

**College Governance Council**

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

1:00-3:00 p.m.

**Approved Minutes**

**Voting Members in Attendance:** Gerson Fernandez, Lauren Ford, Jose Milan, Irah Tancioco, Nadia Tariq, Jessica Truglio

**Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members in Attendance:** Luis Escobar, Kristy Lisle, Joe Morello, Newin Orante, Ingrid Vargas.

**Recorder:** Theresa Tentes

- I. Call to Order/Establishing a Quorum/Roll Call  
Voting members Absent: Alvin Macaldo-Gubatina

Ex-Officio non-voting members: Cherie Colin

- II. Public Comment \* - 5 Minutes

No public comment.

- III. Consent Items

- IV. Informational, New Business and Action Items

Associated Students of Skyline College – 5 Minutes

- a. ASSC Report

Irah Tancioco/Gerson Fernandez

Irah Tancioco, President of the Associated Students of Skyline College (ASSC), shared that the group recently concluded its final event for Women's History Month, which was a great success. The event featured a vibrant mix of first-time student vendors and local women-owned businesses, providing an opportunity to celebrate women's accomplishments in entrepreneurship and community leadership. Irah also highlighted an energy healing workshop held the previous week, noting that many of the month's activities focused on honoring women's achievements across diverse fields. As March comes to a close, ASSC is now turning its attention to preparations for student government elections. Outreach efforts are underway to encourage student participation and ensure leadership positions are filled for the upcoming year.

Gerson Fernandez, Vice President of ASSC, added that candidate packets are now available, and encouraged faculty and staff to promote the opportunity to students who may be interested in joining ASSC. He emphasized the group's enthusiasm about mentoring new members and providing them with hands-on training to prepare for the year ahead. Gerson concluded by sharing a sense of excitement and appreciation as the academic year draws to a close.

Classified Senate – 5 Minutes

b. Classified Senate Report

Jose Milan/Nadia Tariq

Jose Milan, President of the Classified Senate, shared several updates and reflections on recent activity. He reported that the Senate held a highly successful and well-attended March meeting, with strong engagement from Classified Professionals across departments. He thanked Dr. Orante for participating in that session and noted that the robust agenda and valuable discussions have helped participants share information more widely among colleagues. A major topic of discussion has been the future structure of Classified Senate leadership. The Senate is actively exploring strategies to ensure leadership continuity and reduce the burden on new presidents and vice presidents. Ideas under consideration include appointing interim leaders to shadow current officers or establishing a structure where past, present, and incoming presidents work together for up to six years, allowing for mentoring and shared responsibilities.

Jose also addressed a recent update regarding professional development funding. While there had been enthusiasm about standardizing professional development funding across the district, the Chancellor's Office clarified that some practices—such as combining funds with tuition reimbursement—may be considered fringe benefits and are not compliant with current HR and audit guidelines. As a result, the Senate will continue engaging in discussions to better understand the policy and ensure ongoing support for classified staff development within district and HR guidelines.

Nadia Tariq, Vice President of the Classified Senate, added that the Senate has been working closely with CTTL coordinators to develop and offer more Flex Day workshops specifically tailored to classified professionals. This collaboration is aimed at creating more opportunities for professional growth and engagement during upcoming Flex Day events.

Academic Senate - 5 Minutes

c. Academic Senate Report

Jessica Truglio

Jessica Truglio, Vice President of the Academic Senate, shared several updates and acknowledged that, due to Spring Break and Flex Day, the Senate will not be holding any meetings in April. Despite the scheduling limitations, the Senate has remained active. At their most recent meeting, they received an update on Program Mapper and held a discussion about the potential creation of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) at the campus or district level. A group of faculty has expressed interest in establishing such a

body to better support student research. Ingrid Vargas participated in the discussion and offered helpful suggestions. The group plans to explore options in collaboration with district colleagues and consider alternative ways to support student research if a formal IRB is not feasible.

Jessica also noted that, at the next meeting, the Senate will vote to approve an Academic Freedom Statement, with the intention of including it in the next AFT contract. This item is expected to go to the District Academic Senate in May, after some delays due to timing. Additionally, the Senate is in the midst of elections for several leadership positions, including Vice President, Secretary, and CTE Liaison. Jessica acknowledged the challenge in recruiting candidates this year, noting that faculty may be feeling overwhelmed and hesitant to take on additional commitments. The Executive Team is actively encouraging colleagues to apply.

