

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT

University Senate Written Reports, September 1, 2026

Standing Committees, Statewide Senators and Ex-officio Members

Academic Policies Committee

Submitted by Monty Mola, APC Chair

Members: Julie Alderson, Frank Cappucio, Frank Fogarty, Marissa O’Neil, Cameron Allison Govier, Joel Hardin, Heather Madar, Jenni Robinson Reisinger

Meeting Date(s): Wednesdays at Noon, NHE 119

Meeting Details: No Report (Committee hasn’t met yet).

Appointments and Elections Committee

Submitted by Jorge Monteiro, AEC Chair

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Submitted by

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

Faculty Affairs Committee

Submitted by Lisa Tremain, FAC Chair

Members: Claire Till, Melanie Michalak,

Meeting Date: Tuesday, August 25, 11:00 - 11:50 in FH 181

Meeting Details:

The Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) met during Week 1 of the semester to review its Fall 2026 calendar, committee charge, and priorities for the academic year. Committee members reviewed the FAC Committee charge and membership as outlined in the Senate bylaws. We reviewed our membership and discussed filling the open seat for the committee, which must be a 2026-27 University Senator. The committee reconnected to our FAC priorities list from 2025-26 and discussed related policy recommendations to help roadmap our work for the year. We identified several potential areas of work for 2026-27, including policies related to in-class recordings; accessibility; AI; and the process for summer approval of Faculty Research Associates.

Integrated Curriculum Committee

Submitted by Sara Sterner, ICC Chair

Members: Jill Anderson, Paul Michael Atienza, Morgan Barker, Christine Cass, Joice Chang, Tom Cook, William Fisher, Paul Geck, Chris Guillen, Alison Hodges*, Sei Hee Hwang, Laura Levy, Heather Madar*, Bori Mazzag, John Meyer, Justus Ortega, Rosanna Overholser, Meenal Rana, Jenni Robinson Reisinger, Sara Sterner (Chair), Anna Thaler, Melissa Tafoya, Mark Wicklund; CDC Chair: William Fisher; APC Chair: Monty Mola; Student Representatives: Roselyn Montanez, AS Executive Vice President; Joel Hardin, AS; Curriculum and Catalog Specialist: Cameron Allison Govier; Curriculum and Assessment Analyst: Khristan Lamb; Guests by Regular Invitation: Chris Harmon, Senate Chair; Kim White, Interim Associate Vice President of Faculty Affairs / APS

Meeting Date: August 25, 2026

Overview of Meeting Details: **Quick Recap:** The ICC met to review curriculum updates, proposal management, committee membership, and policy changes for the coming academic year. Key topics included the October 1 deletion of inactive Curriculog proposals, revisions to the consent calendar process, current proposal volume, updated Chancellor's Office requirements, and the ongoing revision of the ICC bylaws. See **DRAFT Meeting Minutes:** [08-25-26-ICC Meeting Minutes - DRAFT](#) for more details (*Humboldt Login Required*)

Curriculum Development Decisions:

- **ICC-Approved Proposals Advancing to Senate on Consent:** None
- **ICC-Approved Proposals Advancing to Senate by Resolution:** None

- **ICC-Reviewed Proposals Determined to Require Further Development Prior to Advancement to Senate:** None

Read More:

- **Meeting Agenda:** [08-25-26-ICC Meeting Agenda - Approved](#) (*Humboldt Login Required*)
 - **26-27 Curriculum Review Queue:** [ICC 2026-27 MCC Proposal Tracking](#)
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University Policies Committee

Submitted by

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

University Resources and Planning Committee

Submitted by Jaime Lancaster, URPC Co-Chair

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

Academic Senate of the CSU

Submitted by Stephanie Burkhalter and Mary Virnoche, ASCSU Senators

The first standing committee meeting and plenary of the year will take place Wednesday, September 2 through Friday, September 4.

Senator Burkhalter has been appointed as a member of the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee and the systemwide Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) Committee & Subcommittee on Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship. She also serves as a faculty commissioner on the Commission on Professional and Continuing Education (PaCE).

