

ACADEMIC SENATE
MINUTES
MARCH 19, 2026

Approved 4-9-26

11:30 AM - 12:50 PM

PLN-130

Present: Ahmad, Badal, Barber, Barros, Becerra, Blandon-Gitlin, Bono, Bonuso, Brusckke, Carlin, Ceisel, Chen, Chik, Childers, Ghosh, Gradilla, Graewingholt, Jarvis, Kalczynski, Kanel, Kleinjans, Larios, LeeKeenan, Mallicoat, Martin, Miller, Plouffe, Rochon, Rutkowski, Salguero, Setten, Shahrestani, Swarat, Thomas, Tobias, Tsong, Valdez, Valencia Wilson

Absent: Kuffner, Landeros, Luker, Milligan, Robinson, Salim, Struckhoff, Walker, Wood, Wynants

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Chair Jarvis called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

A moment of silence was observed.

In Memoriam

- Dr. William J. Ketteringham, Professor of Geography [died October 28, 2025]
- Dr. Prem K. Saint, Professor Emeritus of Geological and Environmental Sciences [died November 24, 2025]

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

- The consent calendar passed as amended.
 - (Jarvis) Pulled ASD 26-34 Revisions to UPS 630.000 - Policy for Investigating Instances of Possible Research Misconduct. This will become the first item of new business.

2.1 ASD 26-32 New Course Proposal - Spring 2026

2.2 ASD 26-34 Revisions to UPS 630.000 - Policy for Investigating Instances of Possible Research Misconduct

1. Revisions to UPS 630.000 - Policy for Investigating Instances of Possible Research Misconduct - clean copy

2.3 NOMINEES TO COMMITTEES

FACULTY PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (10 faculty - Full Professor Status)

AS Nominees: Gina Passante (NSM)

Confirmed 3-5-26: Dipankar Purkayastha (CBE); Elaine Rutkowski (HHD); Rebecca Sheehan (CCOM); Ed Collom (SOC SCI); Robert Tomaszewski (LIBRARY); Nick Henning (EDUC) John Koegel (ARTS); Yu Bai (ECS); Jasamin Rostam-Kolayi (HUM)

NOMINEES TO SEARCH COMMITTEE

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGAGEMENT AND BELONGING

Nominees: Scott Bolman (ARTS)

Confirmed 3-5-26: Ella Ben Hagai (SOC SCI); Armando Martinez-Cruz (NSM)

III. URGENT BUSINESS

- No urgent business.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤	Tech Day	Tuesday, April 7 th Pollak Library, 9AM – 3PM (flyer in Dropbox folder)
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Additional announcements:

- (Chik) We will be doing a grand opening of our new Staff Development Center at the Titan bookstore on the 2nd floor on Monday, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, please stop by and see our new space. And we are still doing registration for our cultural celebrations through DIRC. Our newest, Nuestra Graduación has already filled up with 600 students for the year, so that registration has moved to a wait list, but the others are still open. So please encourage your students who are graduating to please register.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 ASD 26-31 Academic Senate Minutes 3-5-26 (Draft) - *forthcoming*

VI. REPORTS

1. [Chair's Report](#)

2. President Report

- Yesterday, I was walking around the campus, and a student stopped me and we had a lengthy discussion with regard to issues of safety. The student was really concerned about undocumented people within our community, students who are attending our campus, and was really pouring into me about the continued need for us as a community to make sure that folks are feeling seen and heard and safe. We had a very good discussion about this. I know that Cecil is going to be following up as well. But I wanted to remind people that even though we have been afforded at this point an amazing opportunity to not have people broach our border of our campus, there are still people feeling insecure and have anxiety and fear on a daily basis.

I want to thank the faculty and staff for all that you continue to do to provide an assurance about who we are as a community. I want to thank you for the grace that you have provided for students who need additional time to turn in assignments. For students who are needing adjusted opportunities for online instruction, there have been faculty and staff all across this university who have been creative and responsive and supportive of our students, our faculty, and our staff who are living through this. So, I just wanted to just take a moment to acknowledge all the efforts. I wanted to ask you to please continue to make this a priority with regard to how we treat people and how we respond to their needs and that we are seeing them and hearing them as well. I want to thank you all. Cecil, I want to thank you as well for the efforts you continue to make. I know that you have been in the spaces that I'm talking about right now non-stop, and your effort is more than appreciated.

- Also, I wanted to speak to an obvious matter that is impacting so many people across our university campus, the nation, and the globe with regard to Cesar Chavez. I wanted to let you all know that this is a piece of discussion that is on my desk. At this point, I have no answers for the campus community on what we are going to do. I received a text message just minutes ago that the state of California is now identifying that holiday as Farmer's Workers Day, effective immediately. We will be having a discussion. I'm going to be looking at what's happening with system-wide as well, but I'll be coming back to this body to let you know how we are moving forward.

I want to just give my heartfelt best wishes to everyone who's directly and indirectly feeling impacted. There's so much going on with regard to what this news means and also what it's bringing to community members who have been victims of assault. So, let's be patient and supportive of everyone involved.

