Approved
09-16-2026

SADDLEBACK COLLEGE – ACADEMIC SENATE
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
September 02, 2026
2:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Saddleback College, AGB 106

Senate Officers:	
Frank Gonzalez, President	Present
Dan Walsh, Past President	Present
Erica Vogel, President-Elect	Present
Michelle Gustafson, Vice President	Present
Carolyn Seaman, Recorder	Present
School of Arts, Media, Performance & Design	**(5)**
Blake Stephens	Present
Taylor Hartmann	Present
School of Business and Industry	**(4)**
Don Bowman	Present
Taylor Brooks	Present
Jane Medling	Absent
Chris Condron, Alt	Present
Division of Counseling Services and Special Programs	**(5)**
Casey Eyman	Present
Hollis Casey	Absent
Kolin Williams	Present
Mike Long	Present
Division of Extended Learning	**(1)**
Stacy Eldred	Absent
Jill Ibbotson, Alt	Present
School of Health & Wellness	**(3)**
Angeline Hernandez	Present
Kate Magsino	Present
Nahid Meshkin	Present
School of Humanities and Social Sciences	**(8)**
Brenda Plascencia-Carrizosa	Present
Carolina Hernandez-Bachman	Present
Caroline Gee	Present
Emily Blumenthal	Present
Jake Williams	Present
Jennifer Hedgecock	Present
Lawrence Lan	Present
Megan Martin	Absent
Division of Instructional Support and Teaching Innovations	**(1)**
Alicia Zach	Present
Carolyn Seaman, Alt	Present
Division of Kinesiology & Athletics	**(2)**
Brandee Craig	Present
Jennifer Rohles	Present
School of Science, Technology Engineering and Math	**(7)**
David Giordano	Present
Kat Shaw	Present
Michele Rousseau	Absent
Morgan Barrows	Present
Ronald Anderson	Present
Sam Abbas	Present
Sumaya McCleave	Present
Part-Time Faculty Representatives	**(9)**
Taylor Hartmann, AMPD	Present
Afshin Hariri, BI	Present
EvaMarie Rodriguez-Morris, EL	Present
Wonderful Nancy Allah, HSS	Present
Noushin Seddighzadeh, STEM	Present
Shared Governance Group Representative	
Violeta Zahrae, Classified Senate President,	Present
Allison Camelot, Faculty Assoc.	Present
CSEA	
ASG	
Guests:	

Saddleback College Academic Senate Minutes

Regular Meeting
Date: September 2, 2026
Time: 2:00 PM–4:00 PM
Location: Saddleback College, MCS 309

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:06pm.

2. Introduce and Welcome Guests & Senators

Frank asked guests and new senators to introduce themselves. New senators included: Noushin Seddighzadeh from Math, Alicia Zach from the Library, and returning to senator roles, Don Bowman from Accounting and Blake Stephens from Architecture.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Blake Stephens moved to adopt the agenda. Dan Walsh seconded. The Academic Senate unanimously approved the adoption of the agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes from August 19, 2026

Taylor Brooks moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting with correction that Emily Blumenthal was present at the last meeting and to cross off Christina Smith as Senate rep from Childhood Development. Morgan Barrows seconded. The Academic Senate unanimously approved the adoption of the minutes with corrections.

5. Public Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)

None.

6. President's Report

Frank shared an update to the continuing conversation of testing centers. He met with several departments including, English, Accounting, and Nursing to discuss their needs.

He felt the conversations went well. Frank also met with the Chancellor and President Cordova and felt good about the open channels of communication and thought it was a fruitful discussion. Frank shared that Consultation Council is now only meeting once a month. The second Tuesday meeting is now for President Cordova, VPs, and all presidents of shared governance groups to discuss concerns across campus before things become an issue. Let Frank know if anything comes up that he could bring to these new meetings. Fall Plenary Session is November 5 – 7th in Redwood City. Senators can use their faculty development funding if they want to attend. October 9th is the Area D meeting for resolutions.

