

Academic Senate Minutes — March 5th, 2026

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | **Location:** In-Person IB1-106

Statement of Purpose

The Academic Senate is organized under the provisions of the California Code of Regulations, Title 5. It shall represent the faculty and make recommendations to the administration and to the Board with respect to academic and professional matters, so long as the exercise of such functions does not conflict with the lawful collective bargaining agreement.

The passage of AB 1725 in 1988 granted the Academic Senate the role as the college's primary authority on academic and professional matters.

Our purpose is to represent all faculty in dealings with Administration and the Board of Trustees, in developing, revising, and implementing college-wide policies and procedures that concern faculty. The Academic Senate should strengthen the role faculty plays in the collaborative governance process. Furthermore, the Academic Senate should provide a platform where faculty discuss, debate, formulate resolutions and recommendations, provide opinions on academic and professional matters, as well as on other issues of concern.

The Academic Senate is a democratically elected group of faculty who represent their respective divisions.

Meeting Roles

- **Facilitator:** Sean Moore — Academic Senate President
 - **Parliamentarian:** Kent Schwitkis — Senator
 - **Recorder:** Michael VanOverbeck — Secretary
 - **Timekeeper:** Victoria Martinez — Senator
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Role Descriptions

The Facilitator leads the meeting and ensures the agenda is followed. The Parliamentarian oversees meeting procedures and enforces rules. The Recorder documents minutes. The Timekeeper monitors time and helps keep the meeting on schedule.

Vision

Compton College will be the leading institution of student learning and success in higher education.

Mission Statement

Compton College is an equity-driven, inclusive community resource dedicated to providing opportunities and support for historically underserved student populations, particularly students of color. We cultivate a sense of belonging to support students in achieving their academic goals. Compton College provides students with knowledge, strategies, and skills needed for workforce readiness and facilitates clear pathways for program completion and transfer to four-year institutions; all aimed at enhancing the well-being of our local community.

Attendees

Officers:

President – Sean Moore [x] Vice President and Senator – Hassan Elfarissi [x] Secretary and Senator – Michael VanOverbeck [x]

Senators:

Manzoor Ahmad [x] Stephani Baez [x] Roza Ekimyan [x] Samitha Givens [] Nathan Lopez [x] Victoria Martinez [x] Janette Morales [x] Jesse Mills [] Mayela Rodriguez [x] Kent Schwitkis [x] Juan Tavarez [x] Mandeda Uch [x] Andree Valdry [x] Jose Villalobos [x] Pam West [] Lorena Villarreal [x] Noemi Monterroso [x]Joshua Johnson []

Ex Officio Voting Members:

David Chavez [x] Brad Conn [x] Charles Hobbs []

Nonvoting Attendees:

Sheri Berger [x] Steven Gonzales [x] Susan Johnson [x]

Time Management Reminder

To help ensure we cover all agenda items, and give everyone a chance to share, please try to keep comments brief and focused. Being mindful of time and making space for others to speak helps the meeting flow smoothly and productively. The Timekeeper will kindly provide gentle reminders as needed to keep us on track.

Agenda Structure

While the Brown Act does not require a specific order for agenda items, this structure places Unfinished Business first, followed by New Business. All Unfinished Business items are addressed before moving on to New Business. This approach supports fairness, transparency, and meeting efficiency by ensuring previously introduced items are resolved before new topics are considered.

Amending Agenda Criteria

In accordance with the Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54954.2), agenda changes may only be made during the meeting if an immediate need for action arises after posting, with a brief explanation and approval by a two-thirds vote (or unanimous if fewer than two-thirds are present). This process helps ensure transparency and protects the public's right to be informed.

- **Meeting began at 2:02pm**
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1. Approval of Agenda

- March 5, 2026
 - **Supporting document:** Included in the Packet
- **Victoria M. motioned to approve the agenda. Michael V. seconded. Unanimously approved.**
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2. Approval of Minutes

- February 19, 2026
 - **Supporting document:** Included in the Packet
- **Victoria M. motioned to approve the minutes. Manzoor A. seconded. Unanimously approved.**
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- **Victoria M. motioned to open 3a-f. Manzoor A. seconded.**

3. Reports and Follow-up Questions

No action will be taken on these reports. Senators may discuss them and ask questions for clarification within the allotted time

a) President, Academic Senate

- **Supporting document:** *Summary of Decisions Approved by Academic Senate on February 19th, 2026* (Sent to the District).
[Summary-of-Decisions-Approved-By-Academic-Senate-On-February 19, 2026](#)
- **Time:** 5 minutes
 - Attended the "Achieving the Dream for 2026" conference in Portland.
 - During one of the sessions, they presented a "return on investment framework," which was well-received and has led to ongoing conversations.

b) Vice President, Academic Senate

- **Time:** 2 minute
 - A proposed California bill (AB 1858) would create a pilot program allowing some former California State University students who completed coursework equivalent to an associate degree but left before finishing their bachelor's degree to receive a jointly awarded associate degree from a CSU campus and a community college.
 - CaliforniansForAll College Corps program, noting that participating students may receive up to \$10,000 in financial support for completing approximately 450 hours of community service, and that Compton College appears to be listed as a participating campus on the program website, although the link to the college's page was reported to be non-functional.
 - Apple store is offering a discount for educators.

