



**DAS** President Paula Cardwell

**ARC** President Veronica Lopez

**CRC** President Lauren Wagner

**FLC** President Wayne Jensen

**SCC** President Amy Strimling

# District Academic Senate (DAS) Minutes

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 3:00-5:00 pm

Los Rios District Office Main Conference Room

[Remote Participation Link](#) Meeting ID: 852 1262 3490 Passcode: losrios

## Members Present

### DAS

- Paula Cardwell, President
- Sarah Lehmann, Secretary

### ARC Academic Senate

- Veronica Lopez, President
- Daniel Slutsky, Vice President
- Andréa Pantoja Garvey, Secretary
- Alisa Shubb, Past President

### CRC Academic Senate

- Lauren Wagner, President
- Jason Patterson, Vice President
- Emily Bond, Secretary

- Scott Crosier, Past President

### FLC Academic Senate

- Wayne Jensen, President
- David Lacy, Vice President
- Lisa Danner, Secretary
- Eric Wada, Past President

### SCC Academic Senate

- Amy Strimling, President
- Ilana Johnson, Vice President
- Lori Petite, Past President

## Preliminaries

1. Welcome/Call to order
2. FLC Land Acknowledgement was read
3. Approval of Agenda
  - Agenda was approved
4. Approval of Minutes
  - Minutes were approved
5. Introduction of guests

## 6. Public Comment Period (up to 3 minutes per speaker)

- Public comment from Mike Payne, Chemistry faculty at ARC. Concerns about the hiring process. ARC Chemistry is teaching 16 more lectures and 25 more labs than they were teaching in Fall 2019, with only 1 additional full time faculty member. They were ranked number 4 on ARC's hiring position list, but did not get a position. Have asked for LTT since October but have not heard anything back, yea or nay. They requested a hiring

pool in late January, and did not hear anything from HR until March, when they were told that a new pool had been created. Looking at cancelling 4.0+ FTE worth of classes for fall. Over enrolled all classes by over 100, but also turned away more than 300 students. They do not have a single class that is not a prerequisite for something with no alternatives. When they cancel classes, it screws students over seriously. They are frustrated that they cannot seem to get any help with hiring.

- Public comment from Alisa Shubb re: the proposal to create a special subdistrict for the purposes of voting on an upcoming Los Rios bond measure. Shubb urged the board to not approve the formation of this subdistrict, speaking in her role as a community member and ARC faculty member, not on behalf of DAS. Savannah Kuchar, a reporter from [KVIE/PBS Abridged](#), a local news website, covered the 4/8 Board meeting where this topic was discussed. [Read Kuchar's article.](#)
- Public comment encouraging all to be mindful of our Persian students in light of all that is going on with the war with Iran

## 7. DAS President's Report

- Update on Farmworker Day
  - VC Nye reached out to DAS President to let her know the District would be removing Cesar Chavez' name from the Los Rios website. Based on a recent state law, Cesar Chavez Day will be renamed Farmworker Day
  - Short meeting with the Vice Chancellors and Associate Vice Chancellors. Discussed AI guidelines, NAGPRA, proposed changes to R-2222, local degree GE issue, TOP to CIP transition – the state has granted us a 1-year extension on this transition.
  - If anyone at your college would like to participate in the Online Grading System (OGS) transition group, please forward their name to DAS President. Suggestion that folks who are serving on the SOCRATES group may want to also serve on the OGS group
  - Bookstore vendor transition from Follett to Barnes & Noble Education. Concerns raised about the transition. With the online class schedule, students cannot see what their books are. How is the textbook adoption transition going to work? Sarah will be attending a meeting with Barnes & Noble and will ask this question.

## Information items

- Spring ASCCC Plenary Los Rios Rowdies Dinner will take place at Riviera restaurant on Thursday evening.
- Los Rios General Counsel Aly Bivens: Presentation/Q&A on SB 707 and the Brown Act
  - Link to Aly's presentation forthcoming