Senator Virnoche has been appointed as Chair of the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee and as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pre-Doctoral Programs.

VC Grant (Human Resources) and Peter Lim (Executive Advisor on Civil Rights) have requested ASCSU feedback on two policies: 1) [California State University Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#); and 2) [California State University Nondiscrimination Policy](#). We welcome Humboldt input on areas requiring our attention. The CO is interested in hearing whether we feel the new processes will be easier to navigate, especially from those of us who have helped students or colleagues under the existing system. They would also like examples of problems we've encountered and talking through how they would be handled under the new policy.

Associated Students

Submitted by Ayan Cabot, A.S. President

Members: Ashley Hurtado Hernandez, Joel Hardin, Nate Heron, Paola Ferreyra, Riley Hemenover, Roselyn Montanez, Ruth Worthington

Welcome

Good afternoon,

On behalf of the Associated Students of (A.S.) Board of Directors, I am pleased to welcome both new and returning students to the fall semester. It is an honor to serve as your President for the 2026-2027 academic year alongside our dedicated Board members.

Meeting Schedules and Student Engagement

The Board of Directors held its first meeting of the semester on Tuesday, August 25. Our regular meetings take place every **Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in SAC 131** (the Banquet Room).

We strongly encourage student participation through multiple channels:

- Attending meetings in-person or [via zoom](#).
- Providing formal public comment during sessions.
- Submitting [anonymous feedback](#) through our online form.

To propose an agenda item, please contact Roselyn Montanez, Executive Vice President and Chair of the Board. Our Board Coordinator, Tammy Petitjean, will assist in processing requests and coordinating follow-up actions. **Contact:** as-evp@humboldt.edu | tlp81@humboldt.edu

Transportation Services and Budgetary Concerns

During our recent meeting, Mike Fisher (Vice President of Administration and Finance) and Cris

Koczera (Associate Vice President) presented proposed changes to the university's transportation contract with the Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA). These modifications primarily target late-night service routes.

The Board of Directors raised significant concerns about these proposals, particularly because students were not adequately notified of changes that directly affect their ability to commute to campus and return home. According to the administration's breakdown, projected revenues from (Jack Pass) IRA fees and sales for the 2025-2026 cycle are insufficient to cover fixed-routes costs, requiring the use of reserves. While the administration has proposed cutting the Red and Yellow evening extensions and the Green and Gold Route, these measures may not fully resolve the deficit.

The Board of Directors urges University leadership to improve communication with student representatives, especially regarding decisions that impact student fees and essential services. We understand the university faces ongoing budget constraints, but we believe any reduction in service must be carefully weighed against student needs. We will continue these discussions to ensure that all proposed transit changes, including the transition from the Red and Yellow lines to the Orange line, are thoroughly assessed for their effects on ridership and student welfare.

Report submitted to the Board of Directors:

 Transportation Breakdown of Student Fees Usage

Student Experience and Shared Governance

In collaboration with several campus departments, A.S. recently participated in the **Student Experience Survey** conducted by Brailsford & Dunlavey. With a **22% response rate**, this survey represents the highest engagement level for such an initiative on our campus.

The data identified key areas for improvement, notably that over **60% of students face challenges in forming social connections**. To address this and promote civic engagement, A.S. is hosting a **Committee Matchmaking event** on Thursday, **September 3, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the KBR**. This event is designed to recruit students for various committees, where they can gain professional development and participate in shared governance, and have a space to interact with fellow students, administration, staff, and faculty. Students should be able to engage beyond the classroom setting. This requires a collaborative effort to ensure student success, so that our campus community can thrive. We encourage all committee chairs and representatives.

Attached, please find the event flyer and the **A.S. Committee Handbook**, which includes a QR code for the online application form.

Attachments:  Committee Matchmaking Flyer  A.S. Committee Handbook -8.pdf

Moving Forward

The Board of Directors looks forward to a productive year as we begin work on the Associated Students Strategic Plan. We remain committed to our core pillars: Allocate, Advocate, and Educate. Our goal is to ensure that Cal Poly Humboldt continues to be a supportive environment where every student has the tools they need for long-term success.