She concluded with a personal update, announcing that Cassidy, the Academic Senate President, recently gave birth to Baby Collins over the weekend. Both mother and baby are doing well and resting at home. Jessica offered to share photos for anyone interested and closed by thanking everyone for their time.

#### Management Council – 5 Minutes

d. Management Council Report

Lauren Ford/Alvin Macaldo-Gubatina

Dr. Lauren Ford, Co-Chair of the Management Council, shared updates from recent Management Council activities. She opened by highlighting a recent Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) regional event held at Skyline College in Building 12, which focused on strategic leadership and well-being. The session, titled *"Nurturing Your Best Self While Navigating Politics and Conflict as an Administrator,"* drew administrators from across the district and the broader Bay Area. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with many noting the practicality and relevance of the content. Lauren expressed hope for continued regional engagement and opportunities for professional development among administrators.

She also referenced the recent Management Council discussion regarding the "Dear Colleague" letter and broader concerns tied to federal executive orders. Legal counsel clarified that executive orders are not legislation, and institutions should continue current practices, especially those aligned with student support and success. Lauren noted that the conversation helped reaffirm the college's commitment to its values and student-centered approach.

Additionally, she mentioned several recent and upcoming events, including the President's Breakfast, the upcoming Flex Day, and the Community Day that will follow. She encouraged Classified Professionals to actively participate in Flex Day, where management-specific trainings will also be offered. The afternoon Community Day event will provide an opportunity for families and colleagues to come together informally.

Lauren closed by expressing enthusiasm for these ongoing efforts to build community and professional engagement across the college.

Administration

e. President's Update – 5 minutes

Dr. Newin Orante

Dr. Newin Orante, President of Skyline College, began by expressing appreciation for the team that contributed to the success of the President's Breakfast, including Theresa, Cherie Colin, Hinda Chalew, and many others. The event raised over \$100,000, which will be used to fund innovative projects in the coming academic year, supporting both students and colleagues. He also addressed the ongoing conversation surrounding the "Dear Colleague" letter and the subsequent federal FAQ, particularly Question 7, which suggested that cultural and identity-based graduation celebrations (e.g., Lavender, Black Student, and Latinx graduations) could be deemed illegal. Dr. Orante reaffirmed that no laws have changed, and under current guidance, Skyline College will proceed with its celebrations as planned unless instructed otherwise by Chancellor Moreno, who is currently consulting with legal counsel. He emphasized the college's commitment to honoring its diverse student communities and will continue to provide updates as new information emerges.

Dr. Orante also shared that the Board of Trustees meeting will take place that evening in the new boardroom at Jefferson Union High School District, as part of the board's commitment to meeting in the community on a quarterly basis. He highlighted one agenda item of note: the Classified Professional of the Year nomination, recognizing Jose Milan as Skyline's nominee and celebrating his leadership and contributions regardless of the outcome at the district level.

In closing, Dr. Orante acknowledged the district's recognition at the 99th anniversary celebration of the NAACP San Mateo Chapter, where several Skyline community members were honored, including Lauren Ford, Danielle Powell, and Martina Center-Goodman, for their impactful work. He congratulated all those recognized and affirmed the broader community's appreciation for the work being done at Skyline College.

- **ACTION ITEM:** GLPS Division  
Motion to move to dissolve the GLPS Division and utilize fiscal savings towards key college area needs.

(M/S Newin Orante/Nadia Tariq) Approved

- Facilities Masterplan - Marie Mejia – 30 minutes  
Amendment Project Introduction

Presentation –

[https://www.smccd.edu/facilities/documents/SMCCCD\\_Districtwide\\_%20FMP\\_July\\_2022\\_v3.pdf](https://www.smccd.edu/facilities/documents/SMCCCD_Districtwide_%20FMP_July_2022_v3.pdf)

Dr. Orante introduced the next agenda item regarding the Facilities Master Plan. He noted that Marie and Sunia were present to provide an overview of the amendment project and to introduce the topic to the group. Before turning it over to them, Dr. Orante provided some context, explaining that the original Facilities Master Plan was developed in 2022 with input from all three colleges. The plan identified key institutional priorities for facility improvements.