7. Constituency Group Reports

1. **Faculty Association**

Allison Camelot shared negotiations have started. The negotiation team is meeting with the district for the first time next week. Both sides have already submitted their sunshine proposals. FA will do a call out if they need help if negotiations are not going according to plan. There is a new monthly drop-in time with the Dispute Resolution and Grievance Chairs to ask questions about the contract starting this Friday from 1-2pm via Zoom. The Zoom link is on the FA website, PD calendar, and an email will go out. FA is doing a meet and greet with the endorsed candidate for the BOD elections, Gila Jones, on September 13 from 1-3pm at candidate's home. Let people in your division/school know. FA is looking for volunteers for event and school/division who has the most volunteers will win a free dinner on FA. Allison shared flyers with more information.

Blake shared that he sat on negotiations years ago and the VP of HR always comes with a budget that is not enough to give a raise to all faculty. He recommends that FA push back right away. The district has a 1.5 billion budget this year, so they have plenty of money.

2. **Student Governmen**t: None.
3. **Classified Senat**e: Vee Zahrae shared their first meeting is scheduled on 9/23 to give more time for classified staff to focus on student needs during this busy time on campus, so there was no August meeting. She will have more to share after the first meeting.
4. **California School Employees Association**: None.

8. Representational Area / ATEP / PT Faculty Reports

Jill Ibbotson from Extended Learning shared there will be a Pathways Expo event in collaboration with AESL and ESL on Wednesday, September 9th from 12-2pm and 6-8pm. Students will go to different areas with a stamp card to get information and hear from a student panel of 8-9 students who have transitioned to different areas from Extended Learning.
EvaMarie is excited to start her 2nd year as the State Senate PT Faculty Representative. They are working on making an easier path for part-time faculty to attend Plenary and other PD opportunities. She also chairs the part-time Caucus, so if you have other issues or want to see what is happening in other parts of the state, please contact her for information.

9. Adoption of Consent Calendar Items

The first Curriculum meeting isn't until next week so the first consent calendar items will appear at next AS meeting. Only limited items go through Curriculum during summer. Please double check to make sure that all schools and divisions have correct number of reps for Curriculum Committee to make quorum. Without quorum, we cannot pass Curriculum through the process.

Blake Stephens motioned to adopt the Consent Calendar items. Sam Abbas seconded. The Academic Senate voted unanimously to adopt the Consent Calendar items.

10. Old Business

1. **Approval of Faculty to Serve on Committees**
   Discussion/Action

Taylor Brooks motioned to approve the Faculty to Serve on Committees. Morgan Barrows seconded. The Academic Senate voted unanimously to approve the Faculty to Serve on Committees.

2. **Board Policy and Administrative Regulation Advisory Council (BPARC) Update**

   Information/Update/Action

   Summary of the August 28 meeting and relevant BPs and ARs. Next BPARC meeting is Friday, October 2, 2026 Presenter: Dan Walsh

Dan Walsh shared there was a BPARC meeting last Friday. He showed all the BP/ARs that are going through review on the 4-year cycle. There are some instructional ones currently up for review. If any bother you and they are up for review, you can look them up and bring up changes. If Dan sees one that should go to a specific group, he will bring it to that group for their review. Kind of stuck with a lot of these ARs due to legal language, but we can

make small tweaks to make it work for faculty. The list is 136 pages and most changes are administrative.

The current ones related to faculty have to do with counselors, transfer center, and travel, which clarified the definition of breakfast (finally!). All documents are on the Academic Senate SharePoint site.

Dan pulled up BP 3100 – Organizational Structure to point out that the change of language is giving a lot of authority to the college president. This change is leaving out what is outlined for the ACCJC and the Academic Senate area of authority. Dan is working with IVC rep to get some language together. If the Senate supports the changes to the language, Dan will bring it back to the next meeting.

Blake Stephens motioned to support language change. Don Bowman seconded. The Academic Senate voted unanimously to support the language change.

3. **Curriculum Update**

   Information/Action

   June was not present at today's meeting. Exec team came up with some updates for curriculum:

   - The deadline to submit courses for consideration for Cal-GETC for 2027-2028 to Articulation, new course/program proposals for Spring 2028, and complete TOP to CIP Transition spreadsheet is Friday, September 18th.

   The last Deans and Chairs meeting was used as a working meeting to review codes and work on the transition spreadsheet. Many chairs stayed to complete their areas.

