

CT STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

February 28, 2025, Meeting CT State College Senate	
Time:	12:30pm – 3:45pm
Senators:	Elle Van Dermark, Seth Freeman, Allan Ballinger, Asantewa Dawson, Luz Londono-Diaz, Jill Flanigan, Robyn-Jay Bage, Riaz Lalani, Topher Logan, Jayne Battye, Nicola Ricker, Mark Milewski, Bonnie Solivan, Ariel Robinson, Roberta Prior, Felisha Guirand-Fleurimond, Jennifer Natoli, Vince McCann, Jeremy Withnell, Stephen Kittredge, Peter Bennett, Brian Keiser, Sandy Vitale, Thayre Trzepacz, Marsha Bryant, Mia Samsel, China Byrd, Aja Shabana, Bonnie Goulet, Melissa Bettigole, Hannah Moeckel-Rieke, Nicole Marcoux-Bowen, Joe Selvaggio, Michelle Giannakopoulos, Joseph Cullen, Michael Panicello, Chris Murphy, Darren Mack
Absent Senators	Phillip Fox, Leesa Cabrera
Invited Guests:	Kerry Kelley, John Maduko, Karen Hynick, James Gentile, Rashida Williams, Alisha Hall, Sigrid Nystrom
Attending:	Alice Simmel, Alicia Hall, Anna Krupitskiy, Ashley Labbadia, Brian Kapinos, Chad Glabach, Christine Japely, Colena Sesanker, Cruz Lourdes, Dawn Bryden, Deneuve Hernandez, Licella Arboleda, Jakob Spjut, James Gentile, Janice Cousino, Jean Main, Jenn Gray, Jennifer Meny, Joanne Yurso, John Maduko, Karen Hynick, Kathleen Czarnota, Kem Barfield Krissy Larrow, Lisa Boyko, Logan Tashea, Lois Kelley, Margaret Malaspina, Manuel Gomez, Mary Bidwell, Michelle Coach, Mike Rooke, Paul Creech, Phyllis Brown, Rashida Williams, Rose Luglio, Sarah Selke, Sheri Valentin, Sigrid Nystrom, Steven McDowell, Tom Yelich, Johnpaul Chaisson-Cardenas, Kerry Kelley, Kacey McCarthy-Zaremba, Laura Hall
CT State Executive Council:	

President: Elle Van Dermark

Vice President (Staff): Roberta Prior

Vice President (Faculty): Joe Selvaggio

Secretary: Stephen Kittredge

Student Senators: Christina Murphy, Darren Mack, Leesa Cabrera

Agenda

****Please note, we are trying to capture how senators vote and so far, it has been unsuccessful.**

Attempts will continue to be made for transparency purposes.**

1. Approve Agenda

- a. Motion to approve: Sen. Roberta Prior
 - i. Seconded: Sen. Bonnie Solivan
 - 1. Motion to approve: Unanimous

2. Approve Previous Meetings Minutes

- a. Motion to approve: Unanimous

3. Welcome: College Senate President Elle Van Dermark

- a. Resistance and how our body can be a stabilizing voice. Individuals are formulating responses to the NCHEMS report and emails have been set up to get more responses. CT State Day and our reason why. Gaps in statewide shared Governance, campus shared

governance not finding footing and operating from places of fear; we are growing and evolving and the need to respond to changes. But, we also need to find ways to be better and build a better foundation.

4. CT State President Remarks – President John Maduko

- a. Federal and state funding updates, assessing the risk of losing funding, impacts to community college on national level, and updates regarding CSCU & CT State.

5. Guests

- a. Midyear Resource Reallocation Plan and Implementation of Restoring Student Svcs- CFO Kerry Kelley
 - i. Midyear plan for reallocation of funding: 89 out of 159 position recommendations were funded from midyear reallocation. Additional analysis of relocation funding was shared. 54 requests were not funded in reallocation, but a more comprehensive vision will be examined when considering other unfunded positions that are in need.
 - ii. Implementation of restoring student facing services with presidential initiatives: Updates were given regarding student supplemental transportation, career services, and embedded tutors. Some of the reallocation plan contains funding from future budget plans, and the development of FY26 funding is under way. \$2.3 million dollars has been allocated to marketing.
 - iii. CSCU Hiring Freeze: The freeze applies to all CSCU institutions for all FT & PT positions. All hiring decisions will align with the mission and budget. All current searches will proceed as planned. There will be more clarification regarding summer offerings, course cancellations, and full-time overload.
- b. ACME, Scheduling Guidance, & Cancellation Timeline – Provost Karen Hynick
 - i. Progress report on ACME, the historical context of ACME, implementation of co-requisites, data on performance measures for ACME, enrollment trends in developmental courses, high school GPA and SAT being better placement measures than ALEKS, and overview of recommendations regarding ACME summit. Clarification on pass rates by ethnicity and pass rate goals aligning with non-corequisite courses. CT State will investigate data for students who are opting out of our corequisite model, and furthering support for embedded tutors.
 - ii. Guiding Framework on Schedule and Course Offerings: Offered 11,649 courses. 25-30% of students take courses outside of their home campus, and 30% of part time students take their courses online. Guidance was given regarding the fall schedule about adding classes and cancellation guidelines; campus deans need to factor them when addressing scheduling. The Interim Provost will report data regarding the framework to CT State Senate next year.

