# **District Academic Senate (DAS) Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 3, 2024 - 3:00 -5:00 pm**

Teleconference locations:

**Los Rios District Office Main Conference Room**

**ARC: ARC Administration Building Conference Room**

**CRC: College Center Conference Room 3, CC-259**

**FLC: FL2-145**

**SCC: PAC 135F**

[**Remote Participation Link**](https://lrccd.zoom.us/j/85212623490?pwd=Sk5WSDhxaExXanRuWC83RjVWUGJ1dz09)Meeting ID: 852 1262 3490Passcode: losrios

## Members Present

DAS

* Paula Cardwell, President

ARC Academic Senate

* Brian Knirk, President
* Veronica Lopez, Vice President
* Jeff Sacha, Secretary
* Alisa Shubb, Past President

CRC Academic Senate

* Jacob Velasquez, President
* Lauren Wagner, Vice President
* Eric Anderson, Secretary
* Scott Crosier, Past President

FLC Academic Senate

* Eric Wada, President
* Wayne Jensen, Vice President
* Lisa Danner, Secretary
* Paula Cardwell, Past President

SCC Academic Senate

* Amy Strimling, President
* Ilana Johnson, Vice President
* Nadine Kirkpatrick, Secretary
* Lori Petite, Past President

## Preliminaries

1. Welcome/Call to order at 3:03pm
2. Los Rios Land Acknowledgement was read by Paula Cardwell
3. Approval of Agenda
	* Agenda was approved by consensus
4. Approval of Minutes
	* The May 7 minutes will be approved at the 9/17 DAS meeting to give members more time to review the minutes
5. Introduction of guests
	* Guests present included: Jamey Nye: Deputy Chancellor; James Crandall: NAGPRA Liaison; Melodi McAdams: Tribal Heritage Manager, United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria; Richard Gentry, SCC faculty; Kandace Knudson, SCC faculty

## 6. Public Comment Period

No public comments

## 7. DAS President’s Report

* 1. Summer Update.
		1. Chancellor King has let the DAS President know that he has applied for an [IEPI (“Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative”) grant](https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Institutional-Effectiveness/Institutional-Effectiveness-Partnership-Initiative) from the State Chancellor’s Office to fund a reboot of the Los Rios Interest-Based Approach (IBA) conflict mediation process. Prior to the pandemic, intensive IBA trainings used to be offered on a regular basis and support was available for IBA mediation upon request. Chancellor King has invited DAS to participate in the process of rebooting IBA, should we receive the grant. DAS members expressed a desire to review the submitted application before deciding whether to participate. President Cardwell has asked for a copy of the application and is waiting to receive it.
		2. Update about Los Rios general counsel search. Over summer, DAS president learned that one of the finalists in the general counsel search had been a previous president of a California community college, and during her tenure there she was placed on administrative leave because of a lack of collegial consultation. The Foothill College’s administrative leadership team wrote a letter to the Foothill College Board asking that this individual not be reinstated as president. In response to this information, DAS President Cardwell wrote to the Los Rios Board expressing concerns about that candidate, given that administrators in our district have specifically struggled with collegial consultation. Subsequently, the candidate withdrew from the search, leaving only one candidate. The search was then canceled and Los Rios will conduct another search this semester. There is a need for a faculty representative on the impressions panel.
		3. In recent semesters, faculty have expressed many concerns about the PREP (Prison Re-Entry Program), including lack of clarity around how courses are chosen, and an unfounded District investigation into the conduct of 9 Los Rios faculty teaching in the prisons. The Union and the District worked on drafting a new MOU for PREP over summer. This semester there will be only a limited schedule of classes offered at the prisons until more details can be worked out and the MOU is finalized.
	2. DAS Retreat
		1. The recent DAS retreat was a successful opportunity for members to discuss upcoming issues, outline priorities, and engage in community building.

