

Good morning!

Welcome to the
Fall 2025
Senate Retreat

August 13, 2025



Scan the QR
& Respond





Community Agreements for Brave Conversations

- Be true to yourself.
- Commit to learning from each other.
- Trust that others are doing the best they can.
- Recognize and affirm the diverse identities within the room.
- When an oppressed person speaks regarding oppression, recognize that they speak with experiential knowledge and thus should be trusted to know this truth.
- Challenge the idea and not the person.
- Speak your discomfort.
- Listen with intention, focusing on understanding others' perspectives.
- Seek first to understand, then to be understood

Welcome New Colleagues

Briseyda Valencia, Medical Assisting

Shanjida Raihan, Chemistry

Damian Durango, Communication Studies

Jazmin Hurtado, Counseling

Timothy Vu, Criminal Justice Academies

Asher Kuny, Culinary Arts & Hospitality

Daniel Mattos, Culinary Arts & Hospitality





Today's Agenda

- **New Academic Senate Executive Leadership**
- **Academic Senate Goals**
- **Academic Senate Resolutions Year Review & Updates**
- **Excused Withdrawal Update**
- **Break**
- **Academic Senate Senator Duties & Responsibilities**
- **Department Chairs Roles & Responsibilities**
- **Lunch**
- **Other Senate Updates**
- **Breakout (separate registration)**
 - **Equivalency Workshop**

Academic Senate Leadership

- Introduction
- Personal Goals
- Areas of Focus

Senate Goals 2025-2026

- Strengthen and empower faculty to understand shared/participatory governance purpose and processes (CEP Goal 3: Objective 3.4)
 - Review and update equivalency process in collaboration with SCC Senate
 - Update Administrative Regulation 4231 Grade Changes and include process for assigning an Excused Withdrawal (EW) after grades have posted
 - Ensure broad and inclusive representation across all campus committees, task forces, and workgroups
 - Collaborating with the Associated Student Government to plan and host at least one **joint event** during the academic year to strengthen student-faculty engagement.
-



What is shared governance?

“Shared governance” is not a term that appears in law or regulation.

[Education Code §70902\(b\)\(7\)](#) calls on the California Community Colleges Board of Governors to enact regulations to “ensure faculty, staff, and students...the right to participate effectively in district and college governance” and, further, to ensure “the right of academic senates to assume primary responsibility for making recommendations in the areas of curriculum and academic standards.”

The intent of the legislature in enacting this section of AB 1725 (Vasconcellos, 1988) was “to authorize more responsibility for faculty members in duties that are incidental to their primary professional duties” and to assure that “increased faculty involvement in institutional governance and decision making” does not conflict with faculty rights in collective bargaining (Section 4n).

This shared involvement in the decision-making process does not necessarily imply total agreement, nor does it abrogate the ultimate decision making responsibility of the local governing board. Title 5 §§51023.7 and 51023.5 state requirements for the “effective participation” of students and staff, respectively, in the development of recommendations to the governing board.

Title 5 §53203 requires the governing board to “consult collegially” with the academic senate on academic and professional matters as defined in §53200.

Consequently, the more precise terms call for the governing board to assure “effective participation” of students and staff and to “consult collegially” with academic senates.

Power of Faculty Influence

CYCLE OF A RESOLUTION

Empowers Academic Senate faculty by providing a clear, collaborative process to raise concerns, seek solutions, and take collective action that drives meaningful change and supports shared governance.



Importance of Resolutions



01 Shared/Participatory Governance

Resolutions foster collaboration among faculty and administration, ensuring that **all voices are heard** in decision-making processes.

02 Policy Influence

They provide a framework for **impacting institutional policies**, allowing faculty to advocate for necessary changes effectively.

03 Documentation

Resolutions offer formal documentation of faculty positions and decisions, serving as a reference for future actions and discussions.

Advocacy and Communication



01 Amplifying Faculty Voices

Resolutions empower faculty to **articulate concerns** and influence policy decisions within the academic community.

02 Engaging Stakeholders Effectively

By fostering dialogue, resolutions enhance **collaboration** among faculty, administration, classified professionals and students, ensuring needs are heard.

