

2/27/25

3:00 PM

ARC Student Center Boardroom

Zoom Meeting ID: 868 3910 1900

<https://lrccd.zoom.us/j/89982250416>

American River College Academic Senate Regular Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

Preliminaries

1. Call to Order

3:02 PM (Brian Knirk)

Land Acknowledgement Statement read

2. Approval of the Agenda - approved by consent

Approved

3. Approval of the Minutes - approved by consent

Approved with note to remove names of speakers

4. Introduction of Guests

Guests introduced:

Online:

Aracelli Badilla (Beacon Coordinator)

AnnMarie Beasley Cisneros, Anthropology Chair and member of the NAGPRA and Human Remains Task Force

Sima Mohseni, the adjunct faculty tutoring coordinator

5. Public Comment Period (3 minutes per speaker)

Mikaela

Expressed concern over inclusion of AI tools in Canvas without faculty input. Undermines content expertise and faculty role/purview. Concerned about the “corporate mindset” taken by our College and District that undermines exemplary teaching as an institutional goal.

Sarah

Student hiring delays. The Library and LRC have experienced extensive delays. Described students who have been trying to be hired since early Fall, 2024 who are still not processed and approved for work. The instructions of how students

apply for employment are extremely hard to find. Timely communication from local/ARC BSO is also a major contributor.

Sima

General tutoring and embedded tutoring are both being impacted by the delays in the student hiring process. Emphasized the unique impact on students from disproportionately impacted student groups. Both student tutors and the students who rely on academic support are negatively impacted.

David

Shared a student's concern about the requirement that students be enrolled in a minimum of 5 units in order to be an officer in a student club/org (policy 2312). This policy was described as ableist and uniquely harmful to queer/trans students who benefit from membership in and leadership of student clubs/orgs.

Stacey

Expressed concern over the District Academic Senate's first reading of the NAGPRA policy. Pointed out the lack of accountability and action on behalf of the District and ARC in advocating for repatriating Native remains/artifacts and defending Native sovereignty.

Xochi

Student officer in ARC's Native American Club. Described the emotional and Spiritual, and religious impact of having Native remains on our campus. Spoke in opposition to the NAGPRA policy from DAS.

6. President's Report

"Dear Colleague" letter from the Dept of Education discussed. Concern expressed over the letter's opposition to DEIA efforts. The implications for local programs and services discussed. We, as an institution, remain committed to this work.

Facilities Master Plan committee: department chairs have been communicated with. We are revisiting the Facilities Master Plan after having received on Space Utilization Study.

Consent Items

7. Approval of remote attendees

Ricardo Catón (History)
Tee Gager (Psychology)
Behrang Mokarami (Accounting)
Jen Kirkman (Nursing)
Rob Juner (Nursing)
Arthur Jenkins (Student Services/LRCFT)
Andrew Fix (Philosophy)

Approved

Action Items

8. Proposed revision WEE

Approved by consent

9. Proposed revision international education

Approved by consent

10. Critical Hire Public Safety (1st read)

Tabled

11. Board Regs (1st read)
- a. Proposed revision R-3412 (proposed strike-through of Competency Committees).
 - b. Proposed revision of R-7241 (proposed strike-through of Competency Committees).
 - c. Proposed revision of R-7241 (proposed change to allow continuing students to use any GE pattern for a local AA/AS degree).

Reports (5-10 minutes per item)

12. Student Success Council

Includes a link to an interpretation of the "Dear Colleague" letter from two weeks ago

Received a presentation from the ARC Health Center.

A new "restorative justice" framework was introduced with the intention of folding it into the student conduct policy/practices. Cannot violate District-level conduct policies.

13. ZTC/OER Forms (Yeny Pena-Grafton)

Good news: 6 possible degree pathways exist where all sections do not require money for textbooks. 9 more pathways are close to being finalized as OER/ZTC. Resources available to help faculty create OER/ZTC course sections in their departments. Need dean and chair input, in addition to faculty work/input.

The reporting process is underway to inform funding sources about the status of OER/ZTC sections at our College. Went from 364 to 800+ ZTC courses this term. Steps being taken to make it easier for faculty to report their class's ZTC/OER status.

