



COLLEGE OF MARIN

Distance Education Committee (DEC)

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Time: 11:00am-12:00pm

Location: AC 303

Emergency Zoom Meeting ID: 857 2637 4070

Faculty Members: Victor Conti, Carl Freschl, Joshua Kas-Osoka, Ingrid Kelly, Jessica Park, Kathleen Smyth

Staff Members: Andy Haber, Stacey Lince, Ephantus Mogere, Cari Torres

Important Notice Regarding Attendance and Voting

Please be advised that this is a mandatory meeting. We will be voting on critical initiatives, including adjusting our ongoing meeting schedule. On-campus attendance is strictly required to establish the physical quorum necessary to proceed with these votes. We need at least 4 faculty in attendance on campus for a full quorum.

Notice for Remote Attendees under Just Cause Exception

For those attending remotely under an approved Just Cause exception, the following Brown Act requirements apply:

- You must join the meeting via Zoom with both your audio and video turned on.
- You will be asked to disclose if any other adults are present in the room with you during the meeting.
- Your attendance does not count toward the physical, in-person quorum requirement (a quorum must still be physically present at the main meeting location).
- You will retain full voting rights during the meeting.

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Previous Minutes from 12/09/2025
4. **Action Item: Vote on New Meeting Time**
 - We will ask for a motion to shift our meeting time to 1:00 PM on Tuesdays, replacing our current 11:00 AM schedule. If passed, this new time will begin at our next planned meeting and apply to all future meetings. As a reminder, the DEC meets approximately one to two times per month.
5. **Discussion Item: Support and Pilot of Harmonize**
 - We will discuss potential instructional support for and the piloting of the Harmonize platform.
6. **Informational Item: Harmonize Overview**
 - Please review the following details regarding Harmonize prior to our discussion.
 - **Other California Community Colleges Using Harmonize:**
 - Los Angeles Community College District (Jessica Drawbond, Distance Education Coordinator)
 - City College of San Francisco (Jennifer Kienzle, Associate Dean of Online Learning)
 - Foothill College (Lene Whitley-Putz, Dean - Online Learning)
 - Chaffey College (Adriana Arce, Director of Distance Education)
 - **Key Platform Solutions:**
 - **Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI):** Harmonize disrupts standard discussion boards by using a social media-style interface with auto-notifications and tagging. This design pulls learners back into ongoing conversations organically, creating a continuous feedback loop rather than a disjointed list of isolated text entries.
 - **Authentic Assessment and Academic Integrity:** By shifting focus to multimodal submissions, instructors can require learners to explain their composition process or literary analysis via video, audio, or screen sharing. This creates an authentic assessment environment that is significantly harder to automate with generative AI.
 - **Universal Design for Learning (UDL):** The tool builds UDL directly into the foundational workflow. Learners who struggle with traditional written expression have built-in options to submit thoughts verbally or visually, while the platform handles back-end accessibility requirements like auto-captioning.
 - **Data-Driven Retention:** Provides granular, visual analytics on participation depth. This allows instructors to pinpoint

exactly who is struggling with the material or fading into the background, facilitating highly targeted early interventions.

- **Capabilities for Students:**
 - Submit responses using multiple formats like video, audio, screen sharing, or text.
 - Navigate course discussions through an intuitive, social media-style interface.
 - Track ongoing conversations using built-in tagging and automated notifications.
 - Collaborate with peers via chat portals and social annotations.
 - Provide anonymous feedback to instructors.
 - Utilize AI coaching to check work against the assignment rubric before submitting.
 - Engage with course materials using built-in accessibility tools.
- **Capabilities for Instructors:**
 - Generate discussion activities and grading rubrics.
 - Automate milestone tracking for multi-part assignments.
 - Grade student submissions efficiently within the platform.
 - Monitor engagement levels through dashboard analytics.
 - Identify disconnected students quickly for early intervention.
 - Review originality scores via seamless Turnitin integration.
 - Design multimodal assignments that are naturally more resistant to AI text generation.
 - Gather informal feedback using built-in polls and course Q&A.

7. Announcements: Upcoming Professional Learning Events

- **Building It Together: What's Shaping the Next CVC Course Design Rubric**
 - **Date & Time:** April 13, 2026, 10:00 AM Pacific Time (*Note: This was originally scheduled for April 27th but moved due to scheduling conflicts*).
 - **Description:** The CVC Course Design Rubric is being revised. This webinar offers an overview of the work behind that effort. Presenters will share what has been learned through statewide listening sessions, faculty conversations, and the POOCR pilot. This session focuses on how faculty feedback is influencing the rubric's clarity and usability before its public release at the Online Teaching Conference in June 2026.

- **Reclaiming Joy: Human-First Teaching in the AI Era**
 - **Date & Time:** Friday, April 17, 2026 | 8:45 AM - 3:00 PM
 - **Location:** On-campus in CSS 102 and 103, OR attend online from anywhere.
 - **Description:** Join colleagues across the state for this free Chancellor's Office-hosted event supporting teaching and learning. Together, we will acknowledge the fatigue many faculty feel and ground our work in community, connection, and the human core of education. The program showcases innovations from faculty that make student thinking visible, invite lived experience into coursework, reduce repetitive tasks, and make teaching relational again. Attend for just one session or the entire day.

8. Adjournment