



## DISTRICT GOVERNANCE SENATE MINUTES

April 8, 2025; 3:10 – 4:45 PM

Visalia Campus – Sequoia 1

### **Members Present:**

<b>Administration:</b>	Juan Vazquez, Brent Davis, John Bratsch, Donnie Charles
<b>Faculty:</b>	David Hurst
<b>Adjunct Faculty:</b>	Amelia Sweeney, Charles Slaght
<b>Classified:</b>	Shane Hettick, Ashley Martinez, Ashley Fisher
<b>Students:</b>	Marcus Anderson
<b>Committee Representatives:</b>	Ron Perez, Dave Richert, Dali Öztürk, Francisco Banuelos, Jillin Elizondo
<b>Ex Officio:</b>	Brent Calvin
<b>Guests:</b>	Courtney Sallam, Elise Garcia, David Loverin
<b>Members absent:</b>	Juan Arzola, Tracy Redden, Adrienne Duarte, Nick Terry

### **I CALL TO ORDER**

Vazquez called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM.

### **II PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Regarding items ON the agenda – Slaght commended the negotiation teams for successfully improving the process related to mandatory first-day attendance.
- Regarding items NOT on the agenda – None.

### **III APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 3/25/25**

Slaght moved to approve the minutes of 3/25/25 as presented; Öztürk seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **IV STANDING REPORTS**

1. Budget – Perez shared that the P2 report for this fiscal year shows a 7% deficit, amounting to \$7.3M, which may not be realized until February 2026. However, the district has a large reserve in place to manage this deficit. Regarding base budget augmentation requests, \$3.8M in ongoing expenditures is being proposed for next year. It's worth noting that \$2M was already incurred for negotiations and \$2M for staffing/operations during the current fiscal year, which highlights the challenge of sustaining the \$3.8M moving forward.
2. Technology – Richert presented the attached standing report.
3. Institutional Planning & Effectiveness – Öztürk reviewed the attached standing report.
4. Institutional Program Review – Banuelos preparing for joint committee meeting coming up
5. Equity, Diversity, & Action – Elizondo reviewed the attached standing report.
6. Academic Senate – Hurst praised the student senators noting his appreciation for their involvement and reviewed the attached report.
7. Student Senate – Anderson shared that the Spring Gala had strong student engagement, PACE helped raise over \$3K for LA fire victims, and nine candidates have applied for student elections, bringing excitement to the process.
8. Accreditation Update – Calvin reported receiving a core inquiry on RSI, which revealed that 85% of 15 reviewed classes failed. District is collaborating with COSAFA and COSTA to develop an MOU for faculty and the district to document RSI efforts.

### **V INFORMATION**

1. **Revisions to Governance Manuals** – Vazquez reminded the group that any revisions to the manuals should be emailed to the DGS chairs and/or Meghan Tierce by the end of the semester.
2. **2025-2028 COS Strategic Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Read)** – Öztürk delivered a PowerPoint outlining the purpose, timeline, and process of the plan, which is based on the new goals of the master plan. The plan includes district objectives, actions for achieving the goals, assessment methods, and designated responsible parties.

3. **2025 District Governance Senate Surveys** – Öztürk shared that surveys are developed for each of the 24 DGS groups, involving 168 emails and reminders. He suggested reviewing this process next year, as ACCJC's updated standards might reduce the need for extensive surveying. TracDat reports could potentially suffice for committees, councils, and senates, aiming to streamline the process and alleviate the workload. Participation in the surveys is crucial, and the results will be shared with the groups.
4. **Revised Framework Proposal for an AI Taskforce (2<sup>nd</sup> Read)** – Hurst shared the debate in Academic Senate of whether one faculty member can represent the full diversity of a department, proposing three faculty Academic Senate representatives for better coverage. Calvin supported the intent but cautioned that without adjusting administration and staff representation, the committee could become faculty-heavy, potentially affecting balance. He emphasized the importance of equal representation for true collegiality.

Hurst clarified the goal is not to override administration but to create space for discussion and recommendations to the Senates, which would then inform policy. With an Academic Senate vote scheduled for the next day, he asked for direction from District Governance Senate. Öztürk asked who makes the final decision, and Hurst acknowledged that remains unclear.

Banuelos noted the work ultimately goes back to the larger Senate bodies and supported keeping the original membership. Vazquez agreed, noting the structure allows for broad participation, though he acknowledged concerns about faculty-heavy composition. Calvin warned that imbalance could undermine the work and lead to necessary intervention.

Martinez, representing CSEA, emphasized the importance of equal representation, as Classified staff often feel overlooked. Slaght suggested reducing faculty representatives to two, with one from CTE, as a compromise. Calvin responded that this may not meet the original intent, and instead proposed either increasing other groups to match faculty or adjusting all to ensure equal representation.

5. **Equity Plan Data** – Vazquez reported that the Equity Plan is due by November 30 and emphasized that this state-mandated three-year plan requires long-term, institutional change beyond the three-year cycle. He encouraged a districtwide conversation to ensure sustainability, continuous improvement, and growth. The plan will retain the same five metrics, with EDAC assisting in its development. The Research Office will prepare and provide data, which will be reviewed by District Governance Senate and Academic Senate. Vazquez also urged alignment of activities and initiatives with Guided Pathways, noting that several groups will need to review and approve the plan.

Öztürk demonstrated the online dashboard for the Equity Plan, explaining metric definitions, outcomes definitions, and PPG-1 methodology. He showed how data from the Chancellor's Office can be used to create reports using the metrics and filters, and recommended contacting the Research Office for questions or guidance.

6. **BP/AP Review (1<sup>st</sup> Read)** – Hurst asked about the use of “probation” throughout these documents. Loverin explained that “probation” is federal language used for financial aid. Vazquez responded that all local references will be changed to “notice”.
  - a. AP 5017 – Responding to Inquiries of Immigration Status
  - b. AP 5073 – Mandatory First Day Attendance for Credit Classes – It was recommended that the first sentence of bullet 5 be retained for context. Concerns were raised about the “first day” language, as some noted it may not be suitable for online courses or all instructors.
  - c. BP 5073 – Mandatory First Day Attendance
  - d. AP 5075 – Course Adds and Drops – Questions were raised about EW eligibility, specifically whether it applies for only one year. Additional inquiries included whether add/drop slips are still in use, clarification on the 20% for summer school, and suggestions to refine the language concerning inactive students.
  - e. AP 5110 – Counseling
  - f. BP 5110 – Counseling
  - g. AP 5130 – Financial Aid Services
  - h. BP 5130 – Financial Aid Services
  - i. AP 5140 – Access and Ability Center
  - j. BP 5140 – Access and Ability Center

**VI ACTION**

**VII ADJOURNMENT**

Vazquez adjourned the meeting at 4:27 PM.