California Faculty Association

Submitted by Ryder Dschida, CFA Humboldt Chapter President

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Submitted by Rosamel Benavides-Garb, Campus Diversity Officer

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

Emeritus & Retired Faculty & Staff Association

Submitted by Marshelle Thobaben, Senate Representative for ERFSA

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: If you do not plan to submit a written report, please write "no report" in the meeting details space of this document, just so I know not to wait on your committee/division

You are invited to attend the *free* Fall Humboldt-ERFSA In-Person Luncheons.

Location: Baywood Golf and Country Club, **Address:** 3600 Buttermilk Ln, Arcata, CA

They begin *on* **Thursday, September 10, 2026**, at noon. Arrive earlier if you would like to order lunch.

Sept. 10th Ryan Aylward: NOAA Warning Coordination Meteorologist. *“El Niño—Just Hot Water.”* Discussion about El Niño—what it is and isn't—and how El Niño and the Southern Oscillation impact our local weather and climate

<https://www.climate.us/>, <https://www.weather.gov/education/>

Introduction by Jeffry Borgeld

Oct 8, 2026. Cutchá Risling Baldy: Prof. Native American Studies, 2026 Outstanding Professor Award Recipient.

“Rou Dalagurr: Everyone Works Together - Indigenous Food Sovereignty & Community Resilience”. A discussion exploring how the Rou Dalagurr Food Sovereignty Lab creates real-world solutions that support both people and the environment. Engaging sustainability, Indigenous leadership, climate action, or community-based research, this presentation highlights how everyone has a role to play in land management and decolonized futures. Come see how working together today can help shape a healthier future for generations to come.

<https://www.humboldt.edu/food-sovereignty>

https://www.canva.com/design/DAG5KD7tAlc/m1IfuRmeHhdtgb779Phh4A/view?utm_content=DAG5KD7tAlc&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utm_id=hcc2e7a4b6d

Introduction by Kumi Watanabe-Schock.

Nov 12, 2026, Dr. Justus Ortega, PhD. (Dean of the College of Professional Studies), **Dr. Sarah Landis**, PT, MS, DPT (Director of the Health and Medical Science Degree Program and Biomechanics Lab Mgr.) *“Physical Balance and Fall Risk”*. The Cal Poly Humboldt Fall Risk Program is a collaborative community initiative that partners with local healthcare providers, senior centers, community organizations, and wellness programs to promote healthy aging and reduce fall risk among older adults. This presentation will highlight the impact of these partnerships, showcase ongoing research findings, and demonstrate how community engagement, experiential learning, and applied research come together to improve the lives of older adults while preparing for the next generation of healthcare professionals.

Introduction by Lou Ann Wieand

Dec 10, 2026, Christine Noel: Education Curator, Sequoia Park Zoo. *“Stories of Survival at the Sequoia Park Zoo.”* Sequoia Park Zoo provides a home to many non-releasable rehabilitated animals, including black bear, eagle and owls. Stories of zoo team survival and descriptions of the specialized care, husbandry and welfare practices that go into caring for these animals will be discussed. The Zoo’s website is redwoodzoo.org. We are also accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), their website is aza.org.

Introduction by Susan Dobie

Labor Council

Submitted by Phillip Bradley, Labor Council Delegate

Members: Ryder Dschida, Edwin Espinoza, Ann Johnson-Cruz, Phillip Bradley

Meeting Date(s): 8/11/2026

Meeting Details:

- CSUEU (units 2,5,7, & 9), as well as Teamsters (unit-6), are in bargaining with the CSU over successor contracts (currently out of contract). While some progress has been made, the core economic issues remain far apart. They are also preparing membership for collective actions, up to and including striking.
- CSUEU’s unit 15 is still awaiting ratification of CBA by CSU

