problems are encountered, Faculty should fill out the form on the IT webpage for an expedited fix.
    b. **VP:** Cabinet Meeting: Invited for next week.
        i. Conferences & Learning Communities
            1. Advancing Open Education Together: An Intersegmental OER Summit, May 15th at UC Irvine.
            2. GAAD Accessibility Workshop, May 21st online
            3. Faculty Leadership Institute, June 11th-13th in Long Beach.
            4. Online Teaching Conference, June 23rd-25th in Anaheim.

5. Curriculum Institute, July 15th-18th in Sacramento.

VI. **Committees:**

a. **PRAC update (**Meg Pasquel): Committee met on Monday.

i. Ryan Byrne attended by invitation to explain decision to convert a Faculty position to one of Director. PRAC agreed it had been the logical maneuver, and appreciates being kept abreast of such changes.

ii. The co-chairs of the English department explained why the department had decided not to hire two FT: not enough units. Since HUM101 coordinator position was cut, the former offerings of HUM101 are not all filling or being offered; 15 idle units.

iii. Concerns: PRAC members asked about the President's "innovation fund." One PRAC member suggested that funds could be used to replace/pay a HUM101 Coordinator. Professor Pasquel passed that suggestion on to Lauren Servais, who questioned whether it was PRAC's purview; Dr. Emerson informed the committee that it would be a UPM decision. This raised a question about whether the Union or Administration makes decisions about needs of academic programs.

iv. Eresa Puch gave update on budget. President Eldridge has asked the College to save or cut back on $1 million in spending every year over the next five years, but the 200k for the Innovation Fund was not included the budget. Remaining questions from Co-Chair Pasquel: Shouldn't that fund be in the budget, and if not, why? Where do those funds come from, and where will they go? A memo to President Eldridge seeking answers will be forthcoming.

v. Mia Robertshaw was VP of Instruction, she put forth a memo about what is and what is not within PRAC's purview. Co-Chair Pasquel is concerned about the weight that memo is being given (it was referenced in Ryan Byrne's presentation). Senators have been unable to find public record of that document subsequently.

vi. PRAC awaits a memo from President Eldridge detailing budget approvals and denials, with rationale.

b. **GRC (Dave King):** DEC recommendations that came through Senate went to TPC. Next semester they will look at the recommendations, but the TPC chair, Heather Rahman, is stepping down, so there is no chair currently. GRC is working with incoming ASCOM president to seat students on committees. There will be a joint PGS Flex session in Fall on running smooth committee meetings. The PGS self-evaluations are being reviewed.

c. **Curriculum (Gina Cullen).** Approved changes to Biology local degree. Received more training about upcoming Title 5 changes.

VII. **APs and BPs**

a. **Jon Horinek: AP on Auditing:** Cleaning up inconsistencies. There's a line in AP that says they shall not be charged if taking 10 or more units, or 3 or less. Wants to get rid of that because it is not current practice. Faculty will be able to start adding auditors after week 1 to facilitate obtaining parking permits, but for-credit students will still have priority. It is still within Faculty discretion whether to add, but they will be able to do so. We will do the BP in the fall. Move to approve (King/Russell) 4070 as amended. Approved by consensus.

b. **5520 Student Discipline and Due Process.** Lots of questions remain about how best to protect and serve Faculty and Students; pulled for further discission, will not go to Board yet.
c. **4250:** Academic Notice: pushed to next semester.

VIII. **Program Review (Logan Wood):** PR coordinators received helpful feedback from PRIE, and are working on making PR tell a subjective and humanized story from eyes of faculty. Also suggested by Senators: a glossary at the bottom of the template with acronyms and key concepts; and a section on ACCESS (GRIT) that refers to the College Mission Objectives related to equity. Senators also suggested explicitly naming OER/ZTC under Access, Offerings, or Instructional materials.

IX. **Units:** Fall PR Facilitators will be Logan Wood, Alex Jones, Sara Malmquist-West, and Wendy Boelke. Cara Kreit will replace Meg Pasquel on APs and BPs while Meg is on Sabbatical.

X. **Awards:** Closed session.

XI. **Resolution regarding educational success programs:** tbc during negotiations.

XII. **Goodbye and thank you to Ron Oxford and Kyle Beattie.** Senators expressed their esteem, gratitude, and admiration for the work of both, and looked forward to more collaboration and communication with UPM as Senator Beattie (along with Senator Finlayson) begin their UPM Executive Council terms.

XIII. Adjourned: 1:45

COLLEGE OF MARIN ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES — Meeting II
May 14, 2026
CALL TO ORDER: 1:46 PM
LOCATION: AC 303 and Zoom

Senators Present: Maria Coulson, Gina Cullen, Luna Finlayson, Dave King, Cara Kreit, Kevin Muller, Caitlin Rolston, Rebecca Beal, Kristin Perrone, LyRyan Russell, Ian Sethre, Logan Wood, Alex Jones, Shawn Nelson
Senators Absent: None.

I. **Agenda:** Approved (Perrone/Muller)

II. **Public Comments:** None

III. **New Senator:** Shawn Nelson (MMST – Multimedia Studies) was introduced and welcomed as an appointee; Senators introduced themselves.

IV. **Nominations and Elections:**
a. Maria Coulson was nominated for President (Cara Kreit/Caitlin Rolston). Maria expressed her desire to deepen the bench and get more people involved in leadership.
b. Dave King was nominated for VP (Mara Coulson/Logan Wood).
c. Kevin Muller called the vote. Both nominations passed, with all present voting aye except Maria and Dave, who abstained from their own nominations. As Dave is on sabbatical in the Fall, Gina Cullen will serve as Acting VP.

V. **Discussion — Looking Ahead:** Senators expressed enthusiasm about moving forward in alignment with UPM, with Senators now seated on UPM.

VI. **Adjourned:** 2:02 PM