

COLLEGE OF MARIN ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

September 10, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: 12:45 PM

LOCATION: DH SS 241

Senators Present: Maria Coulson, Gina Cullen, Luna Finlayson, Cara Kreit, Kevin Muller, Caitlin Rolston, Rebecca Beal, Kristin Perrone, LyRyan Russell, Ian Sethre, Shawn Nelson

Senators Absent: Dave Patterson, Alex Jones, Logan Wood

Invited Guests: None

- I. **Agenda:** Approved (Muller/Beal)
- II. **Minutes from 9/3:** Approved (Perrone/Nelson)
- III. **Public Requests:** None
- IV. **Officers' Reports:**
 - a. **President Coulson:**
 - i. Screening and other committee appointment requests are arriving very quickly. There are open seats on the Educational Planning Committee (EPC) and PRAC. Two non-faculty hiring committees recently proceeded without faculty representation. President Coulson has raised this with VP Emerson. Senators and other faculty members should forward the names of colleagues who may be interested in serving.
 - ii. The DE Coordinator, on behalf of DEC, has requested that the committee be reconstituted as an advisory group rather than a subcommittee of the Senate. President Coulson will meet with them next week, along with Stephanie Cannon (Director of IT), Cari Torres-Benavides, and Stacey Winkler. As an advisory body, DEC would no longer be able to work on policy or curriculum. The request arises from the committee's difficulty achieving quorum and from its status as a Brown Act body, which requires members attending by Zoom to disclose their locations in the minutes. Discussion of a potential change may be agendized following the meeting next week.
 - b. **VP Cullen: Webinars and Conferences**
 - i. [Emoji Overload: Accessibility in the Age of AI](#), September 14, 11:00 AM
 - ii. [Understanding the Course Outline of Record \(COR\)](#), October 15, 11:00 AM
 - iii. [Disciplinary Reflection in the AI Age](#), October 20, 11:00 AM
 - iv. [The Evolution of Ethics: Navigating Generational Shifts with AI](#), November 10, 12:00 PM
 - v. [2026 Collective Equity Impact Institute](#), September 22–25, Anaheim
- V. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **PRAC (Maria Coulson):** No faculty Co-Chair has been identified. President Coulson will support the committee for now, until a replacement is found or Professor Pasquel returns from sabbatical.
 - b. **EPC:** The committee needs members.
 - c. **Curriculum (Gina Cullen):** Confirmed that responsibility for designating specialty courses now sits with the Curriculum Committee rather than UDWC, as per an MOU. CC approves of this change, but was not informed that it had been made. Upcoming trainings: Grace Yuan will give the first demonstration of CourseDog. CC can eventually provide an overview of the new system to Senate before rollout next year.
 - d. **Sabbatical (Luna Finlayson):** Senators Finlayson and Rolston reached out to Dr. Emerson and were informed that Grace Yuan, Dr. Emerson (replacing the Dean of MSN), and Alina Varona will serve as the administrative members of the committee. Shaquam Edwards and potentially one other faculty member will serve on behalf of UPM.

- VI. **ASCCC Collegiality In Action Visit:** Senators discussed potential topics and expressed hope for a productive meeting on September 11th with the ASCCC representatives.
- VII. **Update on Joint Memo Regarding the Dean Job Description:** The memo, sent jointly with the UPM President Tim Wat, identified violations of both the contract and 10+1. Dr. Emerson responded with a revision, which Wat flagged for further 10+1 purview areas within the revision. Senate–Dean relationship remains inverted and the language on instructional delivery philosophy likewise appears to cross over into 10+1 matters. President Coulson replied expressing her agreement with UPM's concern.
- VIII. **Future Business:** DEC; nursing job description; Catalog Rights AP (4100); DE AP.
- IX. **Adjourned:** 2:00 PM

Comments, concerns, or questions regarding Academic Senate Minutes
may be directed to the Academic Senate Secretary, Caitlin Rolston:

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