

A. Sarin, A. Carnevali, C. Harris, D. Beamer, D. Vines, J. Chaudhuri, J. Garrison, J. Olson, P. Huynh, S. Keslacy, T. Jackson

ABSENT

A. Balappagari, N. Warter-Perez

EXCUSED ABSENCE

Chair Avramchuk convened the meeting at 1:49 p.m.

Senator Chao read the Tongva land acknowledgement.

1. 1.1 Chair's announcements:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.1.1 I would like to acknowledge and reflect on our turbulent times. This is the first Senate meeting and we have the impact of devastating fires in our backyard, Executive Orders from Washington, budget cuts and suffering at Sonoma State, and so on. I would like to take a moment of silence just to reflect on these and other events that affect our being today.

1.1.2 In times of crises, please remember to refer students and colleagues directly to the sources of help. This is extremely important. Please do not interpret or guess what help is or isn't available. Please be kind to each other and check on each other as often as you can.

1.1.3 Thank you to all on campus who offered prompt assistance, contributions, and volunteered to help. Thank you to the deans and chairs who communicated personalized care and acknowledged profound losses and fears. Thank you to the administrators and external agencies coordinating assistance and protective measures for our faculty, staff, and students. We all need to uphold our values!

1.1.4 From the Center for Effective Teaching & Learning, I would like to uplift this announcement about the Sharing Circles that is happening on February 6, 11am-1pm in the GE Ballrooms. You are invited to talk about teaching and learning in the aftermath of the Los Angeles County fires.

1.1.5 I wanted to update you that the Executive Committee discussed in depth all the issues that we face and that I framed in the beginning. We planned on having an unlimited Questions from the Floor today. We invited campus leaders to address any questions they can in this meeting, so we don't have to go through the motions of many IRQs. The only request we have is to please focus the questions and answers, as possible, on something of benefit to other people as well so we can reach as many as possible with the assistance they perhaps need badly.

1.1.6 Some of you know that we were planning to have the Outstanding Professor Award reception, but due to obvious reasons, we have postponed that to a date to be determined. Of course, you heard about the investiture postponement and other things we had to manage due to recent events.

1.2 Senator Porter announced: Tomorrow is the deadline for the student research symposium for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities (RSCA). Please encourage your students to submit. It will be an uplifting event to see what positive things can happen at Cal State LA.

1.3 Senator Chavez announced: The Graduate Resource Center will be holding an open house for graduate students and faculty graduate advisors and any of our campus partners who regularly work with grad students. We had to move our new grad student orientation to a virtual format for the spring. We do have grad students who start in the spring and this is just an opportunity for them to connect. We also have the two future faculty programs through the Chancellor's Office which are the California Pre-Doctoral program and the Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program. They are accepting applications now. Applications for the pre-doc program are due

ANNOUNCEMENTS
(continued)

February 14 and the CDIP applications are due February 17. We've already hosted some virtual and in-person info session, but you might get questions from students asking you to be a mentor for either of these programs. If you have any questions about that, feel free to contact me.

- 1.4 Senator Ramos announced: I just really want to thank Faculty Affairs and the Provost for extending the deadline for the RTP's for lecturers. The extra five days during this crisis was amazing – much appreciated.
- 1.5 VP Lindow and Erik Hollins announced: Dr. Nanda Ganesan is being recognized today as the recipient as the Outstanding Faculty Teaching for the Wang Family Award. The Cal State LA newsroom has a story about the Wang Family Excellence Award and our recipient and you view it at www.news.calstatela.edu.

