San Diego Mesa College (SDMC) Academic Senate (AS)
Committee of Chairs
November 4, 2026
Room MC 211 A/B

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Present Members:
Valerie Abe, Anar Brahmbhat, Todd Curran, Nellie Dougherty, Ian Duckles, Christie DuPraw, Rosiangela Escamilla, Justin Estep, Erin Evans, Tasha Frankie, Michael Harrison, Erika Higginbotham, Candace Katungi, Ken Kuniyuki, Bryan Mailinis, Guillermo Marrujo, Ryan Mongelluzzo, Bruce Naschak Leslie Saline-Styles, Wendy Smith, Jennifer Snyder, Irena Stojimirovic, Todd White, Robert Wong, George Ye

Absent Members:
Mark Abajian, Mary Gwin, Nate Betschart, Blythe Barton, Juan U. Bernal, Donna Budzynski, Jarred Collins, Jim Fegan, Anne Geller, Amanda "Mandy" Johnston, Jason Kalchik, Jesse Keller, Gloria Kim, César López, Tara Maciel, Annette Miner, Bruce Naschak, Edeama Onwuchekwa Jonah, Hannah Padilla, Kari Parker, Connie Renda, Nathan Resch, N. Scott Robinson, Christina Sanchez-Volatier, Cara Smulevitz, Oscar Torres, Carlos Toth, Joe Toto

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I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME by Chair of Chairs Ian Duckles: 2:35PM

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Approved:	**Objections**:	**Abstention**:
All	*None*	*None*

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
None

IV. GUEST(s):

A. Veteran's Affairs: Jordan Agricola

1. *Discussed Military Connected Student Initiative- Laws have changed regarding residency. A form will be given in class for verification.*
2. *Professors are asking for extensions. Extensions are given if extenuating circumstances - a form will need to be filled out and given to admissions.*
3. *Kuniyuki - class must be one class on campus excluding a test. Is that correct?*
    - *Agricola -Yes. Discussed the requirements for VA*

B. Mesa Foundation: Krista Stellmacher

1. *Discussed fundraising at Mesa*
2. *Reviewed who is on the Resources Development Team and supports the Foundation.*
3. *Discussed the district wide campaign – An effort to go above and beyond. Reviewed all the different ways they raise funds.*
4. *Discussed where the funds can come from (Corporations, foundations, individuals Etc.*
5. *Discussed grants and what they are*
6. *Discussed Mesa College Foundation and what they do.*

Whole committee discussion:

Evans: Shared concerns with large donors and expectations?
Malinis: Shared thoughts on big donors and their corporate values align with Mesa values.
Frankie: Shared concerns regarding district seeing fundraising paying for equipment etc. and

determining that no budget is needed

Snyder- What is the money for and what is the plan after money goes away?

Malinis: Communication – going to departments to find out the specific needs and that the needs to the cooperate donors to be able to designate funds

López - Negotiate with the donors to know where the funds go and want to make connections with those that want to give money.

Ye – Find out what each program wants/needs and make connections with the donors to synch then together.

Mongelluzzo - Projects have defined an endpoint, but Mesa is a forever thing and how do we define those distinctions with the donors.

Stellmacher - will take the questions and concerns to the team.

C. CCAP: Gina Abbiate

1. *Discussed policies of subbing*
    - *New guidelines for the CCAP professor (Mandated Reporter Training). Best goal is to have a sub who has gone through training. If a sub will be in class for more than one day, please let us know so we can get them training.*
    - *Please let Gina and Sarah know if there is someone subbing for more than one day.*
    - *We are working on a CCAP email for one point of contact.*
    - *Abbiate will send out email of changes to Deans and Chairs*

-Evans- Appreciates Gina's time and discussing CCAP – Courses are college courses with college content – When there is an issue with student behavior and the instructor is not best with HS classroom management, who should they go to?

-Abbiate – a CCAP instructor must find a balance between college and HS (learning opportunity). Working on the district to remove flex and professional development. Chair, instructor and CCAP coordinator are the ones who need to discuss issues. We encourage the faculty to ask the HS counselor to come in at the beginning of class to help set the expectations for the class

-Kuniyuki – Can you send out link for mandated training?

-Abbiate - it is not a link, but the name of the faculty goes into a portal, and instructor logs in to take the training

-Kuniyuki - when did the flex get removed?

-Abbiate – Courses off campus do not allow for flex.

v. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES:

A. Motion to Approve: *Evans / Stojimirovic*

Approved:			**Objections:**	**Abstention:**
Abe,	*Brahmbhat,*	*Curran,*	*None*	*Malinis / White*
Dougherty,	*Duckles,*	*DuPraw,*		
Estep,	*Frankie,*	*Harrison,*		
Higginbotham,	*Katungi,*	*Kuniyuki,*		
Marrujo,	*Mongelluzzo,*	*Naschak*		
Saline-Styles,	*Smith,*	*Snyder,*		
Wong,	*Ye*			

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Chairs Handbook: Duckles

1. *Handbook – it is in teams can access at anytime*
    - *PDF is the draft. Please take a look and leave comments and feedback or let Ian know.*
    - *One more working meeting Nov 18 to work on handbook in BT 207*

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. AI and Grade Appeals (Senate Resolution): Duckles

