ARC Academic Senate Approved Minutes

October, 22, 2026
Time 2:30pm
ARC Student Center Board Room
Meeting ID: 836 2610 4920
Zoom link

Preliminaries

1. Call to Order: Called to order at 2:31
    - Land acknowledgement read by President Veronica Lopez
2. Approval of the Agenda: Agenda approved by consent
3. Approval of the Minutes: Minutes approved by consent with a few modifications to update the information
4. Introduction of Guests:
    - Angela Daroy
    - Lisa Cardoza
    - David Miramontes-Quinones
    - Adam Windham
    - Jon Wedding
    - Sandra Wyrick
    - Marwa Harps

5. Public Comment Period (3 minutes per speaker):
    - A senator shared the following information: "My name is Jacqueline Yago, I am a FT faculty member in the Paralegal Studies program, and I am here to share information about a proposed initiative my Business Division colleagues, Kevin Lovelace and Alice Piovesan, as well as Amir Salahi from the Electronics Technologies and Solar Energy Department are interested in starting called the Business Collective at ARC. Through the Business Collective, our goal is to empower ARC students to launch, build, and scale small businesses as well as gain a deeper understanding of entrepreneurship.
      Through this initiative, we hope to create an accessible environment where students can connect with faculty, business owners, campus resources, and each other while developing practical knowledge related to launching and operating a business.
      We intend to provide students across disciplines with workshops, networking opportunities, mentorship, and community connections as we recognize that entrepreneurship and self-employment are relevant career paths not just in Business, but also Career Technical Education and other academic programs.
      Examples of programming topics we plan on hosting during our weekly meetings are, incorporating a business, business planning, commercial lease fundamentals,

contract drafting fundamentals, marketing and customer development, finding clients and developing new business, and fund raising, and more.
Our long-term goal is to make the Business Collective at ARC to be a point of connection among entrepreneurship education, Career Technical Education, community business expertise, and experiential learning at ARC.
If you have any questions or concerns, or if you would like to support our initiative, please reach out to me, Jackie at yagoj@arc.losrios.edu or Kevin Lovelace at lovelak@arc.losrios.edu."

- A senator made the following public comment: “I unknowingly do and say ableist things with some regularity. We start where we start. And, I want to normalize sharing concerns when there is a possibility that policies and practices could have an ableist impact.
  Two weeks ago, I found a mental health emergency flowchart in my mailbox. I do appreciate that the institution is attempting to provide guidance on this topic, and I have some concerns I would share.
  I only received the document in print. If it was only distributed in print, then it’s inaccessible to a number of faculty.
  My primary concern though is that I believe this document needs to be coupled with guidance and professional development, which I believe falls under 10 + 1.
  It states that if a student makes a threat of harm to others, the faculty response should be to bring the student to the SHWC for a formal risk assessment. I think that will work out well the vast majority of the time, and I think that some small amount of the time that a student would say something like, “I’m going to kill someone,” directing a faculty member to escort that person across campus is asking the faculty member to take on a risk that is unwise and also potentially creates legal risk for the institution.
  I also have serious concerns that placing threats of harm to self or others in the same category as psychological distress or “not being in touch with reality.”
  Psychological distress and “not being in touch with reality” are not necessarily indications that anyone is in danger.
  I worked in a public library for a few years before coming to LRC. Public librarians routinely interact with people not in touch with reality and most of the time, intervention is not necessary. When I worked at the county public law library, I interacted dozens of times with a patron who believed that a famous. person who died many years ago, was alive and living in their residence. The patron was looking for a legal remedy to get the individual out of their house. I think it would be accurate to state that this library patron was out of touch with reality, but at no point did they pose a threat to themselves or others.
  I shared this document with two students who have shared with me that they have mental health conditions which sometimes results in their experiencing delusions.
  One told me, “yeah delusions can really suck but most of the time they don’t result in harm to self or others.”
  The other said, “Then I qualify for a formal risk assessment 24/7.”
  Unnecessary intervention can result in truly damaging outcomes.
  Both of those students have shared with me that they have had law enforcement or other professionals perform formal risk assessments, which resulted in their being involuntarily held, though they posed no threat to themselves or others.
  They described the experiences as unnecessary and traumatizing.