- We had a very successful Titan Giving Day. Last year, we raised over \$800,000, it was a record for this university for one day give. It was something to celebrate. We were elated on where we landed. This year, we surpassed that, we raised almost \$1,000,000. I want to thank Vice President Shiner and the entire team and everyone in this room who has given. There's no such thing as a small gift. When people make a decision to provide their hard-earned resources to support this campus and support our students, this is intentional. And those resources go in such a very powerful direction to help people graduate and other kinds of resources to provide wraparound services for our students and this university. So, I want to thank each and every one of you all for your gift, and please, if you would, thank

others also. This campus is definitely moving in a stronger direction with regard to philanthropic ask. And as you know, this campus has a history of not only being excellent stewards but also being excellent in responding to the needs of this campus community.

- I should also mention that for faculty, staff, and students who are needing services, we have CAPS and also we have EAP on campus as well. I just want to remind people, please make mention of that to our campus community.
- We are very close to having candidates on campus for the University Advancement Vice Presidency. I really enjoy and respect and seek out the input of the campus community. April 7 through 9, we will have the open forums for everyone to participate in. Just recently, Sean Walker and Provost Dabirian participated in listening sessions with the College of Education, seeking input with regard to interim leadership. I will be making an announcement within the next two weeks, as it pertains to that post.

I want to remind folks; I am always working hard to look at the body of work of individuals who are considered to serve as interims in any leadership capacity. In particular, the body of work means a great deal to me with regard to credentials that have been secured but also executed within leadership as well. So, for example, for the provost's position, as you all know, Sean comes here with great credentials, a great leadership background, serving on Senate, and he's earned the rank of full professorship on the campus. That is important to me and I'm a traditionalist in thinking as it pertains to that. Now, I will never, ever say that there would never be an exception. There have been exceptions at this university, I've read the record. Sometimes that's necessary because of the candidate pool and maybe other variables that are withstanding for consideration. But I would always lean toward the body of work being reflective of the people that that individual would be evaluating. So, the dean's position, for example, I think it is so significantly important that this individual has the rank of a full professor as well. Leading a college, having that rank is an essential component with regard to how faculty even respond to that candidate, and I want that person to be successful because I don't see interims as being placeholders. I see them as individuals that need to lead. I just want to let you all know that with regard to how I view this. This is my North Star always, but please understand that this campus has had exceptions for certain reasons, and if we ever need to have one, I will make that as well. But that is not the direction I go to primarily.

- I want to provide you all with another very important leadership update. And before I do so, I want to thank Chair Jarvis and the Executive Committee for allowing me to come before them just recently to talk about this very significant announcement. After more than a decade of dedicated service to Cal State Fullerton and the Titan Athletics Department, Athletics Director Jim Donovan has shared his decision to retire effective July 31st, 2026.

In recognition of his extraordinary leadership and enduring impact on Cal State Fullerton, I am naming Mr. Donovan as Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics, effective immediately. I want to express my profound appreciation for Jim, all that he has accomplished in service to Cal State Fullerton, and also Titan Athletics. His achievements are impressive.

When Jim joined Cal State Fullerton, in 2012, he led Titan Athletics into a new era that shaped our student experience, transformed the campus, and instilled a culture of pride in our university. Throughout his 14 years of overseeing athletics, Jim has been and continues to change lives. The average tenure for athletic directors across the nation for Division I athletics is six years; he's been here 14. He refined and enhanced academic programs to keep student-athletes on track to graduate. Before he arrived, student-athletes were graduating at a rate of 68%. Now, 80% complete their degrees within six years. Outside the classroom, Titan Athletics has reached historic heights, claiming 33 Big West Championships across multiple sports.

In 2018, athletics brought home the prestigious Commissioner's Cup for best overall performance in all Big West sports. Titan Baseball returned to national prominence with two College World Series appearances, and Titan Softball built a dynasty capturing seven conference titles. The momentum of their success led more people than ever to attend the games, and ticket sales increased by 46%.

Jim's steady leadership also inspired Titans to give more than \$23 million in philanthropic support. He oversaw \$28 million in capital improvements, including new facilities for baseball, basketball, aquatics, plus major upgrades for softball, tennis, and also track. Jim is highly regarded, not just at Cal State Fullerton, but also beyond. Colleagues throughout the CSU and other institutions around the nation have sought him out for his guidance. I was one as a president in Southern Indiana. I came here in Fullerton not school even knowing about me becoming president one day to help understand how to convert our school from Division 2 to Division 1. Because of Jim's guidance, his mentorship, his tutelage, I was able to convince the trustees with a unanimous decision to do so. I'm forever thankful,

and so is the University of Southern Indiana. That is why in 2019, the organization representing more than 22,000 collegiate athletic leaders, the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics, named our own Jim Donovan, Under Armour Athletic Director of the Year. On behalf of the entire university community, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Jim for his leadership and also for his commitment to success and well-being for all of our student athletes, coaches, staff, and also the community outside. Jim has left a lasting, positive imprint on Titan Athletics and the broader Titan community. This appointment will not have any long-term impact on our budget or operation. Also, this does not set any precedent for any future Athletic Director. The title will go back to Athletic Director with the new person being hired. In the weeks ahead, I will share additional information regarding leadership transition and also the process to identify the next athletics director. There are some folks from his team that have surprised him, that have shown up. Can I get all the athletic team to stand? Let's give them a round of applause.