## Committee Reports

## (As time permits, written reports will be posted to Canvas supporting material section and included in subsequent meeting minutes)

1. District Curriculum Coordinating Committee (DCCC) – Renee Medina
	1. This year there will be lots of work to do to facilitate the new GE pattern changes DAS approved in Spring 2024
	2. The group will be working to implement [AB 928](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB928), which relates to transfer and CCC Apply
	3. Work on [Common Course Numbering](https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Educational-Services-and-Support/common-course-numbering-project) is coming up, with several webinars to be offered in September from ASCCC. Questions? Contact your curriculum chair. Outlines for the first 6 courses have been created and will be sent to the CSUs and UCs for articulation approval before it is sent to the colleges for review.
2. District Equity & Student Success Committee (DESSC) – TBA
	1. A leader is needed for this committee. It is ARC’s turn to field a committee chair.
3. District Educational Technology Committee (DETC) – Morgan Murphy
	1. No report
4. Prison & Reentry Education Program Committee (PREP) – Kalinda Jones
	1. Recommendation that everyone looks at the documents in the [most recent PREP report](https://lrccd.instructure.com/courses/176134/files/65516339?wrap=1) through the lens of Academic Senate. Many aspects of the report have implications for academic and professional matters. All of the 9 faculty who were being investigated last semester were exonerated of any wrongdoing.
	2. Please also read the PREP MOU. It has a lot of implications for items within Senate purview.
	3. The Mule Creek Deputy Warden reviewed the investigation documents and was not concerned by faculty behavior. A question was raised, under what Los Rios policy or law were the 9 faculty being investigated?
	4. The tentative schedule for the Fall PREP classes is very minimal - only 12 classes are being offered, compared with 46 courses offered last semester.
5. Ethnic Studies Council – on hiatus this semester
	1. The faculty who had been involved in Ethnic Studies Council are working on other items this year, such as curriculum and hiring. If any issues do come up related to the Ethnic Studies area, please send them to Tamara.
6. Instructional Accessibility Committee - Beki Mendel
	1. No update
7. District Affordable Learning Materials Committee – Andi Adkins
	1. This group will be working on how to accurately report the [XB-12 data element,](https://webdata.cccco.edu/ded/xb/xb12.pdf) which records information about zero cost materials. The CCCCO recently changed the definitions within this element, which greatly complicates the reporting process.
	2. The Chancellors Office is currently offering [many grant opportunities to apply for funding for OER/ZTC](https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Educational-Services-and-Support/burden-free-instructional-materials/zero-textbook-cost-program). The deadline is December 2024. If your department is interested in learning more about the grants, contact your college OER/ZTC coordinator.

## Consent Items

(Any member of the DAS may request an item be removed for further discussion and separate action).

No consent items

## Decisions

(10-15 minutes per item)

### 1. AB 1705 Math Validation Study Excused Withdrawal (EW) request (second reading).

Discussion:

* Concern raised that this may not be an approved reason for an excused withdrawal in Title 5, which notes that withdrawals are available in extenuating circumstances, and notes that “...as extenuating circumstances are defined as "accidents, illnesses, or other circumstances beyond the control of the student."
	+ It was noted that once DAS recommends something to the Board, the Board will review it for legality and if they determine it may run afoul of Title 5, they will not implement it – they would likely send it back to us for revision
* SCC noted that they have not discussed this item at their campus recently enough to feel comfortable taking a vote
* The body agreed to postpone this item and revisit at the Sept 17th DAS meeting

### 2. Statement of Support for Learning Communities (second reading).

The proposed statement:

*"The Los Rios Community College District Academic Senate affirms the importance of supporting the success of our Learning Community students, who experience unique course scheduling needs in cohorted programs. To address these scheduling impacts, we recommend that our college administrations grant suggested .75 priority registration status to Learning Community students.*

*Learning Communities (LC) allow students to enroll in a preset group of classes with other students who share the same passions, interests, or specific field of study. Students take major and general education classes together (between 1-3 semesters) and work closely with specific faculty and counselors assigned to their learning community and invested in student success."*

Discussion:

* CRC has not yet discussed this item. DAS agreed to move this item to the Oct 15 DAS meeting.
* FLC does not have learning communities, and isn’t sure how they’d be able to participate in the proposed .75 priority registration for learning community students.
* Question: is there a more specific definition of a learning community than what is in the proposed statement of support?
	+ No. Support expressed for making the definition of “learning community” more specific
* Question: If a student were a Umoja student at SCC but also took classes at FLC, would that student also have priority registration at FLC?
	+ It was noted that priority registration applies across the district.

