



ARC Academic Senate Approved Minutes

Aug 27, 2026

Time 3:00-5:00pm

ARC Student Center Board Room

Meeting ID: 836 2610 4920

[Zoom link](#)

Preliminaries

1. Call to Order: Called to order at 3:02 by AS President Veronica Lopez
 - a. Land Acknowledgement Statement read by Dr. David Miramontez
2. Approval of the Agenda:
 - a. Agenda approved by consent.
3. Approval of the Minutes:
 - a. [May 14, 2026](#) approved by consent, with no change.
4. Introduction of Guests:
 - a. Araceli Badilla, beacon coordinator (Zoom)
 - b. William Wann, Administration of justice
 - c. Brent Kaneyiki, New program coordinator
 - d. David Miramontes Quinones
 - e. Dean Marwa Harps
 - f. Dean Hannah Blodgett
 - g. Angela Daroy
 - h. Andréa Pantoja-Garvey she/hers/ela/dela Psyc faculty, serving as Program Review Chair this academic year
 - i. Andrew Boyd
5. Public Comment Period: (3 minutes per speaker)
 - a. Senator shared that in Arts and Sciences 103, after the summer, furniture was missing. Two ADA-compliant chairs and two tables, one of those was also ADA compliant. We cannot find them anywhere. The request is, if furniture is borrowed from the classroom, its return would be appreciated. Faculty have been able to recover two ADA compliant chairs, but they are still missing one ADA-compliant table/desk.
 - b. Public comment from Dean Hannah Blodgett: Announcing the Student Engagement Calendar of events efforts to engage faculty, staff, and students with the resources as outlined: Center of Leadership and Development, UNITE Center, Homebases, and the fall semester calendar of events associated with these centers/ programs. In addition, provide easy access to the support navigator form and to all websites associated with the highlighted programs. Hannah's office is in the CLD if anyone wants to meet with her.
 - c. Public Comment from Dean Marwa Harps: Announcing UNITE Center operation hours for the fall. 9:00 am-7:00 pm MON-THU and FRI 9:00 am- 5:00 pm, in

response to student and faculty feedback reflected in the Institutional Equity Plan and the need for more accessible areas for our evening students. We are assessing the traffic this fall and seeing how students respond to this change. Students are invited to come hang out. Please share this with students.

- d. David Miramontes Quinones: Peoplesoft should be back up and running by the end of the day today. David thanks everyone for supporting students and each other through this technical issue. He is proud of the work that has been done. Students will likely still be impacted by financial aid, and more communication about this will be coming forward. ARC is working with the district office and continuing to disseminate information about the outage and its impacts.

6. President's Report:

- a. President Lopez welcomes the new senators! There is a full foster in Business now!
 - i. Business Area
 - 1. Jacki Yago (Paralegal Studies)
 - 2. David Munoz (Accounting)
 - 3. Andrew Boyd (Alternate)
 - ii. MCT
 - 1. Jason Keith
- b. Peoplesoft is back up and running, and President Lopez reiterated that students may still come to faculty with financial issues, so faculty should be prepared. (See comments by David Miramontes Quinones above.)
- c. Nothing but good things have been said about the Barnes & Noble bookstore experience so far. B&N gift cards are accepted at our college bookstore.
- d. Project Charters
 - i. [DE Project Charter approved by AS March 2026](#)
 - ii. [Homebase Project Charter \(2026\)](#)
 - iii. [Dual Enrollment Project Charter \(2026\)](#)
- e. [Institutional Governance Online Repository](#) (IGOR): Senate has been working with VPA so that leads have access to IGOR, where they can upload materials, to make Academic Senate work public. This is for accreditation purposes, among other things.