As the college moves forward, a review and report on space utilization was conducted to assess how physical resources are currently being used across campus. This evaluation supports strategic planning efforts by helping the institution consider how to best use existing space and strengthen its position for state funding, which can be influenced by how efficiently space is utilized. Additionally, as the college explores future funding opportunities, there is growing interest in amending the Facilities Master Plan to better align with institutional goals and potential new projects.

Dr. Orante then turned the discussion over to Marie and Suniya to provide further information and initiate the planning conversation for Skyline. He noted that this discussion will continue and be brought back for further review at the April College Governance Council meeting.

Marie Mejia, Director of Capital Projects for the District, opened the discussion by providing background on the 2022 Facilities Master Plan (FMP), a year-long effort involving over 100 meetings across the three campuses and the district office, including public forums to gather community input. Following recent direction from executive leadership and the Board, the District has been tasked with reviewing campus institutional priorities to develop an amendment to the 2022 FMP. Marie referenced the existing master plan and outlined the need to explore key areas, including a proposed Wellness and Athletic Center, potential space for initiatives such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Sustainability, and the expansion or relocation of learning communities and student support services.

Suniya Malhorta, the consultant from Suniya 360 Architects, introduced the project timeline, emphasizing the urgency of completing the amendment draft by the end of June in order to meet the July 30 Board deadline. She clarified that this amendment would not replace the existing plan but rather build on it by identifying and fleshing out priority projects if funding were to become available. She acknowledged the tight timeline and requested collaboration from the group to identify campus-specific needs. Particular attention will be given to underutilized spaces, as shown in recent space utilization reports, which could be repurposed for learning communities and student services.

Dr. Orante provided additional context, stating that when discussing learning communities, it's important to also consider student programs such as CARE, CalWORKs, Guardian Scholars, and other centers. He emphasized that “learning

communities” should be understood broadly to include academic and student services programming and spatial needs.

Dr. Lauren Ford asked for clarification on the term “The Village,” which had been referenced. Dr. Orante noted that while he could not provide a specific definition, the term has been used in discussions—possibly relating to Umoja programming—and suggested that such ideas be centralized and further explored through institutional dialogue. Marie briefly mentioned that CSM has a "Village," which may offer inspiration for Skyline.

Suniya acknowledged the need to speak with the appropriate stakeholders, including the VP of Student Services, to further define programming needs. She also raised the question of interest in establishing a center with a focus on technology or AI, to which Dr. Ford responded that while this was the first time the topic had been formally raised with this group, the inquiry would be taken back to other constituencies for feedback.

Suniya thanked the group and welcomed assistance in gathering broader input due to the limited timeline. She reiterated the importance of inclusivity while being mindful of participants' time.

Dr. Orante noted that the District had submitted a student housing grant and confirmed that potential sites—such as one near the Child Development Center—had been identified in the existing master plan. Unless there were new concerns, those plans were assumed to remain viable.

Additional input was provided via the chat by Marissa Thigpen, who suggested that a centralized main office for learning communities would be beneficial, ideally located near faculty coordinators. She noted that her current space—converted from a copier room—is inadequate and proposed the intercultural center area in Building 4 as a possible location.

Hinda Chalew raised the issue of signage and wayfinding, including the need for improved walkways across campus. Dr. Orante and Marie clarified that signage and wayfinding are included in the 2022 FMP and that a \$1 million set-aside remains available through bridge funds. Marie noted that funding for such projects must be prioritized annually by each college. Dr. Orante added that, given the importance of signage, alternative funding streams such as ADA compliance could be explored to support implementation.

Dr. Lauren Ford asked whether this meeting was meant to inform a forthcoming amendment or respond to an existing draft. Suniya confirmed that the amendment is still in development and that this meeting marked the beginning of stakeholder engagement. She reiterated that the amendment would focus on more specific priorities derived from the original FMP and input collected during this process.

Joe Morello referenced a previous amendment made to the 2011–2015 Master Plan, suggesting that reviewing it might help participants understand the format and function of such an update. He reminded the group that this process helps position the institution for future bond initiatives.