I've been diagnosed as having two mental illnesses. I don't know what constitutes psychological distress for the purposes of this document without some professional development or guidance, but I would say I've been in psychological distress on this campus many times.
I've never been involuntarily held for an extended period, but I did have an experience when a healthcare professional told me they weren't going to let me leave until a risk assessment could be conducted to determine if I was a threat to myself or others. I was not, and fortunately, the person doing the assessment agreed. It was an experience that was both terrifying and infantilizing. This is an outcome that, without significant training or guidance, I believe is made more likely by attempting to adhere to this document."

- The following public comment was also made: "My name is Araceli Badilla, Beacon Coordinator,
  I'm here to ask ARC senate leadership to work directly with ARC union leadership in planning the next Community of Chairs and Coordinators meeting as it relates to department chair duties.
  The Community of Chairs and Coordinators meeting is where many important information and duties are discussed and some of the questions/issues that come up fall within the scope of our collective bargaining unit.
  Thank you for your time and your consideration."
- David Miramontes Quinones shared information from the ARC UndocuScholar Resource Connection, in English and Spanish, providing students with an updated ARC LRCCD Preparedness Plan.
- A senator read the following messages from people who could not attend the meeting
  i. From a student: "I have a message that I want to get out there, I just wanna say for me being an African-American woman with two children. I think it's very important for us to have more African-Americans as English teachers. I feel that it is important because it teaches our young community that there is something to look forward to that the dedication and hard work does get us in places that we need to be as long as we are dedicated and focus. I think it's important to have leaders of all ethnicities of course. But I think it's very important for us to have more African-American teachers for English studies."
  ii. From English faculty: "Michaela Cooper urges you to rank this position highly. The English department needs an instructor with experience working with DI students. A writing instructor working within an Umoja framework, in particular, will be grounded in culturally responsive pedagogy and help our department close the achievement gap for African-American students. " English faculty Aaron Bradford also asked for his name to be signed to this statement.
  iii. From English faculty Michael Angelone: "I support the targeted English hire. As an English professor, I care about the expertise we bring into our department, the perspectives our curriculum includes, and our ability to serve our students well.
  Black students' success is a responsibility shared by the entire college. Our Black colleagues should not have to carry the work of advocating for it alone.

This position is an opportunity to strengthen our department and deepen our commitment to students. It deserves support grounded in its academic purpose, and the educational needs it would address.
I appreciate the colleagues who have brought this proposal forward, and I want my support clearly on the record.
I encourage the college to move this hire forward."

- A student made a comment, letting senators know that she is thankful to be a student here at ARC. She came to the meeting to request that we bring more African American faculty to our campus. She is requesting for us to recognize the importance of having faculty who represent the students they serve.

6. President's Report:
   - Textbook and ZTC Reminder - There are **two quick steps** that all faculty are asked to complete each semester:
     i. Submit your course materials adoptions to the bookstore using the Adoptions & Insights Portal (AIP)
     ii. Submit the ZTC Designation Form - this is how the Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) symbol gets added to ZTC courses
        1. Slides: How to Use B&N AIP to Adopt Commercial Textbooks
        2. Slides: How to Use the B&N AIP to report ZTC to the bookstore
        3. Video: Training recording
   - Faculty Prioritization - **Rankings are due by Monday, November 2nd at 11:55 pm**
     i. Fall 2026 Timeline
     ii. **Only** Senators vote
        1. Please use the **User Guide** for instructions on ranking (Section 6, page 14). This is also available on the main Faculty Prioritization **website** at the top, under "Supporting Resources."
   - The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) has shared:
     i. post-Area Meetings resolutions packet is available and is linked at the top of the ASCCC Resolutions Process page.
   - Invitation to Apply: AI for Teaching and Learning (AI4TL) Institute - **Due Nov 15th**