QUESTIONS FROM THE
FLOOR

The following questions/concerns were raised from the floor:

- Can someone provide a rationale behind assigning classes on Saturday into very small rooms and denying requests for larger spaces or additional rooms even when the entire floor has no one on it and the rooms are locked?
- I am concerned about the perpetual erasure of trans people from this campus since I started teaching here in 2000. 1) Why is the administration not recognizing trans populations here on campus and the danger that we're in? What actions are the administration taking to protect trans people? 2) There are three gender neutral bathrooms on campus. What actions, such as really getting serious about gender neutral bathrooms, does the administration plan on taking – if the administration plans on taking any action to protect its trans population here at Cal State LA?
- Was there consultation with faculty with expertise in reading and technology or teaching English about the use of AI? Is Cal State LA in discussions about the use of AI for other educational activities, such as advising? Is the environmental impact of AI being taken into consideration when decisions are being made about the University adopting it?
- There are concerns about undocumented students, faculty, and staff. What supports are being taken to protect or what actions are being taken to protect students from threats related to the Executive Order? What trainings are going to be given to faculty, staff, and administrators to stand with these students, staff and faculty?
- An Executive Order that is believed to intersect with higher ed work is related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, freezing federal funding and an injunction to hold it and that would impact research grants. We are not sure what our next steps are but maybe in the future we can get some guidance once we know what that looks like.
- Is there clear guidance on what to do if ICE is on campus? Who is the designated person that we should report to or send them to on campus?
- If a student is afraid to come to campus because they don't want to be targeted or deported, and they share this information with faculty, can a faculty member, on a case-by-case basis, if possible, allow them to take some of their class online?
- How many faculty, staff, and students were impacted by the fires and outages? How many and in which form could you help out of those funds?
- Last semester a request was put in to enable the chat in the Senate meetings and wanted to know if this was being considered.
- What is Cal State LA's policy regarding student safety if ICE or other immigration enforcement agendas to come to campus? What specific strategies will the Department of Public Safety employ to protect the students physical safety in these situations?
- Will the campus apply those lessons of its own particular history to this threat of undocumented students and their families? Are we going to formally ask their concerns and develop policies versus the other way around? Will campus police intercede if federal personnel stop a student? If so, what does that mean? What are the protocols that campus safety will follow? Will their personal information be protected from disclosure? Is there going to be awareness and training for employees or just a memo that tells you you must do this this way?

QUESTIONS FROM THE
FLOOR (continued)

- Is the campus going to do a series of monthly online town halls that could proactively provide information in a safe way? Will campus leaders overtly declare how immigrants benefit our society?
- Is there anything our campus can do to organize information flow to grant PI's and those involved in grant efforts? To whom do PI's direct their questions? Is there a website where we can look every day to see the latest information? Who is the right person or office to ask can I spend my grant money today or are there activities that I need to put on hold today? Any guidance the University can provide sooner rather than later would be valuable.
- Are there hotspots being provided to faculty and staff who were impacted by the fires?
- If ICE shows up to a classroom, is faculty supposed to let them in or supposed to protect students? How is the University and administration going to ensure that faculty know what do in these situations and provide other resources outside of CAPS?
- Has anyone thought of the emergency alert system if there is a confirmed ICE presence on campus? Can these messages be provided in writing and communicated so that they can be shared? Have parents been informed about the protection of their students on campus?

3. There were no intent to raise questions.

INTENT TO RAISE
QUESTIONS

4. It was m/s/p (Meyerott) to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 3, 2024 (ASM 24-9).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5. It was m/s/p (Meyerott) to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE
AGENDA

6. Chair Avramchuk did not present a report.

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT

7. Senator Meyerott presented the Academic Senate CSU Report.

ACADEMIC SENATE CSU
REPORT: JANUARY 16-17,
2025

8. 8.1 Chair Avramchuk advised the body that the Baaske motion was on floor. Debate ensued.

ACADEMIC SENATE
RESOLUTION CONDEMN-
ING THE EXPANSION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE
POLICIES UNDERMINING
THE RIGHT TO PEACEFUL
CAMPUS PROTEST (24-7)
Second-Reading Item

8.2 The Baaske motion passed. (V: 31/2/3)

8.3 It was m/s/p (Meyerott) to continue this as a Second Reading Item at the next meeting.

9. It was m/s/p (Meyerott) to adjourn at 3:45 p.m.