Community, family, please join me in recognizing a significant human being who has done so much to serve this place that he calls home, Vice President Jim Donovan.

- I've been meeting with students stopping them on campus, and the dad is coming out of me because I'm asking everyone to please be safe, make great decisions, get back home to us safely, have a great time, disconnect, recharge, and get ready for finals, which are around the corner.

Safety is so important, we have a student in the hospital right now who was hit by a vehicle who's undergoing some very serious surgical procedures. We want our students to be as safe as possible, and I don't take that for granted.

3. Provost Report

- No report.

4. [Statewide Academic Senate Report](#)

- (Gradilla) Tagging onto what the President had mentioned, the Diversity Committee of the Academic Senate is also helping the Chancellor's office with an inventory of things, entities, objects, et cetera, named after Cesar Chavez, and we are working collaboratively with the Chancellor's office on this.

This is something that the JEDI Committee for the Statewide Senate absolutely unanimously agreed to help and work on this and do some problem solving because some stuff is easy to fix for free and other stuff, statues, monuments, murals, named walkways are going to need a little bit more money to fix. So, we're hoping to get good collaboration.

5. ASI Report

- No report

6. [CFA Report](#)

- (Ceisel) I just got back from Sacramento from lobby days, the legislatures were very supportive of our overall bill package, which was great to see. I'm happy to report that AB 1831, which is a proposal on CSU executive compensation, has made it out of committee and is continuing down the legislative pipeline.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 ASD 26-09 Revisions to UPS 300.016 - Withdrawal Policy

- M/S/P (Kanel/Robinson) Motion to approve ASD 26-09 Revisions to UPS 300.016 - Withdrawal Policy. Motion passed as amended.

From AS meeting 3-5-26

M/S (Kanel/Robinson) Motion to approve ASD 26-09 Revisions to UPS 300.016 - Withdrawal Policy.

[MAIN MOTION]

Chair Jarvis reminded the body where they left off on this document.

[MOTION ON THE FLOOR]

- M/S/P (Setton/Swarat) Lines 156-158: motion to reword to read "If a student is withdrawing from a course that is a co-requisite, the student shall also withdraw from any corresponding courses for which it is a co-requisite." Motion passed unanimously as amended.

- M/S/P (Setten/Kalczynski) Line 158: motion to add the wording “unless the co-requisite is waved with instructor consent”. Motion passed.

Back to the main motion

- M/S/P (Jarvis/Kleinjans) Motion to ask Senate Executive Committee to refer the question of terminology around co-requisites and what we need to expand that to the Academic Standards Committee for further investigation without delaying the UPS at hand. Motion passed.

Back to the (Setten/Swarat) motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Back to the main motion

- M/S/F (Kalczynski/Kleinjans) Delete Section II, lines 33-42. Motion failed.

Back to main motion

- (Plouffe) Motion to call the question on the (Kalczynski/Kleinjans) amendment. Motion failed.

Back to the (Kalczynski/Kleinjans) motion. Motion failed.

Back to main motion. Document passed as amended.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- This item was pulled from the Consent Calendar and became the first item of new business.
- M/S/P (Jarvis/Mallicoat) Motion to send back to the Executive Committee to make the fixes to the document and then bring it back for Senate approval. Motion passed.

2.4 ASD 26-34 Revisions to UPS 630.000 - Policy for Investigating Instances of Possible Research Misconduct

1. Revisions to UPS 630.000 - Policy for Investigating Instances of Possible Research Misconduct - clean copy

8.1 ASD 26-25 Statements of Opinion

- M/S/P (Kleinjans/Graewingholt) Motion to accept the Statements of Opinion. Motion passed.

8.2 ASD 26-15 Revisions to UPS 100.015 - Review and Revision of University Policy Statements

- M/S/ (Kanel/Barros) Motion to approve ASD 26-15 Revisions to UPS 100.015 - Review and Revision of University Policy Statements.
 - (Plouffe/Kanel) Lines 114-115: take wording “Student Success: Does the policy support student success in terms of time to degree, high quality programs, and high quality instruction?” and move to line 60. *Considered friendly.*

Back to main motion

- M/S/F (Kalczynski/Miller) Lines 40,44, 46: change the word “shall” to “should”. Motion failed.

Back to main motion

8.3 ASD 26-16 Revisions to UPS 411.400 - Educator Preparation

8.4 ASD 26-22 Revisions to UPS 650.000 - Intramural Research Grants

8.5 ASD 26-23 Revisions to UPS 300.002 - Academic Advising Policy

8.6 ASD 26-33 Revisions to UPS 300.030 - Academic Appeals

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- M/S/P (Badal/Jarvis) Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.