03 Strengthening Governance Systems

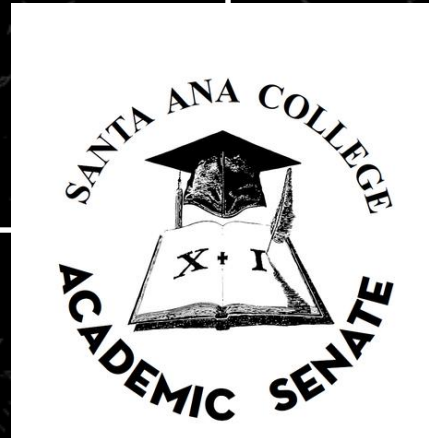
Resolutions contribute to **transparent processes** and informed decision-making, promoting accountability and responsiveness in governance.

IDENTIFY RESOLUTION TYPES

Understand key categories of resolutions in academic governance.

ANALYZE PURPOSES

Explore the specific objectives and impacts of each resolution type.



STATUS UPDATE ON RESOLUTIONS

Review Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 resolutions

IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES

Formulate actionable steps for effective resolution advocacy and communication.

Policy/Governance Resolutions Overview

These resolutions establish essential institutional guidelines and practices.

- Endorsing updates to the Faculty Prioritization Process (S2025.12, F2024.04)
- Establishing new committees or subcommittees (S2025.14, F2024.02)
- Revising administrative regulations (S2025.06)
- Defining faculty roles in governance bodies (S2025.07, S2025.11)



Advocacy & Position Resolutions

These resolutions promote essential community needs within our college.

Express the Senate's stance or support for a cause, group, or principle — may still relate to “10+1,” but framed as advocacy rather than procedural change.

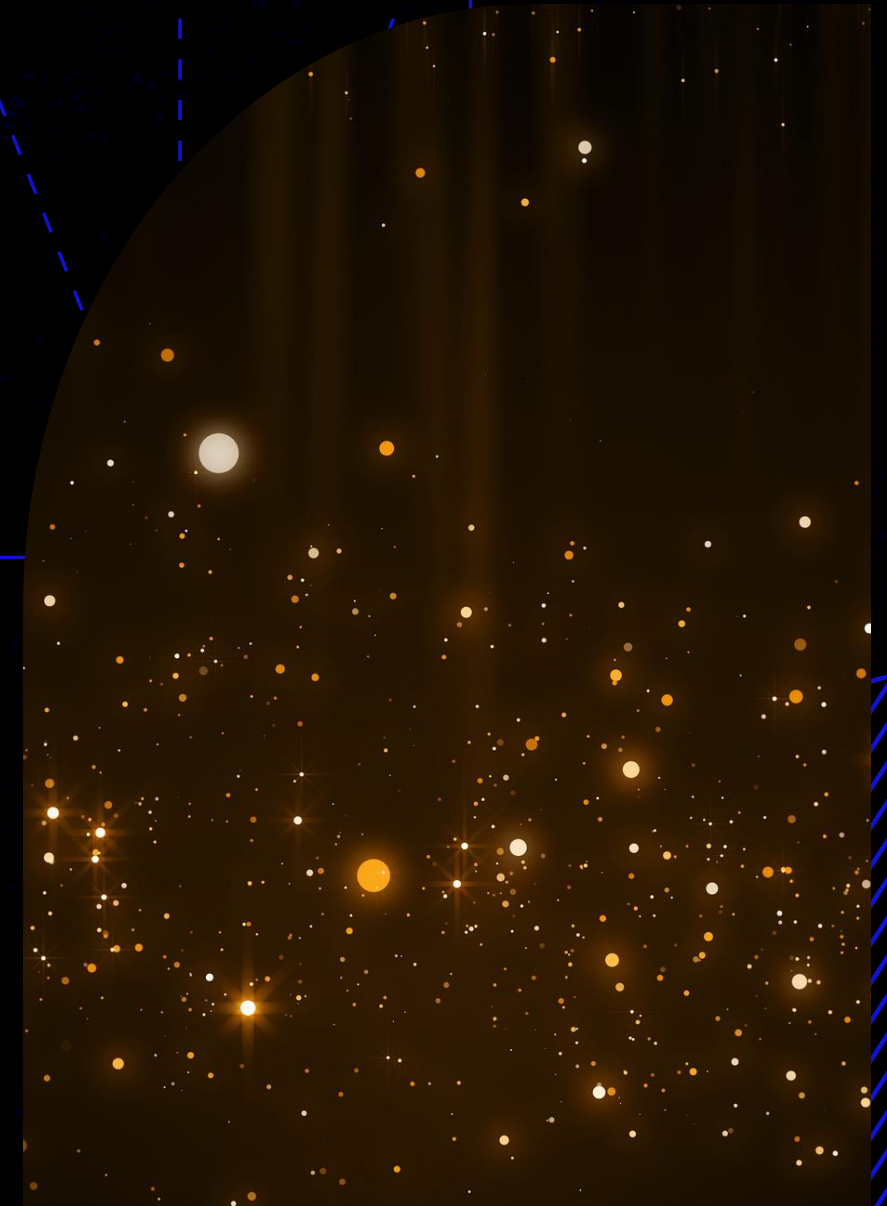
- Supporting retention of specific faculty roles (S2025.02)
- Advocating for historically marginalized students (S2025.05)
- Defending academic freedom (S2025.09, F2024.05)
- Eliminating barriers to student access (S2025.08)



