



Minutes

Faculty Senate Regular Meeting

Friday, September 12, 2025

1:00-2:00 PM on Google Meet

Meeting link: meet.google.com/rgb-obsy-okt

- I. Establishment of Quorum: Mari Hill, Gene Martinez, Kevin Williams, Linda Salazar, and Billie Mathews were present to meet quorum. Nichole Collins and Chantel Rivera entered after quorum was met.
- II. Call of Meeting to Order: Chair Mari Hill called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.
- III. Approval of Agenda: Gene Martinez moved to approve the agenda. Linda Salazar seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from August 22 Meeting: Gene Martinez moved to approve the minutes of the August 22 meeting. Linda Salazar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- V. Welcome of Guests/Public Comment (3 minutes per person): No guests were present.
- VI. Information/Discussion Items:
 - A. Senator Reports
 1. Mari Hill (Education Senator, Senate Chair) – Mari Hill reported that she has now met in person with all of her classes, and is excited to see many new faces.
 2. Gene Martinez (CTE Senator, Vice Chair) – Gene Martinez reported that it was a good week. He met with LANL (Los Alamos National Laboratory). He will be getting an additional \$50,000! He worked with Terrance to do a TicToc video. Many students came in and he had a question and answer session with the people from LANL. In his program he has a 10% female population in his welding program, which is better than other schools. It looks like he has a 55% increase in enrollment. He is still working on the common course numbering system and his program map. He gave a tour to the people from LANL. They want him to do some additional types of welding (316 stainless steel), which will require some new equipment, metal, and specialty gear. Gene said he was hesitant, but with more money, he feels he can do it. Gene said he may be consulting for Espanola's community college and their welding program.
 3. Kevin Williams (Associates Senator, Secretary) – Nothing to report at this time.
 4. Billie Mathews (Humanities Senator, Immediate Past Chair) – STEM and Humanities has a new Interim Director - Dr. Geno Castillo. They had a department meeting and discussed schedules for the spring and the summer. Our schedules will be tentative, but planned for Spring and Summer of 2026—a great step forward! We are still looking for more STEM instructors. Some adjuncts are filling some holes. Higher math classes have

a lower enrollment. Our concern is that our high school students don't have the math skills to get into those classes. We are wanting to build upon the math skills of our incoming students so that we can fill our trig and calculus and statistics classes. She went to Robertson High School to meet with dual credit students. One of the struggles is that dual credit classes can be taken by 9th grade students in the Spring of their freshman year. Many of them don't have the study skills or writing skills to take asynchronous classes, as they haven't taken Comp yet. If their scores don't indicate they can take Comp I, they would have to take English 106, but the MOU does not pay for Eng 106 or developmental math. (She believes this is statewide.) Luckily her number of "no-show" students is very low this semester. Dr. Castillo is going to do a training for us to be able to input our own books into the Luna Online Store. That was a struggle this year, and her dual credit students started the semester without textbooks. She plans on starting her tutoring week after next. The Gen Ed Assessment Team is finishing up their review of Gen Ed classes and will have their stuff to Rachael very soon for inclusion into the HLC report.

5. Nichole Collins (STEM/Assessment Senator) – Ron Duran will be doing the training for inputting textbooks. It will happen in October. For STEM, Dr. Castillo is going to start working on ensuring that we have the faculty to cover the courses that are needed in STEM and Humanities. One of his goals is to increase the number of Humanities courses offered on campus. Things are going well. We are trying to build up our higher math courses. If you know of anyone needing higher math courses, point them in Dr. Surdi's direction. Assessment met this week and are working diligently on the HLC stuff.
6. Chantel Rivera (Allied Health/Nursing Senator) – No report at this time.
7. Linda Salazar (Ex Officio/LRC) – Many Workday meetings this week. She attended virtually since the meetings were in Clovis. Although it doesn't go live until 2027, it takes up a lot of her time. Library has not been very busy—business as usual.

B. Standing Committee Reports

1. Professional Development Committee: See Discussion Items.
2. Curriculum Committee: They have been working hard. They met for the first time last week. They are working on processes and procedures on how to submit course changes and how to submit program changes—including the review and update of program learning outcomes, which will be based on program reviews. We just provisionally approved some program learning outcomes for some programs that didn't have them. We can have our next meeting soon to get some administrative work done—bylaws. Nichole did create a PLO form, which was shared and feedback from it will be used in the future. They will meet again this month to continue work on compliance issues.

C. Discussion Items

1. Faculty Handbook: The posted Faculty Handbook is still the old one that was last revised in 2016. Senators questioned where the proposed revisions were that were approved by the Faculty Senate in 2022-23. Possibly Rachael Lucero or Dr. Dani Day may have copies of the work that was done at that time. Dr. Martinez wanted the handbook updated during his time as President. Motion was made by Gene Martinez to table this discussion item. The motion was seconded by Linda Salazar. The motion passed unanimously.
2. What should we plan for January In-Service? What are "just the basics"?:
Senators agreed that more time in the inservice needs to be given to instructors to prepare for classes. Gene Martinez suggested using the old schedule format, rather than the one used this Fall. Billie Mathews said the schedule needs to be faculty-focused. The Fall in-service left faculty scrambling to get ready for classes. Mari Hill agreed that we need to make sure the schedule is clearer, that we know who needs to go to what training, that the trainings don't overlap, and that it is faculty-focused in the area of professional development. It should give us time to call students, recruit, and do the things we need to do before classes are finalized.

- VII. Action Items: Vote to approve the in-person Coffee Connects day as 11/24 or 11/25: The virtual Coffee Connects was supposed to be this week but no advance notice was sent out to faculty. Mari Hill rescheduled it to be from noon - 1:00 on September 26 before our regular meeting.

The In-Person Coffee Connects will need to be scheduled in November so that it doesn't interfere with the Thanksgiving meal done by Crystal Western Ford and Luna Eats. Since we don't know that schedule yet, Gene Martinez moved to table scheduling the In-Person Coffee Connects until our next meeting. Linda Salazar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- VIII. New or Follow-up Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:

IX. Next Regular Meeting: September 26, 2025

X. Adjournment: Gene Martinez moved to adjourn the meeting. Linda Martinez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.