1. *First read at last AS meeting and second reading will be at next meeting. Referenced the document.*
2. *Review the resolution and the outcome of the situation. Reviewed the state law and policies.*
    - *Q Abe Did the student go to the president after?*
        - *Duckles- Reviewed the process and that president has the final say.*
    - *Q: Abe – Did the President supported the panel decision?*
        - *Duckles- Yes, she supported the panel.*
3. *Higginbotham - Shared concern that the policy is not being followed*
4. *Marrujo - Is this the first time this issue has come about*
    - *Duckles – yes, this is the first time if have heard of it*
5. *Katungi – Clarification or the timeline. 5500*
    - *Duckles – it is not clear of the timeline.*
6. *Katungi – Shared concern that it is very difficult to detect AI and that you cannot prove that 100%*
    - *Duckles- Per the process the burden of proof is on the student.*
7. *Snyder- When is appropriate for someone else to change a grade? Did the instructor find a way of determining whether AI was used? Did the panel say that they cannot have that verbiage in the syllabus?*
    - *Duckles - Panel thought that they could not prove or disprove that AI was used. Panel agreed to recommend changing the grade.*
8. *Snyder – Shared her concerns with AI and it will only get worse. Would like more information on how we will be moving forward with verbiage in the syllabus.*
9. *Mongelluzzo – Shared his concerns regarding how the panel did not use policies and the sanction. Should have a conversation first. Reviewed the cheating policies.*
10. *Harrison – Shared his concerns and discussed the clause of academic honesty.*
11. *Frankie- Another issue with AI; we have focused on faculty rights, and we need to know what the student's rights are. We need to find a middle ground as to what our policy is.*
12. *Malinis – AP 4231 reviewed the document and pointed out that the panel did not use the term "mistake", but the president did. Did the panel use "mistake" anywhere?*
13. *Marrujo – When a student is sanction are they allowed to do a grade challenge?*

Shared an experience he had.

- *Duckles -Yes, they can still do a grade challenge. Instructor reached out to student and offered for the student to take an oral test. Student said no.*

14. *DuPraw - Concerns of uneven application and this will be a constant conversation, and things will get more challenging.*
15. *White- Concerns regarding "you have to have 100% proof" and need to more guidelines*
16. *Higginbotham - Thinks that there should be some training that could help with these challenges on the panel.*
17. *Ye- This will be an ongoing process, and it is important to understand what the process is. (rely in intuition and experience as a teacher)*

VIII. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

IX. *Brahmbhat – Nov is Epilepsy Awareness month and wear purple.*

A. *Nov 30 Epilepsy training – Trying to bring awareness*

X. PLANNING/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Academic Affairs: Evans

1. *Moving into the next steps and working on coming up with a resolution. It will come to Senate on Monday.*

B. Academic Senate: Gwin

1. *Duckles on behalf of Gwin- Counselors – Where are we with what is going on with the Teams phones?*
    - *Marrujo – phones are not working. Teams phones seem to be going in and out. Replacing one by one. Counselors need and use phones often and think they should be a priority.*
2. *Higginbotham - Their phones are random and go in and out. Would like to have more communication*
3. *Harrison – not working either LRC*
4. *Malinis – Coms -no phone, but teams work*
5. *Synder- Physical Science – many phones not working*
6. *Mongelluzzo - Half the phones in SB hallway are not working. Nothing lights up. Behavior Science*
7. *Naschak - his phone has been out for 3 weeks (G building)/Huminites*
8. *Saline-Styles Video phone is not working at all (g Building)*
9. *Brahmbhat - Biology and parts of MNS*
10. *Todd -Exercise science*
    - *Duckles – Relayed info from PCAB*
11. *Marrujo - Would like to know how they are going to be prioritized?*

- *Duckles – Relaying message from PCAB – do not file IT request. They are working on it.*

C. Committee on Committees: Gwin/Escamilla

1. *Duckles- Veronica is no longer VP and introduces Rosie.*
    - *She will be filling in the remainder of the term*

D. American Federation of Teachers (AFT): Duckles

1. *Duckles – Reviewed health care and parental leave. Working in district for a year, everyone except nance*
2. *Can you speak on negotiations regarding the above*
    - *Duckles- Healthcare is expensive and is a good one to have. Parental is not going to cost very much. Pretty confident that they will not affect faculty negotiations*
    - *Marrujo – Did they promise to backfill*
        - *Duckles – Yes, I believe it is in the contract*
    - *Stojimirovic - Is there a time when we will see a salary increase.*
        - *Duckles will not see anything in 2027*

E. Curriculum Review Committee (CRC): Estep/Resch

1. *Estep - Should have received an email regarding catalog. Let him know any questions*

F. Student Services: Dougherty/Higginbotham/Marrujo/Parker

1. *Spring enrollment has opened*

G. Enrollment Management and Instructional Strategic Planning Committee: Harrison

1. *None*

H. Planning & Institutional Effectiveness (PIE) Committee: Gwin/Duckles

1. *None*

I. President's Cabinet: Gwin/Duckles

1. *None*

J. Program Review Committee (PRC): Naschak

1. *Smith- Passed around flyers*
    - *Emails sent out regarding training*

K. Strong Work Force Committee: Johnston/Wong

1. *None*

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ROUND TABLE/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

XII. NEXT CoC MEETING: Working Meeting November 18 (BT-207), Final Regular Meeting for Fall December 2 (MC 211)

XIII. Board of Trustee meeting next Thursday (ADD info)

XIV. ADJOURNMENT: 400 PM