Consent Items

- 7. Approval of [Remote Attendees](#) Academic Senate Remote Participation document shared
 - a. Valerie Bronstein (English)
 - b. Shannon Pries (English FT alt)
 - c. Christian Speck (Business Adjunct)
 - d. Mikhail Drobot (DCDT)
 - e. Jacqueline Yago (Business FT)
 - f. Lisa Delgado (Kines)
 - g. Mayra Mireles-Tijero (Counseling)
 - h. Raquel Tejomaya (PCS - Psychology)
 - i. Michael Angelone (eng)
 - j. Rachael Simon (Nursing)

k. Kay Lo (CTL/Counseling)

8. Draft [F26/F27 Program Review Chair Job Description](#)
 - a. Job description was updated to align with the FTE, and Andréa Pantoja Garvey has been appointed to the position for this academic year. FTE will continue to be assigned. Andrea has been keeping track of her tasks and hours to make sure the work aligns with the FTE, and she will keep the team updated, to inform decisions about FTE in the next academic year. So far, a lot of time has been spent in preparation for program review for this semester. A senator pointed out that the time spent in the position is not evenly spread out throughout the semester (some weeks requiring more work than others).
9. Draft [F26-S28 Science Success Center Faculty Coordinator Job Description](#)
 - a. This job description is still being finalized. A tremendous amount of collaborative work has been done. Because of the vital nature of the position, Susan Ramones has been appointed in an interim position until the job description is posted and goes through the process.
10. Unite Center Faculty Coordinator Positions: **PULLED FROM CONSENT**
 - a. New: F26/S28 [El Centro](#) Pulled from consent for discussion
 - b. Returning: S27/F28 [Pride Learning Community Faculty Coordinator](#)
 - i. Pulled from consent for discussion.
 - Dean Marwa Harps discussed this: because of Federal Government changes, adjustments needed to be made, although the student need has not changed. After discussions and feedback, the decision was made to add this coordinator position to help support students. The work is ever evolving and Dean Marwa would like to continue to partner with UNITE and PUENTE faculty and staff to continue to make sure the job description is relevant.
 - Question on Zoom: At the top of the document, it is noted that .20 FTE or ESA for part time faculty. Why is there not FTE available for part-time faculty? The same question pertains to the previous coordinator position discussed.
 - A senator who has been a coordinator for 20 years pointed out there are two pages for overload compensation: First page is lecture/lab and the second page is for coordinators, nurses, etc. The senator pointed out that Page 2 should be used instead of Page 1.
 - Angela Daroy indicated that negotiations are ongoing and that changes to this will likely be coming in the future, but currently, this is how the district HR has directed for things to be set up.
 - The senator expressed concerns about the time allocation if the person in this position were to complete all tasks on the list it would require more than the .20 FTE.
 - Dean Marwa indicates that transparency in the job description is important. She indicated that the faculty coordinator would start in the position and review with her what the current priorities are for the position. Her position as a Dean does not supervise the person in the coordinator position. Similarly to all other coordinator positions (e.g. Puente program) with reassigned time have huge job descriptions, but not all of the bullet points in the description will be relevant to the current needs. Institutional accountability (grant outlines) need to be taken into consideration, and discussing the role should be a collaborative process. This description was an attempt to be as transparent as

- possible regarding what the work involves. She is requesting collaboration on the wording on the job description.
- Alisa Shubb noted that UDA language was copied into the job description- indicating that the duties would be agreed upon at the time the position.
 - A senator indicated that it is unclear under the heading of program evaluation the coordinator is responsible for these evaluations
 - A senator asked about how many weekly hours a coordinator is expected to work and whether the person would be paid if they completed more hours than expected.
 - There are two different types of coordinators: full time and temporary reassign- this position is a reassign position.
 - Comment on Zoom: A suggestion was made to seek union guidance on the Reassigned Load- President Lopez indicated that she has reached out to the union about this.
 - Michael Angelone spoke as a union representative: negotiations are still underway, and he indicated that the coordination issue is a sticking point in ratifying the contract. He indicated that this is something that has been discussed all summer long (adjuncts can't have reassign time, which is a parity issue) EASs don't go towards Cal STRS, which affects people's retirement income.
 - President Lopez indicated that there will be a start and end time on the job description for new reassign time.
 - A senator discussed the importance of clarity on the length of the coordinator position, so people know what the length of the commitment will be. Reapplication should be allowed, and people can run for the position again when it ends, or a new person can be selected.
 - A senator commented in Zoom "It's been taking a long time as well for ESA payments to be processed."
 - Important Point of Order was Called: Reminder of the rules for Accessibility was requested: Senators and guests are encouraged to wait to be called on and not speak over each other. Also a reminder to identify yourself before speaking.