In closing, Dr. Orante invited Marie and Suniya to present at future Cabinet and President’s Roundtable meetings, which include representatives from student government, management, and faculty senates. He acknowledged that some shared governance bodies—such as Academic Senate—will not meet in April, and proposed reconvening at CGC on April 23 to compile further feedback. He thanked Marie and Suniya for initiating the dialogue and ensuring Skyline College’s priorities are represented in the district-wide amendment.

f.        Administrative Services Update – 5 minutes                      Joe Morello

Joe Morello, Vice President of Administrative Services, provided a brief update regarding the SPARC. He noted that the primary update involved changes related to the budgeting process for fiscal year 2025–2026, which is currently underway and aligned with the district’s Resource Allocation Model. Joe shared that he had recently presented a SPARC update and indicated that another update would be provided in April. No additional items were discussed during his report.

g.        Instructional Update – 5 minutes                                      Dr. Kristy Lisle

Dr. Kristy Lisle, Interim Vice President of Instruction, expressed her appreciation to all who contributed to the success of the recent tenure celebration held the previous week. She shared that the event was both enjoyable and meaningful, noting how much she valued the opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of newly tenured faculty. Dr. Lisle did not have any additional updates to report at this time and concluded by thanking everyone once again for their support.

h.        Student Services Update – 5 minutes                                      Dr. Luis Escobar

Dr. Luis Escobar, Acting Vice President of Student Services, provided an update on recent equity-related initiatives underway at the college. He shared that the institution has begun reinvigorating several campus groups, including the Undocu Coalition, which was originally formed a few years ago to assess the needs of undocumented students. The coalition has been reactivated to reevaluate current needs and collaboratively develop strategies to address issues identified by the group. Additionally, a new group has been formed with a focus on better supporting Latinx students. The initial meeting was well attended, with nearly 20 participants, and the group is working to align its efforts with the college’s Equity Plan. Dr. Escobar explained that the Equity Plan includes a requirement for campuses to identify a high-focus student population, and it is anticipated that this Latinx-focused group will help generate strategies to be incorporated into the plan.



Dr. Escobar also highlighted ongoing collaboration with Allan Ocampo, who is supporting efforts related to the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) community on campus. This work aligns with the Equity Plan's metrics, which identify Asian students across several key areas. The aim is to ensure that strategies developed for this group are integrated within the broader framework of the Equity Plan rather than functioning independently.

In closing, Dr. Escobar reminded the group of the upcoming Latinx Graduation scheduled for May 15. While the event is open to all students, it will place a particular emphasis on celebrating the Latinx student experience, especially in light of the current political climate. He then concluded his update and passed the discussion to the next speaker.

- i. Planning Research and Institutional – 5 minutes      Ingrid Vargas  
Effectiveness Update

No report provided.

- j. Marketing, Communications, - 5 minutes      Cherie Colin  
Public Relations Update

No report provided.

### Constituent Committee Reports

#### **SEED Update – Roger Pérez-Vaughan**

Roger Pérez-Vaughan, Co-Chair of the Stewardship for Equity, Equal Employment, and Diversity (SEED) Committee, provided a comprehensive update on the development of Skyline College's forthcoming Student Equity Plan. He began by thanking the group for the opportunity to present and offered a lighthearted comment about being among the college's leadership. Roger used a PowerPoint to guide the presentation, outlining SEED's responsibility to develop and submit the college's next Student Equity Plan to the State Chancellor's Office by November 30, 2025. While the formal submission is months away, work began in Fall 2024 with the re-engagement of program representatives included in the current equity plan to assess progress, share challenges, and reflect on the last three years of implementation.

The new plan will span academic years 2025–2026 through 2027–2028 and includes both continuation of existing equity efforts and integration of new components. The State Chancellor's Office provided a revised template that includes assurances, reflections, and a structured approach for examining five key metrics: (1) Successful Enrollment, (2) Completion of Transfer-Level Math and English, (3) Persistence (from primary to secondary term), (4) Completion of Degrees/Certificates, and (5) Transfer.



For each metric, SEED will establish dedicated writing groups composed of faculty, classified professionals, and students to ensure a wide range of perspectives. Each group will identify disproportionately impacted (DI) student populations, explore strategies to eliminate equity gaps, and propose actionable solutions. The DI data—provided by the Chancellor’s Office and supplemented by local data from PRIE—highlighted several key groups, including Asian, Black/African American, and female students. Particular attention will also be given to transfer metrics, with added guidance on addressing barriers and aligning strategies with the Vision 2030 goals.

Roger emphasized that the writing teams will follow a dual-pronged approach: first, to eliminate disproportionate impact, and second, to fully close equity gaps for the identified student groups. Throughout the process, SEED will engage the broader campus through presentations, open forums, and multiple rounds of review to ensure transparency and inclusion. A special effort is being made to include student voices in the drafting process to center lived experiences and inform strategy development.