4. **One-Sheet Review and Approval**

   Information/Discussion/Action

   Presenter: Frank Gonzalez

Frank shared proposed language to update the decision-making process section of the one-sheet. Dan thought the language is clear and to the point. He also thought it was implied in the language about what happens if there is a tie, so no additional language should be needed. Frank will double-check the bylaws to see if they have language regarding a tie and if so, that language doesn't need to be added on this document.

A conversation ensued regarding PIE/EPA having college committees having goals listed on their one-sheets. Shouka has added the Inspire 2035 strategic priorities and goals that could possibly align with Senate goals if the group thinks it is a good idea, but it doesn't have to be the case and is bringing the language here for discussion. After talking with

Shouka, it sounds like our drafted goals would be more like action steps to meet the Inspire 2035 priorities and goals.

Caroline Gee gave a double thumbs up from EPA regarding listing the 2035 priorities and goals and aligning Senate goals/action steps to those listed.

Discussion included:

- Question: What happens if you don't agree with the goals, do you have to use them or accept the goals? Do we have to adopt what was selected for the committee if they were selected without the committee's input? Senate doesn't have to have goals listed if we don't want to as we are not a college committee. Dan doesn't think we have to adopt the mapping to the strategic priorities either if we don't want to. Frank thinks there is room to be flexible, but this is a good question.
- Question: What do we think about the strategic goals or having them on there? Are our own goals now the action steps for the strategic goals? Yes, our goals are now our action steps. We are going to have a discussion about our own goals/action steps later in the agenda.
- Question: Do we think the action steps align with the strategic goals? What if there are actions steps we want to adopt that don't align? We can determine the action steps that we want.
- Dan suggested that we can always approve the one-sheet as is and then do the work to align our action steps to the strategic priorities down the line.
- Erica likes having strategic goals included even if they are a bit vague. She thought it was a good idea as every group across campus is referring to the strategic plan and good to be on the same page. It would also be helpful to use the same language of every other group using the strategic goals.
- Frank likes having them included because the simplified language is clear and there is a push from administration to have the strategic goals everywhere across campus.
- I think action steps would be useful because they can be concrete and measurable.
- Question: On goal #1, why are they including online students only, when we could be including other types of students like evening students, returning students, too? These goals are the district's strategic priorities and goals, they are not Senate specific. There is a state-wide push to make sure that our online

students have the same experience as our in-person students. Online students can be anywhere in the state, but this language makes them our students.

- Can we change to all learners instead of just online? We can't change the language of the strategic goals because that is district's language, but we can leave them off the one-sheet and/or wordsmith our own goals – which are now action steps.
- Senate is in a weird boat because we do a lot of things that don't align with the strategic priorities.
- If we wanted to eliminate all of them and just come up with our own, can we do that? Dan thinks we can take them out. We can remove the strategic goals and go with our own goal/action steps conversation.
- This is similar to rolling up class SLOs to ISLOs. Our goals/action steps need to roll up to the district's strategic planning priorities and goals. It makes sense to have the Inspire goals included so we can talk to how we are making progress on meeting the strategic priorities.
- Michelle liked goals 1 and 6, but was wondering if we are getting into the weeds and not talking about the same things.
- Frank thinks that the goals may not be perfect, but they provide a direction and guidance to creating some action steps and that is where we can bring in our own flare.
- A little sour that the college may be pushing something they might not be fully supporting as they have in the past, such as the first gen push. We never got additional support (evening hours, extra services, weekend, etc.) students and faculty asked for and I just don't want to see this be another one of those exercises.

Dan Walsh moved to approve the Academic Senate's one-sheet with decision-making wording changes, wording change to "Alignment with Inspire 2035" and removing language of "including online students." Jennifer Rohles seconded the motion. The Academic Senate voted unanimously to approve the one-sheet with language changes.

5. **Full-Time Faculty Hiring Prioritization**

Information/Update

Erica shared that yesterday was first of two meetings with the FHP reps. The process remains that requesters submit their written request and data. The reps are nine deans and nine faculty members, one from each school. There were a total of 26 requests this year.

Reps will score the requests with two basic questions as a rubric. During the 2nd meeting, reps will come together and fill in online scoring. There are extra points for retirement replacements, certain amount of FTEs, and having only part-time instructors teaching courses. The rankings will get passed to Frank and President Cordova and they will decide how many positions will go out. Tram says conservatively that she thinks five will go out this year, but two more faculty members announced retirements recently. Dan encourages faculty to look at the submissions from this year if they are going to request next year so they know what to expect.