Honorary and Commendatory Resolutions

Recognizing achievements fosters excellence within our community.

- Honorary Distinguished Faculty Award (S2025.04)
- Naming a college space after a distinguished faculty (F2024.01)
- Awarding emeritus status (F2024.07 — also partially governance-related if it sets policy)



Procedural and Housekeeping Resolutions

Address internal Senate operations, corrections, or numbering adjustments.

- Establish meeting protocols for consistency
- Update organizational bylaws as needed
- Streamline communication processes across departments
- Clarify roles and responsibilities for members



Emergency Resolutions

These resolutions address urgent and critical situations promptly.

- Support for health crisis measures
- Response protocols for natural disasters
- Allocation of resources for urgent needs
- Communication strategies during emergencies



Spring 2025 Resolutions Update

S2025.01 Recommendation of Ongoing Professional Learning for Inclusive & Equitable Meeting Facilitation Practices	Presented at College Council Spring 2025
S2025.02 Support of Retaining Full-Time Clinical Psychologist Faculty at Santa Ana College	Presented at College Council and to Board of Trustees – College President reversed their decision
S2025.03 Establish an Inter-Tribal Educational Advisory Board at Santa Ana College	Presented at College Council and BOT, first meeting held Spring 2025, awaiting admin co-chair appointment
S2025.04 Honoring Dr. Jodi Coffman with an Honorary Distinguished Faculty Award*	Award presented at Awards for Excellence, Senate dues funds used for cost of award/resolution
S2025.05 Support Educational Access and Protection for Historically Marginalized Students	Presented at College Council Spring 2025
S2025.06 Endorse Collaborative Revision of Administrative Regulation 4040: Library and Learning Support Services	Presented at College Council Spring 2025
S2025.07 Establishment of a Faculty Liaison to the Associated Student Government (ASG) at Santa Ana College	Presented to Student Services administrators, ASG resolution vetoed by ASG President, revisited by ASG Legislative with recommendations for additional language, Awaiting new ASG leadership update
S2025.08 Elimination of Cancellation and No-Show Fees at the Santa Ana College Health and Wellness Center	Presented at College Council May 2025, Informed Board May/June 2025, Requested action of Board June 2025, Fee Cancelled June 2025
S2025.09 Unified Support for Upholding Academic Freedom	Presented at College Council May 2025
S2025.10 Adopt Process for Appointing Faculty Facilitators on Assignments with Non-Contract Compensation	Presented at College Council, Pilot of process occurred Spring 2025 (Dual Enrollment, CPL, PD)
S2025.11 Endorse an update to SAC College Council Faculty Representation	Presented at College Council May 2025

S2025.12 Endorse Updates to the 2025–2026 Faculty Prioritization Process	To be presented to Administration August 2025, Implementation Fall 2025
S2025.13 Approval of Post-Grade EW Petition Review Process and Committee Structure	Presented to Administration, Recommendation not followed, BOT informed, Administration submit memo, Senate to submit rebuttal
S2025.14 Establish the Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILO) <u>Subcommittee</u>	Subcommittee to first meet Fall 225
S2025.15 Ensuring Faculty Participation and Transparency in Academic Honors Recognition Processes	To be presented to Administration August 2025
S2025.16 Supporting Balanced Participation in College Council Governance	Presented at College Council May 2025, Committee membership vote August/Sept 2025

Excused Withdrawal Updates

- EW process changed without campus wide faculty notification or training (SP25)
- May 9th, 2025 Counseling Division requested a pause on the new process to the administration based on the impact it was having on students
- Issues was brought to senate, a workgroup was put together, and a resolution was created with specific recommendations and passed at the senate meeting.
- There were 5 specific resolve requests and one was adopted by the administration:
 - **Compliance with updated Title 5 Section 55024:**
Implement guidance provided by CCCCCO (ESS 23-01) that supporting documentation shall not be required for students petitioning for an EW, in compliance with updated Title 5 provisions, while continuing to ensure that faculty evaluate petitions fairly and consistently.
- Memo was sent to BOT which left out additional context and communication