c) College Curriculum Committee Chair

- **Time:** 2 minutes

d) Distance Education Faculty Coordinator

- **Time:** 2 minutes
 - CDC 164 college students enrolled at Compton college.
 - Handbook is approved to bring forward to academic senate.

e) Vice President, Academic Affairs

- **Time:** 2 minutes
 - Noted that Compton College participates in the College Corps program and that the broken website link will be investigated.
 - Reported that new Title 5 regulations were released that day, including updates related to Environmental Science.
 - Reported that the transition from TOP codes to CIP codes has been approved by the Curriculum Committee and provided an update on the process moving forward.

f) ASG Representative

- **Time:** 2 minutes

- **Noemi M. motioned to close 3a-f. Brad C. seconded.**

- **Victoria M. motioned to approve 3a-f. Jose V. seconded. Unanimously approved**

4. Curriculum Consent Agenda Items—February 24th, 2026 College Curriculum Committee meeting:

- a) **Two-Year CTE Course Review – No Proposed Changes:** SOCI 208A - Social Work and Human Services Seminar; and SOCI 208B - Fieldwork in Social Work and Human Services
 - b) **Course Inactivation:** COSM 118 - Preparation for the State Board of Barbering and Cosmetology Practical Exam
 - c) **New Program:** Mathematics 2.0 - A.S. Degree for Transfer (AS-T)
 - **Time:** 5 Minutes
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5. Unfinished Business: (placeholder)

- **Noemi M. motioned to open 6a. Stefani B. seconded.**

6. New Business:

- a) **Arneshia Bryant-Horn for an Equivalency in Psychology**
 - **Supporting Document:** Included in Packet
 - **Time:** 5 minutes

- **Roza E. motioned to approve 6a. Kent S. seconded. Unanimously approved.**

- **Michael V. motioned to approve 6b. Andree V. seconded. Unanimously approved.**

- b) **Revised Simple Syllabi**

- **Supporting Document:** Proposed Simple Syllabi
[New Sections - Syllabi-Checklist](#)
- **Time:** 10 Minutes
 - Optional Simple Syllabi statement updated with embedded links for accessibility

- **Victoria M. motioned to open 6c. Stefani B. seconded.**

- c) **First Read:** Proposed—Distance Education Handbook

- **Supporting Documents:** *Proposed Distance Education Handbook* in Word format with track changes (attached and link below); *Current Distance Education Handbook*; and the *2025 Faculty Survey on Online Teaching Recertification Survey Report*
[Proposed - Distance Education Handbook](#)
[2025 Faculty Survey on Online Teaching Recertification report \(1\) \(1\)](#)
[Current DE Handbook](#)
- **Time:** 30 Minutes
- **Requested by:** Dr. Bradfield Conn—Distance Education Coordinator

- Dr. Sean Moore expressed appreciation for the team's hard work and acknowledged the need for course improvement but sought clarity on the ramifications of failing the recertification process.
 - Dr. Jose Villalobos reiterated Sean's concerns, posing a scenario where a faculty member fails to receive recertification. He questioned if this means the faculty member can no longer teach.
 - Dr. Brad Conn clarified that the faculty member has a year to make revisions and can continue to teach during that time.
- The potential for bias in the peer review process was acknowledged.
 - A speaker pointed out that just as there is a risk of a reviewer grading a course too harshly due to personal conflict, there is an equal risk of a reviewer being too lenient with a "homie" and letting a substandard course pass.
- Concerns about a potential union issue regarding compensation for course reviewers is a significant concern for making recertification mandatory.
 - A formal recommendation was made to add protective language to the process to ensure compensation for peer reviewers is actually paid by the administration.
 - Union President Dr. David Chavez emphasized the importance of the Senate's role, as it is entrusted with this process.
 - Some committee members expressed concern that the proposed recertification process could increase faculty workload and raised questions about how compensation for peer reviewers would be funded. It was noted that compensation and workload considerations may ultimately need to be addressed through union negotiations.
 - Dr. Sean Moore suggested that the program should perhaps remain optional until the funding for reviewers is secured, especially if the union decides to negotiate terms and compensation.

- **Michael V. motioned to close 6c. Kent S. seconded.**
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- **Victoria M. motioned to open 7. Juan V. seconded.**

7. Future Agenda Recommendations

- **Time: 2 minutes**
 - **Report about library announcements from**

- **Michael V. motioned to close 7. Noemi M. seconded.**
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- **Noemi M. motioned to open the floor for public comment. Kent S. seconded.**

8. Public Comments

- **Time:** 1 minute per person

Note: Members of the public may address the Senate during the Public Comments section on any agenda item or other matters within the Senate's jurisdiction.

Comments are limited to one minute per speaker to ensure fairness and efficiency. No prior notice is required; comments may be made spontaneously during this time.

- A speaker asked the Senate to consider issues related to adult students enrolling in dual enrollment courses held at high school sites, noting that some students may not realize the course meets at a high school and may face logistical challenges such as parking and campus access.

- **Kent S. motioned to close the floor for public comment. David C. seconded.**

Meeting ended at 3:30pm