Decision Items

- None

Reports (5-10 minutes per item)

11. Davies Hall Site Plan Security Assessment - (Administrative of Justice Professor, Bill Wann)
 - a. Report in [PDF](#) and [Google Doc](#) format
 - b. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
 - c. Bill Wann presented slides regarding the site plan for safety/security, ADA compliance/increase quality of life, including images of the proposed building plan
 - i. Keeping the plans in mind, Bill is anticipating where most students will be walking. He has requested that all sidewalks be at least 6ft wide, that lighting and landscaping will be considered to avoid "dark spots" (Los Rios lighting

engineer has approved of Bill's plan) to increase safety. Plants should be low, to prevent hiding from being possible, and trees to be considered to prevent hiding as well.

- ii. The west side of the building points to the staff parking lot on the west. The Ranch House is in the back area of the building. Faculty office space will be located at the west side of the building. Hallways can create hiding spaces, as can stair wells, so glass instead of solid railings should be considered. This way, a person in the hallway can see what's around them as much as possible. The west side door going out to the staff parking lot should be highly occupied, for safety. Staff offices, instead of breakout rooms, should be at that side of the building, because staff offices will be more highly occupied than breakout rooms.
- iii. Faculty offices should have windows so faculty can see who is approaching their offices. Another option is to have doors facing the hallway to allow staff to be able to see everything going on in the hallway.
- iv. The breezeway can also create safety problems. The breezeway should not become an "entrapment zone". It should be well lit and there should be windows overlooking the space, so people can be seen. Picnic tables where students can study is another idea to increase the likelihood of the space being highly occupied.
- v. Floor plans: Natural surveillance is provided at the main entrance and south parking, but the mechanical room creates an environment where there are no windows and people can be cut out of others' visibility.
- vi. The entry should be overlooked by windows so staff can see people as they come in.
- vii. Division offices are currently cut off from the visibility of the main entrance, so the recommendation is to add windows so that people in the division offices can see who is approaching. A recommendation was made to spread division offices out throughout the building rather than clustering them close together in proximity.
- viii. Final recommendations: maximize interior glass, and install push button locks on the inside of the door instead of locks that require keys. It was noted that this recommendation goes against the district's current standard, which is to have interior locks that require keys instead of a push button lock.
- ix. Concern was brought up by a senator who doesn't currently teach in the new CTE building, which has many rooms with glass walls: Glass walls/windows in classrooms seem like they can be distracting for students. Response: glazed glass is the new trend, to be able to see what is going on around the classroom. There's no right or wrong answer- it's a tradeoff. A CTE professor who teaches in the new CTE building indicated that students get used to the windows and it becomes less distracting.
- x. A question was asked: How do you hide in a classroom where one wall is all glass? The answer provided was that there are after market products that can provide spaces for people in the room to safely hide, but if you can see what is happening outside the room, the possibility of being able to run away increases. Again, it is a balance.
- xi. Another senator who teaches in the CTE building indicated that students do get used to the class windows, but also has concerns about being in a situation where the only way out is to run toward a threat.
- xii. Past President Alisa Shubb indicated that safety is a concern, but also shared that classrooms should be private spaces, to avoid situations where people not enrolled in a class know who is in each class, and to provide spaces where students feel safe to engage in learning experiences in a more private setting

(e.g. a public speaking class).

12. Council Updates

- a. Institutional Effectiveness Council - (Dr. Connie Ayala) First meeting will be on Monday, August 31
- b. Operations Council (Sarah Lehman) will be reported on in an upcoming senate meeting
- c. Student Success Council - (Caitlin Zumalt) will be reported on in an upcoming senate meeting

Discussion (10-15 minutes per item)