- We don't need to be too nervous. There are provisions in the Brown Act where, if an accidental violation occurred and some decision got invalidated, there is a way to go back and remediate it.
- The main goal of the Brown Act is open and transparent meetings and no back door dealings. Focus on that overall goal.
- Overview of presentation:
  - Ralph M. Brown Act: Gov. Code 54950 et seq
  - Basic requirements:
    - 72-hour agenda posting for regular meetings (24 hours for special meetings)
    - Meetings must be open and accessible to the public
    - Must allow for public comment
    - Discussion and action are limited to agenda items
    - Serial meetings are prohibited (in other words, no side conversations where members discuss information with other members individually. Discussions should happen with a quorum in a public group setting)
    - Avoid email discussions involving a majority
    - One-way informational communications are permitted
    - Standing committees and sub-committees of the DAS are covered by the Brown Act. Temporary committees (ad-hoc) that include less than a quorum of the legislative body are exempt.
  - SB 707 - Translation and broadcasting requirements do not apply to community college districts
  - Details shared around teleconference meetings. Section 54953.8.6 – These are new provisions that allow for the meeting to take place without all participants sharing their locations and without posting the agendas at all teleconference locations, as was previously required. However, you need to get approval from the Board of Trustees to do this, and need to explain the rationale.
    - Can DAS pass a resolution allowing remote meetings for itself and its subcommittees?
      - Ally will investigate
    - Can blanket approval be granted for any Brown Act body at Los Rios to choose to do teleconferencing procedures?
      - Aly will look into this
  - Questions:
    - Is there a requirement to post a physical agenda at the meeting location?
      - A copy of the agenda needs to be available, such as by printing out a copy, but you don't need to physically post it.
    - When does a meeting cross from being an in person meeting to a teleconferencing meeting? Sometimes members attend remotely.
      - Aly will investigate

- How many remote attendances can a member of a legislative body have and still be a member in good standing?
  - Aly will investigate

## Consent Items

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

- Approval of remote attendees for voting
- Sacramento City College Appointment of incoming District Academic Senate President  
♥👑🌈: Lori Petite, SCC Past President, has been nominated and has graciously agreed to serve as DAS President next year.
- Charter Update: District Affordable Learning Materials Subcommittee has revised its charter.
  - Notes about the 2026 Update: The original charter is linked from [the DALMC webpage](#) (scroll to the bottom of the page). The updated version was discussed at DALMC's February meeting and then disseminated to each college's local committee that deals with open educational resources and textbook affordability to gather input, feedback, and suggestions. All suggested edits are reflected in the revised document. DALMC voted to approve these changes at its March 2026 meeting: [DALMC Charter Updates – Approved March 2026](#)

## Committee Reports

(Written reports will be posted to Canvas supporting material section and included in subsequent meeting minutes)

1. District Curriculum Coordinating Committee (DCCC) – Renee Medina
  - a. DCCC is working on a resolution to encourage local curriculum committees to adopt a “Course Sunset” policy.
  - b. CCCCCO has extended the deadline for the TOP to CIP conversion. Frank Kobayashi has sent a memo to all VPIs and Curriculum Chairs with an updated timeline.
  - c. Noncredit courses and programs can be created in Socrates.
2. District Equity & Student Success Committee (DESSC) – Paula Cardwell/Lydia Delgado
  - a. No update
3. District Educational Technology Committee (DETC) – Morgan Murphy
  - a. Lots of discussion about accessibility and how we evaluate the accessibility of the technology tools the District purchases
  - b. RFP for SOCRATES going out in Fall 2026
4. Prison & Reentry Education Program Committee (PREP) – Jeff Knorr
  - a. End of the year celebrations will be taking place at SCC, CRC, and ARC for Rising/Re-Emerging Scholars Programs;
  - b. We have completed a new committee charge and the committee is sending that document along to DAS.

5. Instructional Accessibility Committee - Beki Mendel
  - a. DIAC is drafting a recommendation for DAS regarding review and acquisition of accessibility-focused technology solutions. The recommendation will be ready for review at the April 21 DAS meeting. The committee will next meet on April 20.
6. District Affordable Learning Materials Committee – Andi Adkins Pogue
  - a. Barnes & Noble will be the new bookstore vendor starting July 1. It is important to continue to send your adoptions to Follett
  - b. DALMC is working on advocacy on two issues:
    - i. Advocating for continuing funding for OER/ZTC course creation
    - ii. Educating faculty about “Automatic Textbook Billing” practices
      1. [Automatic Textbook Billing, ZTC, and OER: Faculty & LRCFT](#)
      2. [Automatic Textbook Billing, ZTC, and OER: LRCCD Students](#)

## Decisions

(10-15 minutes per item)

1. [Resolution in Support of the Pan-African Virtual College](#) (Second Reading).

Motion to support PAVC. Second. Motion passed.