- APC (unit 4) is in bargaining over contract salary reopener. Not close to resolution yet.
 - CFA (unit 3) has declared an impasse in bargaining with the CSU.
 - Campus unions have lodged complaints (including a grievance from APC) with the university over the digital parking pass fee as it was not met and conferred ahead of time. An interim solution has been found while we await the bargaining process.
 - CSU withdrew opposition to AB1818. Passed legislature and referred to the Governor's Office for signing/rejection.
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Staff Council

Submitted by Senator Sulaina Banks

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

President's Executive Cabinet

Richard Carvajal, President

Bethany Gilden, Acting Chief of Staff

Shawna Young, Interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs

Michael Fisher, VP for Administration & Finance and CFO

Peggy Metzger, Interim VP for Enrollment Management & Student Success

Steve Karp, Interim VP for University Advancement

Nick Pettit, Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics & Recreational Sports

Brian Walther, University Counsel

ACADEMICS

- Academic Affairs (AA) Welcome Back Reception, Thursday, September 10, 2026, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Kate Buchanan Room (SAC 225); a facilitated interactive state of the division discussion
- Promoted Faculty Reception Thursday, September 24, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Kate Buchanan Room (SAC 225); celebrating 18 promoted T/TT faculty, including 3 Librarians, and 2 lecturer range elevations
- Shared Governance in the Division's Budget Planning Practice
 - AA is currently undergoing consultative sessions with every unit in the division (Chairs and AA Leadership consultative sessions completed; moving on to all AA units over the next several weeks)
 - Synthesis of feedback and draft framework of a new practice by end of fall semester
 - Implementation of new budget planning practice beginning January 2027
- Search for the Vice Provost & Dean of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies position is planned to launch this fall semester. Following the interim provost's consultation with SenEx, this search will be internal, as our campus has a deep bench of strong candidates with appropriate leadership experience, a track record of taking on important, detailed, as well as large-scale initiative work, and following through to successful completion in a consultative and collaborative fashion, demonstrating an enduring commitment to shared governance.

STUDENT SUCCESS FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (SSFIT)

- As part of the CSU's Student Success Framework implementation plan, each CSU campus is expected to constitute an Implementation Team. The charge of Cal Poly Humboldt's SSFIT is as follows: *The SSFIT will assess the Framework and its connections to Humboldt's already existing plans and initiatives, and will drive assessment, prioritization, goal formation, and activation at the campus level.*
- [Membership](#) (including co-chair assignment) is outlined by the Chancellor's Office.
- Monthly meetings will begin September, small working groups are anticipated to emerge, and regular reports will be shared with Senate.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT and STUDENT SUCCESS:

- This summer we welcomed our new AVP of Student Success and Dean of Students, Dr. Molly Springer. We also celebrated the appointment, after a national search, of Chelsea Mooney as our new Director of Admissions. Other interim appointments that resulted from Peggy Metzger's Interim VP appointment include: Jenni Robinson Reisinger, Interim AVP of Enrollment Management and University Registrar, and Miriam Miner, Interim Director of Financial Aid.
- Our Direct Admissions MOUs have now expanded beyond Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. Willits Unified School District and Ukiah Unified School District have been added, and Fort Bragg Unified School District is on the docket to be signed later in the Fall.
- Census is September 23rd, and Fall 2026 enrollment will be finalized shortly thereafter, followed by an all-campus message which will include details about current enrollment and some good news to share about various recruitment and retention initiatives. However, over the last two to three weeks, enrollment has flattened unexpectedly, and it is now clear that we will not meet our previous projection of roughly 2% growth over last fall, and in fact we may end up slightly down from last Fall. This lack of growth is primarily due to a decline in FTUG enrollments. We continue to monitor current enrollment closely, while actively pivoting toward both Spring and Fall 2027.

ADVANCEMENT

- I want to welcome our new Student representative to the Advancement Board of Directors: Alejandro Paz-Knatz
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- Last year's fund-raising numbers was an exceptional year; with
\$18.2M Total Raised in gift commitments from
12,847 Total Gifts from
5,780 Total Donors (12% increase)
 - Thank you to the Advancement team and the entire campus for supporting fundraising to benefit Cal Poly Humboldt Students and campus!