Discussion (10-15 minutes per item)

14. Hiring process per district manual

28 hiring committees running currently for full-time faculty

Students will be joining these committees to participate in some function. Discussions are underway with District about the process through which students are nominated, trained, compensated, and incorporated into the hiring committee.

What kinds of updates are we interested in making to the District Hiring Manual?

Potential consideration: what do we do when we look at application materials that seem to have been plagiarized or produced via artificial intelligence

Point of order: request for speakers in the room to identify themselves

Concern shared that autistic communication is disproportionately “flagged” as AI-generated.

Suggestion: there should be a word limit on the cluster hiring supplemental Questions.

Suggestion: make the financial compensation for applicants clearer and more accessible.

Suggestion: committee equity representatives being included in the second level interview process. Currently, there is no language prohibiting or requiring faculty equity rep inclusion in this process.

Consideration: codify timelines for communication with applicants (during and after interview process).

15. NAGPRA

Draft document created by the work group at the District Academic Senate discussed.

Draft is now at all four Los Rios campuses.

This is the first of many discussions. Intention is to move slowly and intentionally.

Tribal input is being sought by the District NAGPRA committee.

The District is planning a separate acknowledgement of the history and context that Native People and tribal nations exist within.

Points about the policy: in 5.1.7, under “guiding principles,” what does it mean to “recognize the historical legacy of the social and biological sciences?” Seems to justify past practices and harms done.

Additional point: 7.6.53: the District affirms the right of faculty to work with human remains according to the law and ethical principles of specific disciplines. The “ethical principles of specific disciplines” is too vague and allows for potential harm.

Point: 2.3 background. It feels like current faculty are being absolved of the harm done by “holding” the remains and artifacts. It feels strange to be in a policy.

Additional point: the reputation of faculty is in the policy background section, but it is not clear why it is appropriate.

Statement on the “academic freedom” statement: this policy does not sound like a “search for truth.” It sounds like a justification for wrongs. It does not do service to the community and the student community, especially.

Additional comment on 5.1.7: this statement does not seem consistent with acknowledging harm and past actions.

To what degree is this policy “evidence based” in terms of the purpose of this policy?

Comment: it is hard to comment on this policy without a complete sense of the context or the complexity of this issue.

Consideration: should a more holistic statement of context/history be included in the policy itself or as a separate document?

Feeling of discomfort shared. The acknowledgement of past harms seems perfunctory in relation to tribal citizens. The jump from how the remains/artifacts were obtained to discussion of “harms to faculty” was abrupt and does not seem in alignment with the spirit of the policy and document.

16. Report Back (Feedback from College Areas)

Chancellor’s cabinet update: the Cabaldon Bill, which seeks to incorporate Woodland Community College into Los Rios CCD. “Dear Colleague” letter discussed and the lack of District response.

DAS meeting update: collegial consultation discussed. The appropriateness of Chancellor-Academic Senate President conversations discussed.

SUJIC update: Follett bookstore services are talking about pulling out. Folsom

was concerned about money that was going toward athletics department.
Unclear about ARC's impact of Follett pulling out.

- a. Open Issues from any Previous Agenda Item

17. Report Out (Information from District Meetings and Other Areas)

Move to Adjourn 4:56 pm

Upcoming Meetings

- Academic Senate:
Spring Meeting Dates: March 13, March 27, April 10, April 24, May 8
- Next DAS Meeting: Feb. 18 District Office Main Conference Room (remote location)

Appendix A:

Attendance

Name	Role	Area	Term End	Empl Status	Present	Remote
Brian Knirk	President		2025	Full-time		
Veronica Lopez	Vice-Pres		2025	Full-time	X	
Jeffrey Sacha	Secretary		2025	Full-time	X	
Alisa Shubb	Past-Pres		2025	Full-time	X	
Adam Karp	Senator	Language & Communication: Spanish	2025	Full-time	X	
Andrew Fix	Senator	Language & Communication: Philosophy	2025	Adjunct	X	
Behrang Mokarami	Senator	Business: Accounting	2025	Full-time		
Benjamin French	Senator	Manufacturing, Construction & Transportation	2026	Full-time		
Brian Rosario	Senator	Business: Economics	2026	Full-time		