### 3. Four-Year BA Work Group [Draft Charter](https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/12Uk58nr-yTOXq4m7TJbETtCE2QBy4tvQFSRazg-WpUc/edit) (first reading)

Discussion:

* Question: what is the background on where this charter originated? It was noted that typically, a proposal like this would have a discussion at DAS before a first reading was agendized.
* Who is asking this question about whether we want to offer bachelor’s degrees in Los Rios?
	+ The Board, AVC Frank Kobayashi, and DAS President
* Question: is the juice worth the squeeze? Are there faculty who are interested in this or have the capacity for this? Should we gather local input first?
* It was noted that this is NOT a decision on whether or not to offer bachelor’s degrees at Los Rios; instead it is a decision on whether or not to form a workgroup to investigate whether we want to offer bachelor’s degrees.
* Should we spend time identifying the areas where we’d legally be allowed to offer a bachelor’s degree? We can’t compete with a local 4-year college.
* It was noted this would mostly be a discussion for CTE areas
* DAS President asked the College Senate presidents to take this issue back to their Senates for discussion. This will come back at a second read at the next DAS meeting

### 4. Clarification of Understanding Re: Moratorium on the Use of Human Remains, Native American Cultural Items,

### Images, and Reproductions of Native American Human Remains and Cultural Items, No. 3: The use or creation of images and reproductions of Native American human remains and cultural items (as those terms are defined in 25 U.S.C. 3001 et. seq.) under the control of the Los Rios Community College District. (first reading)

Public Comment Related to Decision Item 4

A member of the public (Melodi McAdams, Tribal Heritage Manager from the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria) made a public comment related to this item. She noted that there were questions about whether reproductions would be included in the moratorium. Yes, the intent was to include reproductions. There was a desire for the policy to be consistent with federal and state laws. Research continues to be done on Native American remains without the consent of the deceased person, and this applies whether it is a reproduction or the original human remains. The goal is not to limit academic freedom, it is to make sure that human remains are not used without the consent of the individual.

Public Comment Related to Decision Item 4

The Los Rios NAGPRA, James, manager provided DAS President Paula Cardwell with a handout that explains which replicas will be included in the moratorium.

Discussion:

* It was noted that on Feb. 6, 2024, the DAS discussed a revision of the moratorium to include a general prohibition of the use of all replicas of Native American human remains and cultural items, which wouldn't have occurred if we already understood the moratorium to apply to all replicas of that sort.
* It was noted that the DAS president received a message containing a letter regarding the moratorium's ban on certain images and reproductions, which purported to be from Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression.
* It was confirmed that an organization known as the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression sent Chancellor King a letter stating that in FIRE’s opinion, the ban on the use of certain images and reproductions violates the First Amendment to U.S. Constitution and violates faculty's academic freedom. [Here is a copy of the letter.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BmYodj6DaSq6QOcUYgHyL557n8AvURgU/view?usp=sharing)
* When we approved the moratorium, what was our understanding of the language as it related to reproductions? Did faculty know the moratorium would prohibit them from using replicas/reproductions in the classroom?
* Opinion expressed: when DAS originally approved the moratorium, DAS believed that only a narrow subset of reproductions and images were included in the moratorium.
* Comment: Neither the NAGPRA policy for the CSU and the UC ban the use of replicas in the classroom.
* Opinion expressed: banning the use of replicas is an overreach
* Reminder: we are not discussing our NAGPRA policy, we are addressing the temporary moratorium on the use of human remains until we can draft a NAGPRA policies.
* Opinion: the language in the Los Rios moratorium states that Los Rios may not make replicas of human remains “under our control.” A DAS member commented that they had interpreted this to mean we could not make a replica of an item before returning it, not that we could not use a replica or an image of a human remain at all.
* Opinion: this moratorium was created in good faith with the local tribes, and that means we should take into account what the tribes want to see happen. Therefore, in good faith we should honor their request to not use replicas and reproductions.
* Opinion: There is a legal requirement under NAGPRA, but there are also ethical considerations. We are likely in compliance with the law, but we should consider the ethical implications. The Native American individuals whose bodies were used to create the reproductions replicas did not give consent for this use of their bodies.
* Opinion expressed that we should honor the tribes request while we are developing our permanent NAGPRA policy.
* It was noted that there is no law that requires these images and reproductions not be used.
* A legal question has come to the deputy legal counsel on whether we are depriving students of their right to speak freely on campus if we limit speech on campus that is legal off campus. This question pertains to whether the moratorium's ban on the use of images and reproductions in students' papers, research or other work violates the law, i.e., Section 66301 of the California Code of Education.
* DAS President requests that this matter be reviewed by each college Senate. The question is, when they approved the moratorium, did the Senates understand that the moratorium would prohibit the use of reproductions and replicas of Native American human remains and images?
* Suggestion to check the Academic Senate and DAS minutes that were taken during the discussions of the moratorium.