Voting:

| Issue: Pan African Virtual College |         |             |        |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------|
| ARC                                |         | FLC         |        |
| Lopez                              | yes     | Jensen      | yes    |
| Slutsky                            | yes     | Lacy        | yes    |
| Garvey                             | abstain | Danner      | Absent |
| Shubb                              | abstain | Wada        | yes    |
|                                    |         |             |        |
| CRC                                |         | SCC         |        |
| Wagner                             | yes     | Strimling   | yes    |
| Patterson                          | yes     | Johnson     | yes    |
| Bond                               | yes     | Kirkpatrick | absent |
| Crosier                            | yes     | Petite      | yes    |

2. Proposal to affirm DESSC Committee recommendation to [amend Board Policy P-7241](#) to waive GE for local degrees for returning students who have earned an AA/AS degree in Los Rios (Second Reading).

Motion made, seconded, motion passed

| Issue: GE local degrees |     |             |        |
|-------------------------|-----|-------------|--------|
| ARC                     |     | FLC         |        |
| Lopez                   | yes | Jensen      | yes    |
| Slutsky                 | yes | Lacy        | yes    |
| Garvey                  | yes | Danner      | absent |
| Shubb                   | yes | Wada        | yes    |
|                         |     |             |        |
| CRC                     |     | SCC         |        |
| Wagner                  | yes | Strimling   | yes    |
| Patterson               | yes | Johnson     | yes    |
| Bond                    | yes | Kirkpatrick | absent |
| Crosier                 | yes | Petite      | yes    |

3. Affirm recommendation from DCCC to approve [changes to P-7141](#): Instructional Programs/Curriculum Development; change to allow unit increments for 0.25 to be used for some courses. (Second Reading).

Motion to approve made, seconded, motion passed.

| Issue: approve changes to P-7141 |     |        |        |
|----------------------------------|-----|--------|--------|
| ARC                              |     | FLC    |        |
| Lopez                            | yes | Jensen | yes    |
| Slutsky                          | yes | Lacy   | yes    |
| Garvey                           | yes | Danner | absent |

|            |     |             |        |
|------------|-----|-------------|--------|
| Shubb      | yes | Wada        | yes    |
|            |     |             |        |
| <b>CRC</b> |     | <b>SCC</b>  |        |
| Wagner     | yes | Strimling   | yes    |
| Patterson  | yes | Johnson     | yes    |
| Bond       | yes | Kirkpatrick | absent |
| Crosier    | yes | Petite      | yes    |

4. Affirm [Policy-7910](#) Recommendation from the NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) Task Force (Second Reading).

- a. **ITEM POSTPONED TO APRIL 21**

5. Affirm [Policy-7920](#) Human Remains Recommendation from the NAGPRA Task Force (Second Reading).

- a. **ITEM POSTPONED TO APRIL 21**

6. Proposed [Changes to R-2222](#) Attendance Requirements and Reports (First Reading).

- a. Discussion:

- The group defined “attendance” in order to more effectively define “non attendance”
- The group proposes changing the language around saying instructors may drop someone if they miss more than 6% of a course. CHange to 10%
- Question about the sentence:
  - “1.2 Academically related participation may include submitting assignments, taking exams, attending interactive tutorials, or participating in academic discussions”
    - This phrasing comes across as an exhaustive list. Suggestion that we add something like “not limited to”

- For courses where an outside accrediting group requires that students attend the class for a certain minimum number of hours, such as nursing, air traffic control, and allied health, should this be captured here?
  - DAS president will ask the VCs/AVCs and/or the legal counsel for input
- Take this back to your colleges for additional feedback

