

Santa Monica College Student Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date & Time:	Wednesday, April 22 nd , 2026 – 12pm
Location:	SSC 222
Chairs:	Beatriz Magallon (Chair), Esau Tovar (Vice Chair)
Attendees:	Bea Magallon, Nancy Cardenas, Donna Davis-King, Ana Montes de Vegas, Press Nicolov, Sharyn Obsatz, Alicia Villalpando
Guests:	Nicholas Chambers
Excused/Absent:	Esau Tovar, Thomas Bui, Liz Li (Student Rep.), Ike Munguntsatsralt (Student Rep.)

I. Call to Order: 12:12 PM

II. Public Comments:

III. Approval of Minutes:

IV. Updates and Old Business:

a. Updates on AR 5055 Enrollment Priorities

- i. Bea welcomed the Committee and let everyone know that she had presented AR 5055 to Executive Committee. Exec. did not have any significant questions on the AR as it was presented. Bea informed the Committee that she would not be able to present AR's during the next Academic Senate meeting as there was a special session that would be occurring with State representative and these would have to wait for the following A.S. meeting.

ii. AR 4100 Graduation Requirements for Degrees

Continuing, Bea explained to the Committee that a handful of changes were made to AR 4100 Grade Requirements after Exec. reviewed the AR. Bea explained that she passed the AR through the SMC articulation officer and the baccalaureate degree people, amongst a few others, for review which generated additional feedback, which Bea referenced and explained to the Committee. Some of the changes made to the AR were reiterations of language found elsewhere in the AR or changes to make process clearer.

Additionally, under the "General Education", "Exception" subsection, language regarding official transcripts from degree awarding institutions being filed

(submitted and processed) with Admissions & Records was added to the AR. Nick explained that the bachelor's program has a GE pattern that requires 3 courses, 9 units that are required to be upper division. The exception referenced in the AR is to waive all other lower division courses, however, the students would still have to take the three upper division courses. The student population that would be most impacted by this exception are students that completed CSUGE or IGETC years ago and don't want to complete ethnic studies or communications requirements. The committee discussed how important it would be for students to get full GE certification.

The Committee continued to discuss the subject of major and degree requirements. Bea suggested that students coming to SMC with AA degrees from other CA institutions may warrant clearing their requisites with the student's AA coursework from other institutions. Bea mentioned this was addressed in Exec and they asked if this was removed it would have to go through process of Chairs and Curriculum again. Nick Chambers expressed concern that clearing requisites using AA degrees from other institutions is not in alignment with Title V's conditions for awarding the associate degree; Alicia concurred. Likewise, the Committee deliberated over how much responsibility a student should bear over the deficiency of a previous learning institution should it be discovered that their previous learning institution's AA courses did not meet the degree requirements at SMC. The Committee discussed this matter for the remainder of the meeting time. Members also addressed local decisions and the new Stellic system that may address concerns.

Adjournment: 2:00 PM

For all documents, visit: <http://www.smc.edu/ACG/AcademicSenate/Committees/Pages/Student-Affairs.aspx>

Next scheduled meeting: May 6, 2026

Respectfully Submitted by Jackson Edwards