### 5. Proposed Change to Board Policy P-7241 2.1.1 (proposed):

Satisfactory completion of a minimum of sixty (60) units of degree‐applicable lower‐division credit courses with a “C” (2.0) grade point average, provided that twelve (12) units must be earned in residence at the district (first reading).

### 6. Proposed Change to Board Policy P-7241 2.3.3.5 (proposed):

English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking (six [6] units: three [3] units each from (a) and (b)) Courses in English composition, oral communication, and critical thinking are those which use and examine principles and guidelines of clear and logical thinking and communication. Critical thinking courses develop an awareness of the relationship of language to logic, resulting in the ability to analyze, criticize, and advocate ideas, to reason inductively and deductively, and to identify the assumptions upon which particular conclusions depend.

* 1. (a) English Composition. Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate‐level and include expository and argumentative writing.
	2. (b) Oral Communication and Critical Thinking. Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate‐level and include oral communication and critical thinking courses. (first reading).

### 7. Proposed Change to Board Policy P-7412 2.3.3.7 (proposed):

Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (three [3] units minimum) Courses in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning develop students’ abilities to draw conclusions from numerical information, use formal reasoning processes, practice computational skills, and apply mathematical concepts or formal reasoning to solve real‐world problems. Courses fulfilling this requirement must be at least college‐level and include mathematics and quantitative reasoning courses, including logic, statistics, computer languages, and related disciplines. (first reading)

### 8. Proposed Change to Board Policy P-7412 2.3.3.8 (proposed):

Ethnic Studies (minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units). Courses fulfilling this requirement may include baccalaureate‐level courses in the four autonomous disciplines within Ethnic Studies: Black Studies; African American Studies; Africana Studies; Native American Studies; Chicano/a/x; Latino/a/x Studies/La Raza Studies; and Asian American Studies. (first reading).

Discussion of items 5-8:

* American Indian Studies needs to be included amongst the eligible disciplines for Ethnic Studies requirement.
* Question: what is the timeline for our need to approve these changes?
	+ This needs to be done by the end of Fall semester. Ideally these changes will be approved at second reading by the DAS Oct 1 meeting.
* Encouragement that DAS keep a “good enough” approach in mind, since we need to act quickly in order for these changes to get in the next catalog. We can improve language later if needed.
* With these new changes, can a student get through community college without taking an oral communication class?
	+ Yes
	+ That said, oral communication is still required under CalGETC
* Could there be an unintended consequence of making residency applicable at the district level rather than the college level? Such as resource allocation or determining how many students graduated from each college.
	+ The district cannot grant degrees; the colleges will continue to grant degrees, so we will still be able to tell how many students attended each college.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02pm

