

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT

University Senate Written Reports, September 29, 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, Cameron Allison Govier, Joel Hardin, Heather Madar, Monty Mola, Marissa O'Neil, Jenni Robinson Reisinger

Meeting Date(s): 09/16/26 & 09/23/26

Meeting Details: APC had a very informative discussion with members from the Financial Aid Office on 09/16/26, as well as critical email exchanges with the Veterans Office, Athletics and the Advising Center to inform the new grade mode policy that we are bringing for a first read.

After receiving feedback from the campus community regarding the Graduate Culminating Experience Policy, we will move forward with editing the draft, including a statement at the beginning of the document to let everyone know that the policy does not supersede any departmental policies or practices for culminating experiences.

Appointments and Elections Committee

Submitted by Jorge Monteiro, AEC Chair

Members: Ara Pachmayer, Jorge Monteiro, Michihiro Sugata

Meeting Date(s): 09/17/2026

Meeting Details: The committee met to appoint the nominees collected after the First Call for Nominations and discuss the remaining vacancies. A Second Call for Nominations will be sent next week and we have two top priorities: CAHSS Faculty Delegate in the Senate (1-year interim position) and CNRS Faculty Representative in the GEAR (1-year interim position).

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Submitted by

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

Faculty Affairs Committee

Submitted by Lisa Tremain, FAC Chair

Members: Ryder Dschida (ex-officio); Melanie Michalak; Ara Pachmayer, Claire Till, Kim White (ex-officio);

Meeting Date(s): September 15, 2026

Meeting Details:

FAC discussed incorporating accessible curriculum criteria into faculty evaluation, which would require revisions to Appendices J and K. Next steps include consulting the accessibility task force and the CDRC for relevant resources. FAC initially proposes reviewing what language exists in Appendices J and K concerning establishing minimum criteria grounded in ADA requirements re: how faculty review includes a demonstration of good faith effort to apply accessibility to curriculum. The committee will next review existing inclusivity language in Appx. J and K and connect with CDRC and Accessibility Task Force.

In response to the spring 2026 faculty survey on faculty affairs, FAC is also exploring approaches to review and revision of current student evaluation criteria via student feedback surveys.

Committee discussion included how we might survey faculty to rank which criteria are helpful for teaching growth, and consider validated criteria/surveys used at other institutions. FAC also affirmed the need for clarity that student evaluations cannot be used by administrators for hiring or suspension decisions.

FAC is planning discussions with Council of Chairs groups regarding both of these items in the coming weeks.

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, Rosanna Overholser, Marissa Ramsier, Meenal Rana, Jenni Robinson Reisinger, Sara Sterner (Chair), Anna Thaler, Melissa Tafoya, Mark Wicklund
*Non-voting member; GEAR Chair: Tyler Evans; CDC Chair: William Fisher; APC Chair: Monty Mola; Curriculum and Catalog Analyst: 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: September 22, 2026

Overview of Meeting Details: **Quick Recap:** The ICC approved the September 8 meeting minutes, September 22 agenda, and consent calendar, then discussed disciplinary expertise and cross-departmental consultation, course-number changes associated with GEAR and other course attributes, and program naming and marketability. Members emphasized contextual review of interdisciplinary proposals, clear communication about changes in a course's function, attention to potential grade-forgiveness implications, and the need to connect programs with data and campus expertise when considering program names.

→See **DRAFT Meeting Minutes:** [09-22-26-ICC Meeting Minutes - DRAFT](#) (Humboldt Login Required)

Curriculum Development Decisions:

- **ICC-Approved Proposals Advancing to Senate on Consent:** [ICC Consent and Voting Action Calendar - 09.22.2026](#); See also senate consent calendar link in agenda
 - [ICC Straight-to-Consent Calendar Guidelines](#)
- **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:** [09-22-26-ICC Meeting Agenda - Approved](#) (Humboldt Login Required)
- **26-27 Curriculum Review Queue:** [ICC 2026-27 MCC Proposal Tracking](#)