## 7. Affirm Recommendation from DESSC to adopt the [Los Rios Artificial Intelligence Guidelines](#). (First Reading).

### Discussion:

- This is not a policy. AI is too broad and too amorphous for a policy at this point. It is a framework for the types of things we should consider with regards to AI use at our college and in our classrooms. This framework has been sent out to the student senates, the Ed Tech group, and the LMS coordinators during a 30-day public comment period. It went to DESSC at the end of March, who affirmed it.
- There are definite workload implications because of AI. We don't totally understand the workload impact yet, and it varies by discipline. Lots more need for one-on-one discussions with students about how they are doing their work and understanding ethical use of AI
- Suggestion that when this is approved, we should forward it to the LRCFT
- Opinion - When we transitioned to teaching online, there was a lot of investment in training. This transition to AI is similar. It requires a new way of teaching and there needs to be an additional investment of resources for faculty training and compensation for redesigning courses
- There is a lot happening at once. Teaching in the AI era, the need for authentic assessment and multiple measures
  - Taking appropriate time to develop effective courses is in tension with the district's goal of increased productivity.
    - Lots of discussion about this tension
    - Suggestion that the answer cannot be "use more AI"
  - Suggestion that faculty should be teaching 4 classes per semester rather than 5
- Reminder that this is a guidance document, it is not solving all the problems. If anything, it is bringing up more problems. AI is complicated, and it's not the fault of this document. This is the world we live in now, this is a new epoch in education.
- We need to adjust to this new reality. Perhaps there will be more of a transition to in person testing, requirements for doing writing assignments in Blue Books.
- Please bring this back to your colleges for additional feedback. Please make a copy for your college to comment on so everyone isn't commenting in the same document.

## Discussion

(10-15 minutes per item)

### 1. [ASCCC Resolutions Packet](#)

- a. Interest from Math department at ARC in in-person testing centers
- b. Clarification on counselors being mental health professionals
- c. Confusion/uncertainty around divesting

### 2. Equivalency Process: Should we consider a district-wide EQ process when candidates are applying at multiple colleges?

- a. This comes around every few years. We haven't figured out the best way to clean it up and make it not too arduous. Unclear how to handle EQs when they come up over summer. Interest in establishing some type of appeals process for people who receive a denial of equivalency.
  - i. Unclear on whether people who are denied EQ receive the P-38 form.
- b. Opinion that we really need to improve our HR practices. There are big systemic problems. Opinion that we should bring this up with our new Chancellor
- c. Opinion that the applicants looking for equivalency should be required to explain in detail why the courses they have taken meet equivalency. Currently, the equivalency committee members have to dig into transcripts to try and determine which courses may meet the requirements
- d. Suggestion that a task force be created to address these issues with the equivalency process
- e. Opinion that equivalency committee members need more training
- f. We can do better!

### 3. ARC Student Senate Resolution/Direction to Hiring Manual Revision Task Force Members

- a. It was noted that students are not entitled to serve on hiring committees, though they may be allowed to
- b. Opinion that students are not being locked out of faculty hiring by faculty. It was noted that faculty do not actually run their own hiring committees. We are told by administration when we get to hire, when the committee will meet, when the work will take place, et cetera.
- c. Observation that students are not employees, they would essentially be volunteers on our committees. We cannot make it a requirement that students serve on hiring committees, because we cannot compel them to be there.
- d. It was noted that paying students for being on hiring committees could jeopardize their financial aid
- e. Opinion expressed that DAS should make a joint response, even though ARC was specifically called out
- f. We should think of our response as a "teaching moment"

- g. It is sad that this is where we are at. The work our faculty have done, and the nuance involved in faculty hiring isn't being explained.

## Future Returning Items:

- Not-for-Credit Curriculum Process

## Upcoming Meetings / Events

- April 7: DAS Meeting, 3-5 pm, DO Main Conference Room
- April 8: AB 1705 English Meeting, 10-11 am
- April 8: Los Rios Board of Trustees Meeting, 5:30, DO
- April 9-11: ASCCC Spring Plenary, Santa Rosa
- April 9: PREP Committee Meeting 9 am
- April 15: AB 1705 Math Meeting, 3-4 pm
- April 17: Program Placement Council, 2:30 pm
- April 20: DESSC Meeting, 2:30 pm
- April 20: Public Safety Advisory Meeting, 3 pm
- April 21: DAS Meeting 3-5 pm, DO Main Conference Room

## Land Acknowledgements

### [Los Rios Community College District Indigenous Land Acknowledgment Statement](#)

“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](#)

“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](#)

“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](#)

“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](#)

“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:     |            |
| <b>ARC</b> | <b>FLC</b> |

|            |  |             |  |
|------------|--|-------------|--|
| Lopez      |  | Jensen      |  |
| Slutsky    |  | Lacy        |  |
| Garvey     |  | Danner      |  |
| Shubb      |  | Wada        |  |
|            |  |             |  |
| <b>CRC</b> |  | <b>SCC</b>  |  |
| Wagner     |  | Strimling   |  |
| Patterson  |  | Johnson     |  |
| Bond       |  | Kirkpatrick |  |
| Crosier    |  | Petite      |  |