## Reports

(5 minutes per report + 5 minutes for questions)

No reports

## Discussion

(10-15 minutes per item)

No discussions

## Items from Colleges for District Academic Senate Consideration

* None

## Future Returning Items:

## Upcoming Meetings / Events

## Land Acknowledgements

[Los Rios Community College District Indigenous Land Acknowledgment Statement](https://losrios.edu/about-los-rios/our-values/indigenous-land-acknowledgment) “In the spirit of community and social justice, we acknowledge the land on which our four colleges reside as the traditional homelands of the Nisenan, Maidu, and Miwok tribal nations. These sovereign people have been the caretakers of the health of the rivers, the wildlife, the plant life, and the overall eco-social balance in the greater Sacramento region since time immemorial.
 Despite centuries of genocide and occupation, the Nisenan, Maidu, and Miwok continue as vibrant and resilient tribes and bands, both Federally recognized and unrecognized. Tribal citizens of these nations continue to be an active and important part of our Los Rios college community. We take this opportunity to acknowledge the land and our responsibility to the original peoples, the present-day Nisenan, Maidu, and Miwok tribal nations.”

[ARC Indigenous Land Statement](https://arc.losrios.edu/student-resources/native-american-resource-center#:~:text=We%20acknowledge%20the%20land%20which,Maidu%2C%20and%20Miwok%20tribal%20nations.&text=Despite%20centuries%20of%20genocide%20and,both%20Federally%20recognized%20and%20unrecognized.)

“We acknowledge the land which we occupy today as the traditional home of the Maidu and Miwok tribal nations. These sovereign people have been the caretakers of this land since time immemorial. Despite centuries of genocide and occupation, the Maidu and Miwok continue as vibrant and resilient Federally recognized tribes and bands. We take this opportunity to acknowledge the generations that have gone before as well as the present-day Maidu and Miwok people.”

[CRC Land Acknowledgement](https://crc.losrios.edu/about-us/our-values/equity-and-diversity/land-acknowledgment)

“We pause to acknowledge that Cosumnes River College sits on the land of Miwok and Nisenan people. We remember their continued connection to this region and give thanks to them. We offer our respect to their Elders and to all Miwok and Nisenan people of the past and present.”

 [FLC Land Acknowledgement](https://flc.losrios.edu/about-us/our-values)

“We respectfully acknowledge the land currently occupied by Folsom Lake College as the traditional home of the sovereign Nisenan, Maidu and Miwok peoples who have a unique and enduring relationship stewarding this land since time immemorial. Despite colonization, occupation and genocide, the Nisenan, Maidu and Miwok people continue and thrive in their resilience and self-determination. We celebrate and recognize our Nisenan, Maidu and Miwok tribal neighbors and honor their sustained existence.”

[SCC Land Acknowledgement](https://scc.losrios.edu/student-resources/native-american-student-success/land-acknowledgement)

“We acknowledge the land currently occupied by Sacramento City College as the traditional home of the Maidu, Miwok and Nisenan people. These sovereign people have been caretakers of the area since time immemorial. Despite centuries of genocide and occupation, the Maidu, Miwok and Nisenan people continue as vibrant and resilient federally recognized and unrecognized tribes, bands, and rancherias. Today, we honor and recognize our Maidu, Miwok and Nisenan tribal neighbors for their contributions as the caretakers of the Sacramento Valley and honor their sustained existence. It is with their blessing and continued guidance that Sacramento City College seeks to provide an accessible, equitable, and supportive institution of learning and experience.”

Voting Template

| Issue:  |
| --- |
| **ARC** |  | **FLC** |
| Knirk |  |  | Wada |  |
| Lopez |  |  | Jensen |  |
| Sacha |  |  | Danner |  |
| Shubb |  |  | Cardwell |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **CRC** |  | **SCC** |
| Velasquez |  |  | Strimling  |  |
| Wagner |  |  | Johnson |  |
| Anderson |  |  | Kirkpatrick |  |
| Crosier |  |  | Petite  |  |