University Policies Committee

Submitted by Chris Harmon

Members:

Meeting Date(s):

Meeting Details: no report

University Resources and Planning Committee

Submitted by Jaime Lancaster, URPC Co-Chair

Members:

Meeting Date(s): 9/11/26

Meeting Details:

Year end update on 2025-26 budget, roll-forward & reserve – Budget Office

- [Final URPC 2025-26 Financial Summary 09.11.26](#) (original – presented at meeting)
 - [2025-26 Financial Summary 09.11.26 – URPC – Revised](#) (revised after the meeting based on URPC feedback)
 - Carla presented a comprehensive overview of the 2025-26 budget; actual revenues came in at 100.1% of the Final Budget while expenses came in under budget, resulting in a \$4.1M increase in fund balance.
 - Discussion focused on the \$27.6M Roll Forward allocation, with breakdowns showing that \$14.1M was unrestricted and \$13.5M was restricted or dedicated. \$4.9M of the unrestricted was used for strategic investments and \$9.2M was returned to divisions.
 - Participants discussed the presentation of Roll Forward funds and requested additional information. There was discussion about the sustainability of the budget when ongoing needs are being funded with one-time money rather than base funding.
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Academic Senate of the CSU

Submitted by Stephanie Burkhalter and Mary Virnoche, ASCSU Senators

Interim ASCSU committee meetings will take place on Friday, October 9. Sen. Burkhalter is a member of the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee and Sen. Virnoche is chair of the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The next plenary meeting is scheduled for November 4-6 at the Chancellor's Office.

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, September 22 through Wednesday, September 23. You can find the agenda and recording of the meeting [here](#).

On September 24, Sen. Burkhalter participated as a new member in the first meeting of the year of the systemwide Generative AI Advisory Committee. You can find a list of members of the GenAI committee and its subcommittees [here](#). The committee has issued a 2026 report (see this [link](#)) on the system's strategy and priorities for GenAI, which will evolve over time. A new Communication and Engagement Subcommittee has been formed to improve systemwide communication about AI investment, products and innovation. The general frame is that the system's investment in GenAI so far has been successful so far. Descriptions of the projects that were funded through the CSU Artificial Intelligence Education Innovations Awards can be found

[here](#). There are currently four faculty in the system who are currently serving as systemwide [AI Fellows](#). SDSU is the leader in developing conversations and training for faculty on GenAI.

If you have received an invitation to complete the current systemwide AI survey, please complete it. The data will be used to assess the landscape of GenAI use by staff, faculty, and students to see where and how the CSU is meeting its goals of universal access, innovation in teaching, learning and research, and increased productivity. It will also take into account any concerns or barriers that are expressed in the survey responses. As of last Thursday, Cal Poly Humboldt is currently leading all campuses in the percentage of faculty, staff and students who have completed the survey! Additional responses will increase the representativeness of the survey data, and one reason this is important is that after the survey closes, there will be the ability to generate campus-based reports based on a 2026 data dashboard. You can find the CSU report from the 2025 AI survey [here](#) and the 2025 data dashboard of the anonymized survey responses (operated by SDSU and its IRB protocol) [here](#).

The GenAI Advisory Committee has partnered with an outside firm, Milestones Technologies, to analyze data from surveys and also develop metrics to measure how GenAI is being used across the system and return on investment. The system has renewed its contract with OpenAI, with some additional guidelines on procurement (some required by the legislature). The system is developing and pushing out a common ChatGPT.EDU configuration for campuses to follow, as there is some variation across campuses in the ChatGPT tools that are being “turned on” for use. At the heart of this is to standardize opportunities for use of [ChatGPT.edu](#) package but also to keep on top of systemwide information security challenges with using GenAI tools. The system is moving towards a “multi-model” environment in which multiple AI tools can be used by staff and faculty in the workplace, including Adobe Firefly, Zoom AI, and potentially Claude.