Frank asked Dan what the meeting with the president looks like as both Frank and President Cordova are new to process. There are considerations such as money, FON, and district decisions, but Frank and President Cordova will look at the list to see if anything really weird is happening. This is when outside factors are used like nursing accreditation as an example. The goal is to not change things on the list and if the president is going to change things, they need to have a good reason otherwise the process becomes meaningless.

Reviewers will submit questions they have about the requests by the final FHP meeting where the questions will be discussed.

6. **Senate Goals**

Frank shared that the sample goals will now be considered sample action steps. Frank asked if out of the 5 examples shared, did anyone have a chance to look at them and if so, did anyone come up with their own?

Sam Abbas sent Frank some ideas for possible goals and Frank thought they were great ideas about how to increase research tied into experimental learning, so Erica was able to identify where these conversations are happening on campus and connected Sam to the people who might be able to help.

As a part-time instructor, Taylor H. thought it would be good to take a look at supporting engagement with part-time faculty to fill all the part-time Senate rep seats. Right now, only four or five of those seats have been filled and it would be great to have all nine filled. Maybe this could be an action step or goal that could be met by the end of the semester.

Frank asked what people thought about having faculty engagement as a bigger picture item, not just for part-time faculty.

Dan suggested 4th bullet could be made broader to increase participation with full-time and part-time faculty. Because we want more participation from all faculty since we seem to see the same faces in all the places across campus.

Question: Are the part-time reps acting as part of their division or part of their own entity? This might be a bylaws thing and maybe we clarify the bylaws on this issue.

Frank asked if anyone didn't like any of the suggested goals? No objections were heard.

Blake shared that we used to have more college-wide get togethers like award events, faculty lunches, etc. Maybe we could help to advocate to have more college events that could help the culture. Frank agrees, but wondered which of the 10+1 this work would fall under? Blake thinks it falls under all of them because we are better when we are able to connect as faculty across the schools. If we could start with that it would help with all 10+1.

Question: in bullet 4, is there a better word than "tap" talent? Maybe use another word such as recruit, empower, engage full-time and part-time faculty? Would diversify work here?

Maybe speak to supporting faculty in the work they do which is all student related and could possibly fit in #1. We should be supporting PD for all things, not just Title II, but supporting faculty in curriculum, leadership, etc.

Brenda asked if we could put the goals on a Google doc and send to everyone so we could throw in ideas on our own time. Erica thought this was a good idea and the document could also be used to brainstorm specific things we could do to address goals/action steps. We should also add the 10+1 to the Google doc for guidance. Erica asked if contributing to the document by the next Senate meeting seemed reasonable. No objections were heard.

Question: Do all the goals have to address 10+1? Frank said yes, as the goals want to be in the purview of the Academic Senate and 10+1 is where we have control.

No voting on the goals happened as group will give feedback via Google doc by the next meeting to continue discussion.

7. **Budget Report**

Christie shared 2026-2027 faculty development funding budget numbers and the 2025-2026 Faculty Development Funding reimbursements broken out by part-time and full-time faculty. We have a new budget for Career Education faculty and conferences and that will be from a different funding source, for a total of $150,000 available for qualifying professional development reimbursement; the annual $120,000 budget plus $30,000 available to Career Education instructors. CE faculty are identified in the application process and will receive reimbursement instructions accordingly. Getting this extra money took a bit of negotiation to get to this stage.

Frank asked Christie if the numbers included plenary expenses? No.

Blake shared how his conference cost a lot more than the $1,800 allotted and was surprised how expensive it got. He wondered if we should increase amount allotted to faculty? Frank replied it was next on the agenda.

Wonderful Nancy stated that there is no way anyone could go anywhere with the amount we allotted to part-time faculty and was told that if we all did more PD, we would be given more money.

Frank thinks conversation is bleeding into next agenda and will be addressed there.

8. **Faculty Development Funding**

Frank and Christie shared the PD fund has been increased budget by $30,000 coming from the CE funding so a discussion on how to distribute the increases is needed. If you increase by $100 for each request, even though Frank appreciates the sentiment of this, this will decrease amount of faculty to get funding by 40%.