13. Updates Hiring Manual Task Group - (Vivian Dillon and Veronica Lopez)

- a. Meets Sept 4th
- b. District admin has no interest in faculty or no equity rep at the second level of interviews
 - i. A senator asked if this is the law or if it is up for discussion. The answer was that this is a district wide decision, but it is not clear who is stating this preference.
 - ii. A senator indicated that on each hiring committee she has served on, there has been an equity rep at first and second round interviews, but Vice President Daniel Slutsky indicated that equity reps do not serve on the second level interviews.
 - iii. A senator stated that administration members have indicated that they are equity trained, and that they can monitor themselves.
 - iv. A senator indicated that administrators seem to not have an understanding of equity related to disabilities and is wondering if this will be addressed.
 - v. Past President Alisa Shubb indicated that a revision of the hiring manual is underway. After its adoption, it will go to the board.
 - vi. A senator indicated that he would rather have a content matter expert faculty member at second round interviews, and this would be preferred over having an equity rep present.
 - vii. Alisa Shubb indicated that it will be important for senators to bring forward any concerns with the hiring manual while the work is being done to work on the revision. She stated that leaning in now to what our representatives on the task force need to know going into the task force will be really helpful in guiding their work.
 - viii. A senator brought up concerns with the number of faculty members on a hiring committee in relation to the non-content-matter experts on hiring committees, and indicated that hiring committees should be composed in a manner that will allow for a greater faculty voice. The senator also brought up the idea of students serving on hiring committees and questioned why administration doesn't want faculty on second round interviews but they do want to allow students to serve on first round interviews. Ranking vs. voting as language was clarified by President Lopez, because the senator used the word "voting" instead of ranking. President Lopez also indicated that there are two separate issues here, and that students serving on hiring committees will be discussed and considered as a separate issue.
 - ix. A senator indicated that just because administrators have training in equity, doesn't mean they will make equitable hiring decisions.
 - x. A senator asked where we are on the topic of student representation on hiring committees. President Lopez responded by saying that we are "stuck" and that she feels this is too rushed. She would like to be able to take time to collaborate and work through tough conversations together. Discussion on this matter needs to take department needs into consideration, look into the options, and understand that there will be nuance. She suggested that there could be a menu

of options that the hiring committee should be able to choose from (e.g. students providing feedback on teaching demonstrations).

- xi. A senator brought up a concern that we are “stuck” on the union side, and that we are also “stuck” on the senate side, and brought up the idea of inviting an outside party to come in and help find a solution.
- xii. A senator pointed out that senators are not in agreement amongst themselves regarding the role students should serve on hiring committees, and agreed with the idea that there be a menu of options.
- xiii. A senator pointed out that the administration seems to want only one way to allow students to serve on hiring committees, but that options for how students can possibly serve on hiring committees would be helpful.
- xiv. A senator asked about impressions for classified, students, and faculty when administrators are hired. These are scheduled for administration hires, and so the senator is wondering why it would be difficult for teaching demonstrations to be scheduled for faculty hiring on campus.
- xv. Another senator pointed out the shortage of space on campus, which would create difficulty in scheduling teaching demonstrations with students present.
- xvi. Vivian Dillon is asking to be included in emails to her and to Veronica regarding hiring manual edits so she can be aware of peoples’ opinions.

14. Academic Senate Survey Results

- a. [More detailed results linked here.](#)
- b. 47 respondents (out of 800 faculty)
- c. Regarding academic and professional matters, faculty hiring was the #1 priority (M = 4.47), #2 was governance process (M = 4.30), #3 was budget and resource allocation (M = 4.04, and #4 was curriculum (M = 4.0).
- d. Regarding urgent action for academic senate, governance processes and communication was the #1 priority (M = 3.97), #2 was faculty hiring (M= 3.90), #3 was facilities and campus environment (3.67), and #4 was budget and allocation (M = 3.57)

15. Report Back (Feedback from College Areas)

- a. Open Issues from any Previous Agenda Item
 - i. A senator mentioned that last semester there were concerns about hiring in science, with several TBA faculty slots. August 14 was the date of the impressions panel for LTTs, with people working through the summer to work on hiring. Some classes were able to be staffed last minute and yet some classes were still not staffed and had to be canceled at the very last minute. President Lopez asked if the issues were coming from HR or campus. The senator indicated that HR decided to open up a separate hiring pool that few people applied to, and hiring committee members did not have access to the pool. The hiring committee worked with sister campuses to try to prevent pulling faculty from them. FLC needed to cancel a chemistry class as a result of the delay with HR. New faculty started the semester without WIDs, classroom keys, etc. A last-minute faculty swap was necessary. Students did not know who their instructors would be. Vice President Daniel Slutsky is working with the department chair of chemistry to find out where the hiring roadblocks were with the hiring process described above. and he is also requesting for faculty to share details with him regarding similar issues in their departments. A senator suggested bringing this information to the union as well. The Chemistry department has been asking for LTTs since last October and for the adjunct pool to be available in January. The LTT pool was not released until May.
 - ii. A senator shared a concern regarding a 2024/2025 senate-passed resolution supporting transgender and binary students. The senator is concerned that

