

Santa Monica College Academic Senate

Meeting Minutes

Sept. 15, 2026

11:00 AM – 12:35 PM

HSS 104

I. Preliminaries

1. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda

Approved: 11:06 AM

2. Approval of 9/1/26 Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes:

M/S: G. Huff/C. DeLoach

Approved: 11:08 AM

3. Public Comments

None

II. Announcements

1. Epicenter (L. Hald, J. Krug)

- a. Learning Lounge (hybrid) will be taking place on Wednesday, Sept. 20th from 11 AM-12PM.

2. Study Abroad Info-Session & Teach-In (D. Broccard)

- a. Thursday, Oct 1 from 11:15am – 12:35pm. A great opportunity for students to learn about studying abroad from study abroad alums. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

III. Information Items

1. Senate By-laws and the Roll of the Executive Committee (V. Arrizon, C. Grant)

- a. Clarification provided on executive committee members having the ability to vote in Senate meetings.

2. Fall PD Day Common Ground Essentials; Fall PD Day 2026 VP Presentation (V. Arrizon, L. Hald)

- a. Common Grounds Essentials handout provides a great overview of the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF), Vision 2030, Student Equity Plan, and Guided Pathways and anchors Senate 10 +1 purview in these areas.
 - b. VP Presentation provides an overview of what the priorities will be for the academic year, provides a timeline of SMC's accreditation midterm report, and information to better understand our finances.
3. Guided Pathways Update (K. Lui-Martinez, J. Garcia)
 - a. The Guided Pathways Collaborative purpose was to reimagine first-time-in-college student's experience, align with Vision 2030 and the Student Equity Plan, and focus on system-level changes for equity and completion. Goals included removing institutional barriers, promoting equity and inclusion, and increasing completion by centering the Black and Latine student experiences.
4. Instructional Framework for SMC Faculty Observation (V. Arrizon, J. Krug)
 - a. The Senate approved instructional framework consists of three parts that provide consistency, transparency, and help build pedagogical capacity.
 - b. It is not meant to be prescriptive and does NOT replace the Formal Observation Form. It is a supplemental tool to assist faculty with the observation process.
5. Committee Memberships (V. Arrizon)
 - a. The Adjunct Committee, Legislative Committee, Online Teaching & Learning Committee, and Professional Ethics & Responsibilities Committee are looking for new members. If interested, email Vicenta and she will connect you with the committee chair.
6. SMC Management Organization Charts
 - a. Reorganization changes have taken place.
 - b. For additional information, refer to emails sent by Vice President of Academic Affairs (9/18/26) and Vice President of Student Success (7/09/26)

IV. Action Items

1. Minimal Model Syllabus (I. Colmer)
 - a. Presented in the Spring of 2026 and suggested changes have been incorporated.

Motion to Approve:

M/S: C. DeLoach/ D. Broccard

Approved: 12:06 PM

V. Discussion Items

1. 2026-2027 Senate Goals

- a. Goals will assist in aligning Senate and committee work. Will be brought next as an action item.

VI. Presidents Report

1. Presidential Search Forum

- a. The Presidential Search Forum will be taking place next week on Tuesday, Sept. 22nd. The exec meeting scheduled for that same day will be cancelled for faculty to be able to attend.

2. OIR Group Recommendations 2nd Quarter Report

- a. Website developed with documents related to the OIR Report, the Board of Trustees response to the report, and quarterly implementation reports can be viewed online.

3. BP 4030 Academic Freedom – Draft Update

- a. Awaiting formal response from District on approved Senate revisions.

4. AR 7120 Recruitment and Selection

- a. Personnel Policies Committee (PPC), has worked on revisions to AR 7120 for over two years in collaboration with the District, including several Vice Presidents. Legal counsel reviewed and recommended the removal of existing references to “diversity.” The PPC rejected the recommendation, and will share additional information at a future senate meeting.

5. Senate Budget

Tabled

VII. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn:

M/S: J. Krug/ L. Hald

Adjourned: 12:30 PM

For all documents, visit www.academicssenate.com

Next scheduled meeting: Sept. 29, 2026.