Wonderful Nancy thinks we should try to show the administration that we are using PD funding because they think we are using so little of it. Frank shared that in the past, we have gone over budget and the people who want to travel close to summer months couldn't get any money. This would favor people who go in the fall tremendously. IVC ran out last year and couldn't fund end-of-year requests, which doesn't seem fair. Administration won't just give us more money mid-year.

Question: What are the reimbursement maximum amounts relative to what we have currently? Historically, it was $1600 for full-time faculty and $800 for part-time faculty. Then it increased to $1800 for full-time faculty and $900 for part-time faculty. Last year it was $1700 for full-time and $900 for part-time. Dan thinks we could do $2000 for full-time faculty and $1000 and for part-time faculty.

Taylor B. shared that in his program, every time they ask to use the CE funding, they are told to go to Kari. They never use that funding because they end up getting it through Perkins.

Question: Do they calculate the cost of inflation into how they determine the budget for PD funding? There was a recognition during last year's discussion with administrators and that's how we were able to negotiate getting that extra $30,000 for this year. The past president was unwilling to increase amounts before the last discussion, which was why the amount was stuck in the same place for a while. President Cordova seems to value PD. For this year, we are stuck with the money that we have. We want to spend it all but not too soon.

Morgan added that it looks like we need more money, and asked how do we do this? Do we ask Tram or is it a CRC request? Frank and Tram did submit a CRC request for $30,000 which was pulled because of $30,000 from CE, but they will submit another CRC request again this year. They are currently having discussions with the fiscal office.

Question: Can we still use conferences for flex hours if we get PD funding? Yes.

Question: Did the $30,000 that is separated out by CE get pulled from Kari's budget or is that still in Kari's budget? Should we still go to Kari? Apply through the Senate PD funding committee since this money is here, let's spend it down and then you can go to Kari.

Frank needs to have a clarifying conversation with OOI to see how to help ATEP faculty with unique PD needs.

May want to find out how many people want to go to a conference and find out the realistic amount as part of research before we submit CRC request.

Motion: Morgan Barrows motioned to increase PD funding to $2000 for full-time faculty and $1000 for part-time faculty. Blake Stephens seconded.

Discussion: Wonderful Nancy suggested administration has to know that everyone can have the same amount of funds regardless of full-time or part-time status. Frank shared that a discussion was had last year about providing equal amounts. That was not approved and it had to do with having the amount relative to the part-time LHE proportional to the full-time LHE. This discussion has been had before and can be agendized again if needed.

EvaMarie shared that last Academic Senate part-time representation was different because they only had 4 reps and part-time faculty also don't really know if they are teaching the next semester. Given that, can it be so cut and dry? Wouldn't want to take away money from other faculty for a conference if I am not teaching the following semester.

Question: Could they use the same criteria for funding as they do for health insurance for part-time faculty since there is already a process in place for that? That's a good question and would have to look into that.

Jennifer R. shared that last year it was noticed that we don't treat part-time faculty as well with their pay so the college should put more emphasis on treating them well and support PD knowing that they don't have the money to use for PD. There are also way more part-time faculty teaching our classes than full-time faculty. She is in full support of one amount for everyone, maybe as an incentive for part-time faculty to stick around Saddleback especially with the Banner switch and the paycheck issues. There are constant examples of not treating part-time faculty as equals.

Emily B. shared that as a full-time faculty and co-chair, she understands making it equal would take away from the entire amount for all faculty to access, but it sends a message of respect and the part-time faculty should access these equal funds. She is also in full support.

Blake stated that he wanted to amend his second with recommendation to increase full-time faculty amount to $1200 and part-time faculty amount to $2000.

Morgan needs to know more about how those amounts would affect the budget. Frank thinks it would take it over budget but would have to do the math.

If we need more discussion on this item, it will have to be tabled until the next meeting.

Morgan Barrows moved to table item to next meeting. Wonderful Nancy seconded. The Academic Senate unanimously approved to table the Faculty Professional Development Funding discussion item to the next Senate meeting.

11. New Business

1. **New Dean of Students**

   Information/Discussion

   The new Dean of Students will discuss her role and responsibilities including faculty participation on Student Conduct Hearings. Presenter: Elaine Lipiz Gonzalez

Tabled.