there were several items in the resolution that have not been addressed.

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

- a. District Academic Senate Meetings: First Tuesday of the month, starting in September

17. Items from College Areas for Academic Senate Consideration: Future Returning Items

- a. Revision of the [LRCCD Emergency Closure Distance Education](#) addendum
 b. District Equity Student Success Committee (DESSC) [Los Rios Artificial Intelligence Guidelines](#)
 c. Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) [Policy 7910](#) and Human Remains [Policy 7920](#)

Meeting adjourned 5:00pm

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- District Academic Senate Meeting, Sept. 2nd, 3-5 pm, District Office Conference Room
- Board of Trustees Meeting, Sept. 9th, 3-5 pm, District Office Board Room
- ARC Academic Senate Meeting, Sept. 10th, 3-5 pm, ARC Student Center Board Room

(Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain)

ARC Academic Senate Sign-In Sheet & Roll Call 08-27-2026	Role	In-Person	Remote	Absent				
Veronica Lopez	President	✓			-	-	-	
Daniel Slutsky	Vice President	✓						
Mieke San Julian	Secretary	✓						
Alisa Shubb	Past President	✓						
Adrienne Avila	FT	✓						
Ally Joye	FT	✓						
Amy Gaudard	FT	✓						
Andrew Boyd	Alt FT	✓						
Ben French	FT			✓				
Caitlin Zumalt	PT	✓						
Cesar Reyes (parental leave)	FT			✓				

Fall)								
Cheryl Tsushima	Alt PT			✓				
Chris Moore	MCT PT	✓						
Christian Speck	PT		✓					
Connie Ayala	Alt FT	✓						
David Bell	Alt PT			✓				
David McCusker	FT	✓						
David Munoz	FT			✓				
Diane Lui	PT			✓				
Eric Black	FT			✓				
Erik Haarala	Alt FT			✓				
Heidi Bennett	FT			✓				
Jacqueline Yago	FT		✓					
Janay Lovering	FT	✓						
Jason Keith	FT	✓						
Jennifer Scalzi	FT			✓				
Judith Valdez	FT			✓				
Justus Carlisle	PT	✓						
Kim Herrell	Alt FT			✓				
Kris Fertel	FT	✓						
Lana Anishchenko	Alt FT			✓				
Lisa Delgado	FT			✓				
Marianne Harris	Alt FT	✓						
Michael Angelone	FT		✓					
Michael Nakada	Alt FT	✓						
Mihaela Badea-Mic	Alt PT			✓				
Mikhail Drobot	FT		✓					

Nicole Mann	FT	✓						
Paul Knox	Alt PT			✓				
Pat Wood	FT			✓				
Rachael Simon	FT		✓					
Raquel Tejomaya	PT		✓					
Ray Simmons	Alt FT	✓						
Seth Clark	FT	✓						
Shannon Pries	Alt FT		✓					
Susan Chou	FT	✓						
Susan Ramones	Alt FT			✓				
Tak Auyeung	FT	✓						
Tim Finnecy	FT	✓						
Tracie Tweet	PT							
Vivian Orcasitas Dillon	FT	✓						
Jayden Velasquez	Student Senate	✓						
William Wann (guest)	FT	✓						
Marwa Harps (guest)	Dean of Student Engagement and Completion	✓						
Hannah Blodgett (guest)	Dean of Outreach and Pathways Communities	✓						
David Miramontes Quinones (guest)	VPSSE	✓						
Brent Kaneyiki (guest)	Coordinator	✓						
Valerie Bronstein (guest)			✓					
Mayra Mireles-Tijero			✓					

