



Minutes

Faculty Senate Regular Meeting

Friday, August 15, 2025

1:00-2:00 PM on Google Meet

- I. Establishment of Quorum: Present: Mari Hill, Gene Martinez, Kevin Williams, Chantel Rivera
Absent: Billie Mathews, Linda Salazar Late: Nichole Collins
- II. Call of Meeting to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chair at 1:01 p.m.
- III. Approval of Agenda: Agenda was approved unanimously upon motion by Gene Martinez and seconded by Chantel Rivera.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from April 11 and May 16, 2025 Meetings: Tabled minutes from the April 11, 2025 meeting were read and approved unanimously as written upon motion by Chantel Rivera and seconded by Gene Martinez. Minutes from the May 16, 2025 ' meeting were read and approved unanimously as written upon motion by Chantel Rivera and seconded by Gene Martinez.
- V. Welcome of Guests/Public Comment (3 minutes per person): Dr. Christopher Smith
- VI. Information/Discussion Items:
 - A. Senator Reports
 1. Mari Hill (Education Senator, Senate Chair) – The week was crazy with many meetings and preparing for classes to begin next week. The Education Department met with Head Start to begin the creation of a fast track for their teachers.
 2. Gene Martinez (CTE Senator, Vice Chair) – With the schedule fixed (hopefully), he feels like he has a good cohort this time. He has all new classes due to common course numbering. The department has a new metal lathe. They will get to do laser welding.
 3. Kevin Williams (Associates Senator, Secretary) – No contact yet with other adjuncts, but is busy preparing for classes next week.
 4. Billie Mathews (Humanities Senator, Immediate Past Chair) – Absent
 5. Nichole Collins (STEM/Assessment Senator) – She’s been busy trying to make sure students are in the right classes. The program is now called Computer Information Systems Technology. All courses have common course names and numbers.
 6. Chantel Rivera(Allied Health/Nursing Senator) – Natasha Lujan has been hired. The department is conducting the dental assistant orientation.
 7. Linda Salazar (Ex Officio/LRC) – Absent
 - B. Standing Committee Reports
 1. Professional Development Committee - The full Faculty Senate is the committee and is responsible for planning the January in-service. We will begin talking more about this in upcoming meetings.
 2. Curriculum Committee - Both the Curriculum Committee and Assessment

Committees will be meeting in the next two weeks. The Curriculum Committee will be working with Rachael Lucero to establish necessary dates/deadlines. The Assessment Committee is looking for a Humanities representative.

3. Elections Committee - Not active until March. It has been headed by Linda Salazar.

C. Discussion Items

1. Faculty Handbook - According to Gene Martinez, the Faculty Senate reviewed and made revisions a couple of years ago. There is no evidence that anything was done with the revisions. Nichole mentioned that the Faculty and Staff Handbooks were combined, but due to the roles of faculty and staff being different, combining the handbook wasn't ideal. Kevin Williams stated that he understood the purpose of having one combined employee handbook, but there should be a staff section and a faculty section. He also questioned the Faculty Senate's role in the development of the handbook—was it to write the handbook, or review it and make suggestions for revisions? Mari Hill said she would communicate with Human Resources and the Vice President to get clarification for Faculty Senate's role and status of a handbook. The currently posted handbook was revised in 2016.
2. "Coffee Connects" Schedule for 2025-26? Discussion about "Coffee Connects" included reflections that they were more successful when they were virtual and held around lunchtime right before Faculty Senate meetings. It was noted that last year's meetings were not well attended. The suggestion was made that they be less frequent, and that maybe a newsletter or two could be sent to faculty to replace them, since Faculty Senate meetings are held twice monthly and faculty are always invited to attend.
3. Additional Items? Gene Martinez brought up recruitment. He questioned the process of disenrolling students so early, noting that \$75 is hard for some students to pay. Kevin Williams questioned why students were being disenrolled so early this semester. Nichole Collins said that it was so that contracts could go out earlier.

VII. Action Items: None

VIII. New or Follow-up Items for Next Meeting's Agenda: Kevin Williams questioned how Staff Senate sponsored the in-service breakfast. Do they have a budget? Can we sponsor a breakfast or lunch sometime? Chantel Rivera said she thought it was through the Luna Eats grant that Crystal Western Ford oversees. Gene Martinez said it would be great if we could do a welcome back BBQ or breakfast sometime for students/faculty. Mari Hill said she would find out.

IX. Next Regular Meeting: August 22, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

X. Adjournment: Gene Martinez made a motion for adjournment. It was seconded by Chantel Rivera and unanimously passed. Chair Mari Hill adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.