As part of this plan, alignment is also being made with ongoing institutional initiatives such as the Educational Master Plan and Enrollment Management Plan, to ensure consistency and avoid duplication. Additionally, equity efforts will include expanded consultation with programs that support dually enrolled, low-income, and justice-impacted students, among others.

Key upcoming dates include April 17, when several flexible sessions will be held to raise awareness and recruit broader participation. The draft will be uploaded into Nova by November 16, with full submission, including all required signatures, completed by November 30. SEED will continue using its regular meetings to guide progress and may schedule additional working sessions as needed, particularly in light of limited availability during the summer months.

Roger concluded by inviting feedback and participation, encouraging all members to promote involvement across their departments and programs. Dr. Luis Escobar, SEED Tri-Chair, added that Academic Senate had already been asked to help identify math and English leads for the metric groups. Finally, college leadership expressed appreciation for the work being done and affirmed their commitment to supporting SEED’s efforts to submit a thoughtful, inclusive, and impactful equity plan.

#### **ACED Update – Lucia Lachmayr, Andrea Fuentes**

Lucia Lachmayr provided an overview of the history and current work of the Professional Development (PD) Committee in relation to the Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning (CTTL). She explained that the original structure of the committee stemmed from the Management Council and Advisory Committee, which historically served to guide CTTL programming, provide input on professional development activities, and promote funding opportunities for both faculty and classified staff. However, the

committee had been inactive for several years due to staffing challenges, particularly the absence of a PD Coordinator. Thanks to the efforts of Andrea Fuentes, the committee was successfully reactivated in 2024, now with representation from both Academic and Classified Senates and an updated website.

Andrea Fuentes briefly added that, having joined the college in 2020, she was unsure of the committee's earlier history but confirmed that it was not active when she arrived. She expressed appreciation that the group had been restarted and noted that leadership had now transitioned to Lucia Lachmayr and Bianca Rowden-Quince, who will co-chair the committee moving forward.

Lucia went on to outline the committee's current charge: to encourage and facilitate the development of workshops and campus dialogues, support year-round planning of PD events (including technology trainings, speaker sessions, webinars, and leadership programs), and manage the overall workshop calendar in coordination with the CTTL. She also noted the committee's collaboration with the AB 1111 and T-Cubed committees, which are working together to move beyond compliance-based PD efforts toward meaningful, transformative initiatives. AB 1111 provides the funding support, while T. Cubed helps implement best practices in PD coordination. ACE will serve as the implementation arm of PD initiatives, and the committee is closely partnering with both the Academic and Classified Senates to ensure that programming serves the entire campus community.

One of the key focuses this year is to revamp the ACE Committee, with a particular emphasis on equitable assessment practices and more intentional data collection. Historically, data from PD events was inconsistently gathered, so the committee now aims to build in dedicated time at the end of sessions for participants to complete feedback surveys. These surveys will be aligned with ACCJC accreditation terminology (Reaction, Achievement, Behavior, and Impact) in preparation for upcoming reporting requirements. The committee plans to enhance both quantitative and qualitative data collection, not only to understand who is attending PD events but also how effective and meaningful they are. Increasing transparency and accessibility of this data to the wider campus is also a priority.

In addition to strengthening cross-campus communication, the committee is working to ensure classified professionals are fully included in PD planning and delivery. Input from both Senates will be solicited regularly, and shout-outs, updates, and event information will continue to be shared broadly. Lucia mentioned the committee's current membership and acknowledged the need for additional representation from kinesiology and other instructional areas. Recruitment efforts for faculty representatives are ongoing to ensure broad and diverse participation in the committee's work.

V. Adjournment – April 23, 2026

*\*Public Comment. Members of the Skyline College community and the public may address the College Governance Council on items appearing on the agenda by submitting a request in the chat box (Zoom) or a comment slip (in person) at the start of the meeting. Speakers must limit their remarks to a maximum of three minutes. If there are a large number of speakers, the President may use discretion to reduce the comment time in order to keep all public comment time to 20 minutes or less, in order to be able to have enough time for the Council to conduct its business. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Council will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with qualified disabilities. If you require accommodation, please contact Theresa Tentes at [tentes@smccd.edu](mailto:tentes@smccd.edu) at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.*