Excused Withdrawal Process (after semester)

- Student requests EW with existing grade will be reviewed by instructor of record allowing 5 days for a decision.
 - If instructor **approves**, the request will be processed by A&R
 - If instructor **denies**, it will be routed for an auto-appeal to the faculty in the A&G Committee (Paige Henley, Ana Meckes, Reina Sanabria, Claire Coyne, Maria Aguilar Beltran) for a minimum of 3 votes to approve. If approved, it is processed by A&R.
 - If instructor **does not reply** in 5 days, it will be routed to the faculty in the A&G Committee (Paige Henley, Ana Meckes, Reina Sanabria, Claire Coyne, Maria Aguilar Beltran) for a minimum of 3 votes to approve. If approved, it is processed by A&R.

Additional EW Resolution Recommendations

- **Authorize Faculty Review of EW Petitions Post-Grading:**

Grant the Exceptions to Academic and Guidance Committee (A&G) faculty members the authority to review EW petitions submitted by students after final course grades have been assigned. If a petition is approved, Admissions and Records may replace the final grade with an EW notation. All changes will be recorded and communicated to the students and faculty members.

- **Implement Faculty Training:**

Provide comprehensive training to faculty serving on the A&G Committee, including:

- Updated policies on EW and documentation requirements
- Definitions and examples of "extenuating circumstances"
- Guidelines for consistent petition approval
- Clarification of faculty roles and professional responsibilities
- Potential impacts on students of both approving and denying petitions

- **Establish Regular Communication Schedule:**

Direct the A&G Committee to adopt a consistent communication timeline to ensure timely and efficient review of EW petitions.

- **Collaborate on Administrative Regulation Updates:**

Collaborate with Santiago Canyon College to update Administrative Regulations (AR) to formally grant the A&G Committee the authority to review and recommend actions on post-grade EW petitions in accordance with current Title 5 and CCCCCO guidance.

BREAK

10:45am – 11:00am



VP of Community Operations

2025 Academic Senate Bylaws



Academic Senate Duties & Responsibilities:

Senators are accountable to their electoral area faculty as well as to all members of the Santa Ana College faculty.



The responsibilities of Senate Divisions are to:

- Attend Academic Senate Retreats at the start of each semester.
- Regularly attend Academic Senate meetings (currently 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month from 1:30 to 3:30 pm). Remote Participation on a limited basis may be permitted in accordance with state law (e.g., AB 2499).
- Inform Senate Division faculty of Senate business in a regular and timely manner.
- Represent the majority view of the Senate Division and to vote and represent that view to the Senate, its officers, the Senate Division Deans, other academic Deans and to appropriate councils and committees.
- Serve as liaison between their constituents and the Senate and communicate local concerns to appropriate members of the Executive team.
- Ratify faculty appointments by the Senate President to college shared governance committees and other appointed faculty positions.
- Ratify the creation of Specialized Groups (e.g., task forces, advisory groups, ad hoc committees).
- Obtain knowledge of and uphold 10+1 from Title 5 (RSCCD Board Policy AR 2410) and other pertinent Board Policy administrative regulations.

Cont.

- Encourage faculty members to become involved in the Senate through participation in Senate committees, dues benefits/structures.
- Inform new faculty within their constituent body (Senate Division) of the dues structure of the Senate.
- Represent their Division and/or departments during the annual faculty prioritization meeting when serving as Senior Senator.
- It is the responsibility of the Senior Senator to onboard and support the Junior Senator.
- Manage their Division and/or department Senate elections when serving as Junior Senator.
- Inform potential or newly elected Senators of the purposes and policies of the Senate.
- Represent the Senate at Division Chair and Division Curriculum meetings (Senior Senator can potentially serve in even years, and Junior Senators in odd years.)
- Call Senate Division meetings as appropriate during the year to inform and/or poll faculty.

Distinguished Faculty & Awards for Excellence 2025-2026

Distinguished Faculty 2025/2026

- Our SAC AS DF website has been updated for Professor Gabe Shweiri.
- Save the Date: Professor Schweiri's Distinguished Faculty Lecture on March 18th 4p-6p, SAC's Phillips Hall.