Consent Items

7. Approval of Remote Attendees Approved by consent
   - Mikhail Drobot (DCDT) 1
   - Michael Angelone (English) 1
   - Ben French (Automotive Tech) 1
   - Diane Lui (FAA) 3
   - Mayra Mireles-Tijero (Counseling) 1
   - Mihaela Badea-Mic (Biology) ALT
   - Jacqueline Yago (BUS Div FT - Paralegal Studies) A

Decision Items

8. Faculty Hiring Prioritization Presentations
    - Schedule

Reports N/A

Discussion N/A

Meeting adjourned 5:08pm

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Board of Trustees Meeting, Nov. 18th, District Office Board Room
- Board of Trustees Meeting, Dec. 16th, District Office Board Room
- District Academic Senate Meeting, Oct. 20th, 3-5 pm, District Office Conference Room
- District Academic Senate Meeting, Nov. 3rd, 3-5 pm, District Office Conference Room
- District Academic Senate Meeting, Nov. 17th, 3-5 pm, District Office Conference Room
- ARC Academic Senate Meeting, Nov. 12th, 3-5 pm, ARC Student Center Board Room
- ARC Academic Senate Meeting, Dec 10th, 3-5 pm, ARC Student Center Board Room

ARC Academic Senate Sign-In Sheet & Roll Call **09-24-2026**	Role	Alternate for (name of senator)	In-Person	Remote	Absent
Veronica Lopez	President		✅		
Daniel Slutsky	Vice President		✅		
Mieke San Julian	Secretary		✅		
Alisa Shubb	Past President		✅		
Adrianne Avila	FT	X			✅
Ally Joye	FT	X	✅		
Amy Gaudard	FT	X	✅		
Andrew Boyd	Alt FT	Alternate for David Munoz	✅		
Ben French	FT	X		✅	
Caitlin Zumalt	PT	X	✅		
Cesar Reyes (parental leave Fall)	FT	X			
Cheryl Tsushima	Alt PT				
Chris Moore	PT	X	✅		
Christian Speck	PT	X	✅		
Connie Ayala	FT	X	✅		
David Bell	Alt PT				
David McCusker	FT	X	✅		
David Munoz	FT	X			✅
Diane Lui	PT	X		✅	
Eric Black	FT	X			✅
Erik Haarala	Alt FT				
Gaby Meindl	PT	X	✅		
Heidi Bennett	FT	X			✅
Jacqueline Yago	FT	X		✅	

ARC Academic Senate Sign-In Sheet & Roll Call **09-24-2026**	Role	Alternate for (name of senator)	In-Person	Remote	Absent
Janay Lovering	FT	X	✅		
Jason Keith	FT	X	✅		
Jennifer Scalzi	FT	X	✅		
Justus Carlisle	PT	X	✅		
Kevin Van Den Bogert	FT	X			✅
Kim Herrell	FT	X			✅
Kris Fertel	FT	X	✅		
Lana Anishchenko	Alt FT				
(Leroy) Adam Austin	FT	X	✅		
Lisa Delgado	FT	X	✅		
Marianne Harris	Alt FT	Absent, but Araceli Badilla filled in for her.			✅
Mayra Mireles	FT	X		✅	
Michael Angelone	FT	X		✅	
Michael Crowder	FT	X	✅		
Michael Koontz	PT	X	✅		
Michael Nakada	Alt FT	X	✅		
Michael Sweet	FT	X	✅		
Mihaela Badea-Mic	Alt PT			✅	
Mikhail Drobot	FT	X		✅	
Nicole Mann	FT	X	✅		
Paul Knox	Alt PT				
Pat Wood	FT	X			✅
Rachael Simon	FT	X	✅		
Raquel Tejomaya	PT	X	✅		
Ray Simmons	Alt FT				

ARC Academic Senate Sign-In Sheet & Roll Call **09-24-2026**	Role	Alternate for (name of senator)	In-Person	Remote	Absent
Seth Clark	FT	X	✅		
Shannon Pries	Alt FT				
Steve Thompson	FT	X	✅		
Susan Chou	FT	X	✅		
Susan Ramones	Alt FT				
Tak Auyeung	FT	X	✅		
Tim Finnecy	FT	X	✅		
Vivian Orcasitas Dillon	FT	X	✅		