Carlos Ponce	Senator	Career Education, Workforce, Public Service, & Apprenticeship	2024	Adjunct		
Carmelita Palomares	Senator	Counseling	2025	Full-time		
Chris Moore	Senator	Manufacturing, Construction & Transportation	2024	Full-time	X	
Christian Speck	Senator	Business	2023	Adjunct	X	
Daniel Slutsky	Senator	STEM - Science	2027	Full-time	X	
David McCusker	Senator	Library/Learning Resources/Instructional Tech. Center	2025	Full-time	X	X
Diane Lui	Senator	Arts	2023	Adjunct	X	
Dyanne Marte	Senator	Arts: Fashion and Interior Design	2026	Full-time	X	
Dylan Popowicw	Senator	People, Culture & Society: Phil	???	Full-time		
Eric Black	Senator	Kinesiology & Athletics	2024	Full-time		
Gina Barnard	Senator	English	2025	Full-time	X	
Glenn Jaecks	Senator	STEM - Science	2025	Full-time	X	
Jen Kirkman	Senator	Health & Education: Nursing	2025	Full-time	X	X
Jennifer Scalzi	Senator	Counseling	???	Full-time		
Jody Johnson	Senator	Career Education, Workforce, Public Service, & Apprenticeship	2026	Adjunct		
John Burke	Senator	STEM - Math & Computer Science	2026	Full-time		

Judith Valdez	Senator	Student Support Services: EOPS	2024	Full-time	X	
Kris Fertel	Senator	Language & Communication	2027	Full-time	X	
Lauren Chavez	Senator	People, Culture & Society	2024	Adjunct		
Linda Gelfman	Senator	Arts	2024	Full-time		
Matthew Stoehr	Senator	Arts: Art/New Media		Full-time	X	
Mayra Mireles-Tijero	Senator	Counseling	2026	Full-time	X	
Michael Crowder	Senator	English	2025	Full-time		
Michaela Cooper	Senator	English	2026	Full-time	X	
Mihaela Badea-Mic	Senator	STEM - Science	2025	Adjunct		
Mikhail Drobot	Senator	Manufacturing, Construction & Transportation	2023	Adjunct		
Ricardo Caton	Senator	People, Culture & Society	2025	Full-time	X	
Rob Juner	Senator	Health & Education	2026	Full-time	X	X
Sarah Lehmann	Senator	Library/Learning Resources/Instructional Tech. Center	2026	Full-time	X	
Sabina Simon	Senator	Language & Communication: ESL		Full-time	X	
Sonya Reichel	Senator	STEM - Math & Computer Science	2025	Full-time	X	
Susan Chou	Senator	Health & Education	2027	Full-time		

Tak Auyeung	Senator	STEM - Math & Computer Science	2027	Full-time	X	
Tee Gager	Senator	People, Culture & Society	2026	Part-time	X	X
Valerie Bronstein	Senator	English	2026	Adjunct	X	
Vivian Dillon	Senator	Career Education, Workforce, Public Service, & Apprenticeship	2024	Full-time	X	
Deborah Gale	Senator	STEM - Math & Computer Science		Alt Adjunct	X	
Arthur Jenkins	Senator	Student Support Services	Ex Officio	Alt Full-Time	X	X
Ellen Bowden	Senator	People, Culture & Society: Anthro		Alt Adjunct		
Erik Haarala	Senator	Language & Communication		Alt Full-Time		
John Coldiron	Senator	Health & Education		Alt Full-Time		
Kim Herrell	Senator	Counseling		Alt Full-Time		
Lana Anishchenko	Senator	STEM - Math & Computer Science		Alt Full-Time		
Lonetta Riley	Senator	Career Education, Workforce, Public Service, & Apprenticeship		Alt Full-Time		
Marianne Harris	Senator	Library/Learning Resources/Instructional Tech. Center		Alt Full-Time		
Melissa Diaz	Senator	English		Alt Full-Time		

Michael Nakada	Senator	Arts: Hospitality Management	Alt Full-Time
Shannon Pries	Senator	English	Alt Full-Time
Susan Ramones	Senator	STEM - Science: Biology	Alt Full-Time