2. **Faculty Professional Development and Teaching Innovations**

Information/Discussion

Highlights of faculty professional development opportunities coming this Fall 26 (e.g., Title II training, PT event and more). Presenter: Kimberly Stankovich

Kim Stankovich shared about the different PD events and opportunities that will be offered:

- The Creating Accessible Courses cohort is happening now.
- The part-time faculty event will be on Tuesday, 10/6 from 5-7pm. This will be a paid event and the theme is accessibility.
- Author of The Joyful Online Teacher: Finding Our Fizz in Asynchronous Classes, Flower Darby, will be speaking to Saddleback at a virtual event on Friday, October 2nd at noon.
- There are many opportunities to receive Title II accessibility support. She shared a flyer with all the offerings for fall.

- Hands-on session for Gemini notebook will be offered on Thursday, September 24th from 2-4pm and a stipend will be offered. Email with information coming soon.
- Neuroprep training is now self-paced. This training is not funded but faculty can use towards your Flex hours. The course runs 9/16-12/16.
- There will be an Unconscious Bias course offered with a stipend. More info to come.
- And much more…

Question: The CAC filled up so quickly. They said they were going to be taking from waitlist for the next cohort when it is offered, is this going to happen? They are trying to keep track to give priority to the faculty on the waitlist.

It was suggested that the sign-up emails that are sent during the day are hard for teaching faculty to get on the list quickly. Could they time emails to be sent out at 11:59pm or something so everyone can get them? Kim will look into the timing of the emails.

Question: when the email comes out for CAC to sign up, will the faculty on the prioritization list still have to sign up for the group to cross reference or will they be referencing the prioritization list by itself? Kim is not sure how it will be handled, but she will bring to the group to see how that will happen.

Frank reminded everyone that PD is a Senate committee and Kim is always proactive in reaching out to present to Senate. If you are on a Senate committee, go back to your committee chairs to get them to present and let us know what you are doing and what you have been doing.

In the interest of time, Frank suggested that we table the last three remaining agenda items and the New Dean of Students presentation for the next meeting.

Jennifer Hedgecock moved to table the last three agenda items and the New Dean of Students presentation. Morgan Barrows seconded. The Academic Senate unanimously approved to table the last three agenda items and the New Dean of Students presentation.

3. **25-26 Committee Survey Results**
   Information/Discussion Presenters: Academic Senate Executive Team

Tabled.

4. **FLEX Week and FLEX Hour Reporting**

   Information/Discussion

   Presenters: Dan Walsh and Christie Smead

Tabled.

5. **Parental Rights of Dependent Children**
   Information/Discussion
   Dual enrollment, CCAP programs, and FERPA
   Presenter: Dan Walsh

Tabled.

12. Committee Reports

1. **Executive**

Dan wanted to apologize for the language he used at the last Senate meeting. Even though he wasn't speaking on behalf of all faculty, he understands that he needs to do make his own voice heard in an appropriate way.

2. **College/Senate Committees**

Brenda reminded everyone to contact her with any suggestions on topics to highlight in the CRTL toolkit.

13. Adjournment

Frank Gonzales adjourned the meeting at 4:01pm.

Next Academic Senate Meeting: September 16, 2026

Handouts and agenda items available on the Academic Senate SharePoint site:

AS Agenda - 02Sept2026
Minutes Draft from August 19, 2026
9. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS
1 Summer curriculum approvals
2Proposed course deletion for academic year 2026-27 (Spring)
9.3 Proposed course revisions and deletions for academic year 2027-28
9.4 Proposed program revisions for academic year 2027-28
9.5 Proposed program deletions for academic year 2027-28
10. Old Business
10.1 Approval of Faculty to Serve on Committees
10.2 Board Policy and Administrative Regulation Advisory Council (BPARC) Update - Summary of the August 28 meeting and relevant BPs and ARs. Next BPARC meeting is Friday, October 2, 2026
10.4 One-Sheet Review and Approval
10.5 Full-Time Faculty Hiring Prioritization - Summary of September 1 committee meeting, submission review process and upcoming meeting 9/22/26.
10.6 Senate Goals
10.7 Budget Report
10.8 Faculty Professional Development Funding