San Diego Mesa College (SDMC)
Academic Senate (AS)
Academic Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes

October 19thh, 2026
Room A117 4:15-5:30pm
Committee Members:
Chair Erin Evans, Dean Dina Miyoshi, Raul Rodriguez, Sean Ricketts, Ngoc "Kim" Tran, Fred Seldin

Absent: Sean Ricketts

1. Call to Order and Welcome (Evans)
2. Approval/changes to meeting agenda
3. Guest(s)
    A. New member interest: Miguel Murillo Ayala, Faculty Librarian, Assistant Professor. Eva Parrill, Faculty Librarian (PT)
4. Approval of Draft Minutes: October 5th, 20026 approved.
5. Report Spring 2026 SDMC and SDCCD Meetings (Evans)
    A. Academic Senate:
        a. Meeting on 10/12
        b. Veronica Gerace is stepping down from VP for new district position in DEIA. Executive leadership has two people to consider for appointment until next election.
        c. First reading of AS Resolution asking Chancellor for active support to address CSU refusal to approve articulation for Ethnic Studies courses in CHIC and KUMY classes due to its effect on faculty hiring. VOTE YES
        d. First reading of AI resolution asking district to include seat assignment charges into travel reimbursement. VOTE YES
        e. Updated Program Review prompts due on December 2nd. Erin is helping chair with draft and will bring draft to next meeting for review.
        f. Roundtable discussion of Element 451. Summary in old business item.
    B. President's Cabinet:
        a. Meeting on 10/6/26
        b. New BARC committee composition approved.
        c. First reading of Mesa Tech Committee plan
        d. Roadmap 2 for Mesa 2030 is live and feedback is requested.
    C. Senate Executive Committee:
        a. Meeting before AAC on 10/19
        b. Resolution coming to AS for first reading on a grade challenge panel decision against faculty grade without violation of four required conditions.
    D. Leadership: Next meeting on 10/21
    E. SDCCD Board of Trustees:
        a. Meeting on 10/15

b. Multiple senators and some public comment expressing discontent about implementing Element 451. Mary's AS report was objective and conveyed the general reaction during the A.S. roundtable discussion on Element 451.
c. No other relevant report.

6. Old Business
   A. CCAP instructor support (Tran/Evans) No report. Erin to F/U
   B. Concerns about Element451 CMS (Evans/Rodriguez)
      a. Roundtable discussion during AS was robust and general feeling was critical of the implementation of the system without faculty consultation. Is being piloted by three student services faculty at Mesa.
      b. District Marketing and Outreach Meeting in April 2023 plan proposal by Element 451 that explains the scaffolded implementation of the system across the SDCCD. Faculty are being told otherwise by Mesa college leadership, which indicates district is not providing adequate information.
         I. "Piloting" is being used to describe what is actually training of chatbot.
      c. Erin met with City College AS leadership and counseling. Being piloted by about 20 employees in student services. Counseling faculty has not been consulted either. They are being told that chatbot will not give counseling advice, but the chatbot is available to anyone and students from across district are using it.
      d. ACTION: Erin to attend counseling department meeting on 10/21 and VPSS Larry Maxey will be in attendance to discuss Element 451.
   C. Faculty ICE training with community defense group: TABLED
7. New Business
   A. None
8. Roundtable Discussion:
   A. Review stated AAC goals on website: TABLED
   B. Kim: Integration of AI into his classes. He interacted with chatbot to ask about district access to Gemini. Gemini told him we already have Nectir.
9. Next AAC Meeting: November 2nd 4:15pm A117
10. Adjournment