Governor Newsom signed two bills regulating the creation of community college baccalaureate degrees; because of amendments in the bills at the last minute, the CSU ended up supporting these bills and the community colleges opposed them. They are meant to create responsible guidelines for creating these degrees moving forward, as the process under AB927 guidance produced a lot of conflict between the CSU and the community colleges. These bills do not solve the central conflict as the community colleges have vowed in the next legislative session to lobby to amend them to make them more favorable to their position and they do not go into effect until January 1, 2028. You can read more in this [Inside Higher Ed](#) and [Sacramento Bee](#) coverage.

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

Meeting Date(s): September 22, 2026

Meeting Details:

Welcome

On behalf of the Associated Students (A.S.) Board of Directors (BOD), I am pleased to welcome both new and returning students to the Fall 2026 semester. As we enter the sixth week of the term, I want to share several important updates and opportunities for engagement.

2026–2027 Associated Students (A.S.) Grants Now Live!

The Board of Directors approved the grants on September 22, and applications are now open. Associated Students is offering **\$60,000 in student funding to support projects, travel, and professional development both on campus and around the world.**

Whether you're starting a new project, traveling with your Registered Student Organization (RSO), or looking for funding for professional development, there may be a grant available to help support your goals.

There are two grant options available:

- **Initiatives Grants** – Funding for new campus projects and student-led initiatives.
- **Professional Development Grants** – Funding for Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) and individual students to support professional development opportunities.

For more information or to apply, visit:

<https://www.humboldt.edu/associated-students/funding-opportunities>

Have questions? You can visit **Associated Students in Nelson Hall West, 2nd Floor**, or contact us by email: hsuas@humboldt.edu

Meeting Schedules and Student Engagement

The Board of Directors will convene again on **Tuesday, October 6, 2026**. Our regular meetings take place every **Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 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

Student Experience and Shared Governance

As mentioned earlier, Associated Students is continuing to recruit students to serve on various committees. These opportunities allow students to gain professional experience, take part in shared governance, and connect with fellow students, administrators, staff, and faculty. Creating a strong shared governance system requires everyone on campus to participate and work together to make sure students have a voice in campus decisions.

Attached is the A.S. Committee Handbook, which includes a QR code that you can scan to access the online application form.

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

Voter Engagement and Civic Participation

The California General Election is coming up on **Tuesday, November 3, 2026**, and now is the perfect time to stay informed about upcoming propositions, candidates, and measures that directly affect you. Regardless of your political affiliation or viewpoint, voting is a fundamental right and a direct way to make your voice heard.

Earlier this month, Cal Poly Humboldt hosted a series of events in collaboration with the Office of Student Life, the Gutsurrak Student Activities Center, and the Department of Politics. These events helped students stay informed and engaged with the political cycle through nonpartisan civic and voter engagement. Students who registered to vote at these events received a unique Cal Poly Humboldt **"I Registered to Vote"** sticker and were entered into a raffle to win a gift basket that included an item from the bookstore.

Currently, **Cal Poly Humboldt is ranked #3 in the 2026 California University and College Ballot Bowl with:**

- 32 vote registrations (0.51%)
- 179 voting plan submissions (2.85%)
- 315 total points

We are currently the leading CSU in the Ballot Bowl. Please encourage students to participate in this opportunity to put these values into action through this friendly statewide competition hosted by the California Secretary of State's Students Vote Project.

Let's keep **Cal Poly Humboldt ranked #1 in the CSU** and [let's get to #1 overall.](#)

You can help Cal Poly Humboldt earn points by:

- Registering to vote or updating your voter registration;
- Creating and submitting a plan to vote;
- Encouraging friends and classmates to participate.

Let's show California that Lumberjacks are ready to make their voices heard!

Cal Poly Humboldt is committed to nonpartisan civic and voter engagement. Participation in the Ballot Bowl does not require or encourage support for any political party, candidate, or position.

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: No Report

Labor Council

Submitted by Phillip Bradley, Labor Council Delegate

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

Meeting Date(s): Next meeting 10/13/26

Meeting Details: "no report"

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

Meeting Details: No Report