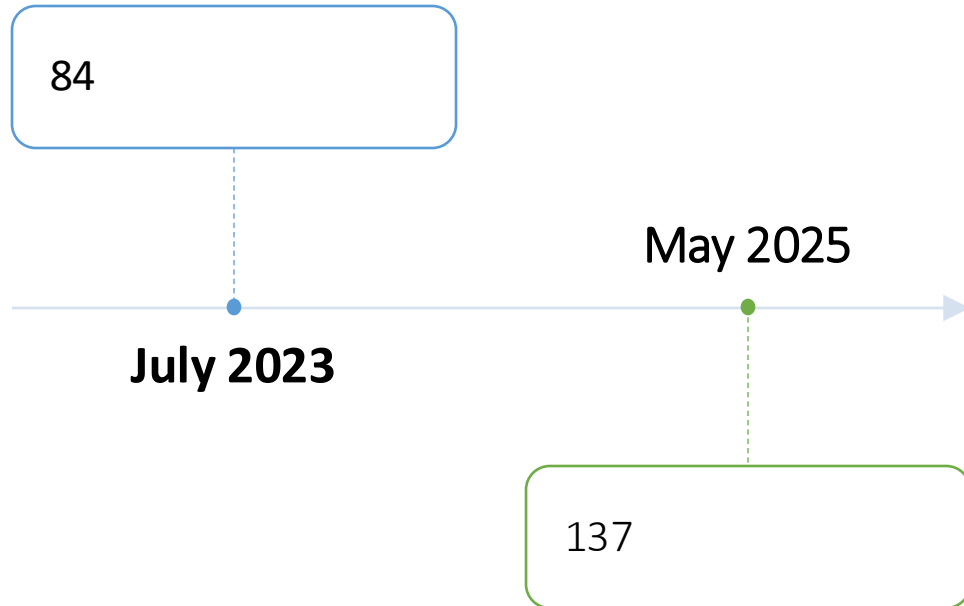
Awards for Excellence

- AfE scheduled for May 14th. More information will be shared later this Fall.
- If you wish to watch the awards from 2023-2025, please visit our website for the recordings:





Academic Senate Dues



Please visit our Self-Service under the Daily Work Faculty tab labeled "Academic Senate Dues" to sign up.

Please continue sharing to fold in new faculty or faculty that have not signed up yet.

Let's
keep in
touch:



Merari L. Weber, Ed.D.

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Santa Ana College Department Chair Guidance



Department Chairs are a key part of the shared governance processes at Santa Ana College and are charged to be representatives of department faculty.

Department Chairs are not managers but they are leaders who help shape, guide and gather consensus from their department.

The Chair is a facilitator/liaison/problem solving person who notices the needs within the department and helps all to work together in a cooperative way.

Student-Related Responsibilities

Grade Changes and Grievances

5 CCR § 55025 Grade Changes

(a) In any course of instruction in a community college district for which grades are awarded, the instructor of the course shall determine the grade to be awarded each student in accordance with this article. The determination of the student's grade by the instructor shall be final in the absence of mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency.

Grade Grievance Procedure

1. Student shall meet with the instructor to discuss the grade. If the issue is not resolved and the student believes that the grade is based on a mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency, (EC 76224), he/she may appeal in writing to the Division Dean. Such an appeal must be made within a one-year period following the semester which the grade was assigned.
2. Forms for the written appeal may be found in any divisional Dean's office.
3. The student may be requested to set-up an appointment with the appropriate Division Dean to discuss the written grievance.
4. The appropriate Division Dean will review the allegations and consult with the instructor.
5. The Division Dean will review the issue and will notify the student and instructor in writing of his/her decision.
6. The decision of the Division Dean is final.

Faculty-Related Responsibilities

Establish Peer Review Committees (PRC) for tenure track faculty per FARSCCD contract.

Organize classroom observations for adjunct faculty as provided by the Dean.

Coordinate interviewing and hiring of adjunct faculty in collaboration with your dean.

Review minimum qualification handbook to ensure any job postings and equivalencies are up to date

Oversee curriculum as it moves through your department, curriculum committee and on to the Curriculum and Instruction Council.

Resources to Know



FARSCCD Contract

Understand the faculty contract, including LHE for chairs. If you believe negotiated LHE is inadequate, contact the FARSCCD president.



Regulations & Policies

Be familiar with Program Discontinuance (AR #4021), course enrollment maximums, Faculty Recruitment (AR #7120.1), and Academic Freedom policies.



Academic Senate

Understand "10+1" Academic and Professional Matters, Senate processes, and curriculum procedures through Curricunet.

Santa Ana College Department Chairs Survey