Break

6. Old Business

- a. Shared Governance Proposal Recommendations
 - i. Campus Governance Option
 - 1. Option A: 6 Votes
 - 2. Option B: 32 Votes
 - i. Option B prevailed.
 - ii. Curriculum Congress Option
 - 1. Option A: 2 Votes
 - 2. Option B: 33 Votes

- i. Option B prevailed.
 - iii. SACC Option
 - 1. Option A: 0 Votes
 - 2. Option B: 27 Votes
 - 3. Option C: 9 Votes
 - i. Option B prevailed.
 - iv. SDC Option
 - 1. Option A: 12 Votes
 - 2. Option B: 19 Votes
 - a. Option B prevailed.
 - i. Option B1: 18 Votes
 - ii. Option B2: 19 Votes
 - 1. Option B2 prevailed.

Break: 2:25pm

Resume: 2:30pm

7. New Business

- a. None

8. Special Orders

- a. Election of Multi-Campus Presidents Search Committee
 - i. Sen. Allan Ballinger: 11 Votes
 - ii. Sen. Bonnie Solivan: 22 Votes
 - 1. Sen. Bonnie Solivan will represent College Senate on the Multi-Campus Presidents Search Committee

9. General Orders

- a. Part-time Employee Eligibility to Run for Member-at-Large Senator and Officer Positions – Sen. Seth Freeman – Advocated for changing the bylaws to allow part-time staff and faculty to serve on the CT State Senate and hold officer positions. The change would be designated to the “At-Large” Senator position.
 - i. Motion to refer to the Bylaws Committee for Recommendation:
 - 1. Motion by Sen. Joseph Selvaggio
 - a. Seconded by Sen. Allan Ballinger
 - i. In favor: 33
 - ii. Opposed: 1
 - iii. Abstained: 2
 - 1. The motion carries.

10. Council and Committee Reports

- a. Sen. Bonnie Solivan, Chair of the Bookstore Committee Recommendations:
 - i. We will distribute a survey link to all Senators, requesting them to share it broadly within their local campus communities to ensure diverse representation in the nomination process.
 - ii. It is imperative that potential members be identified by the February Senate meeting to maintain our 20-week timeline.
 - iii. The Advisory Book Committee, in collaboration with Huron consultants, will:
 - iv. Develop the RFP to align with institutional needs and student affordability.
 - v. Assess vendor qualifications and proposals based on quality control, pricing, bundling options, and accessibility of materials.

- vi. Ensure transparency and inclusiveness in decision-making to reflect the diverse needs of our campus community.
 - vii. We request formal Senate approval and support for this recommendation to ensure an inclusive and strategic vendor selection process.
 - 1. Motion made by Sen. Bonnie Solivan
 - a. Seconded by Sen. Roberta Prior
 - i. In favor: 32
 - ii. Opposed: 3
 - 1. The motion carries.
- a. Sen. Nicola Ricker, Chair of the Bylaws Committee Reported:
 - i. The following are areas the Bylaws committee worked on during February 2025:
 - 1. Edit Article IV Sect. 1
 - o Alignment of language of membership of professional/classified and at-large to align with the language.
 - 2. Addition Art. VI Sect. 1
 - o Addition of language that senate meets at least 9x an AY.
 - 3. Addition Art. IX Sect. 2 C
 - o *Periodic Review*. Beginning with the Academic Year 2027-2028 and every three (3) years thereafter, the College Senate shall review and update the bylaws as needed.
 - 4. Deletion of language referring to majority vote.
 - 5. Addition of language noting that all votes (besides Executive Officer elections) will be recorded, with name and position noted and posted in the minutes.
 - 6. Addition of language expanding At- Large Senators include Part-time faculty or staff. Article IV Sect. 2 A 3
 - o This language was requested to be included by a currently serving College Senator. The Bylaws committee does not support this language change in the Bylaws.
 - 7. Deletion of FT from eligible nominees Art. IV Sect. 5 A
 - o This language was requested to be included by a currently serving College Senator. The Bylaws committee does not support this language change to the Bylaws.
 - 8. Deletion of FT from Art. VI B I
 - o This language change was requested by a currently serving College Senator. The Bylaws committee does not support this language change to the Bylaws.
 - 9. Deletion of FT from Art V Sect. 3 for Executive Officer Positions
 - o This language change was requested by a currently serving College Senator. The Bylaws committee does not support this language change to the Bylaws.
 - 10. Addition of language preventing future senators from serving on both College Senate and Curriculum Congress. Art. IV Sect 2
 - o This language change was requested by currently serving College Senators. The Bylaws committee did not come to a consensus on this language change to the Bylaws.
 - 11. Work to be continued in March
 - 12. Finish draft language for FERPA/student confidentiality.

13. Finish draft language for civility statement and discuss addition of language for Senator conduct.

a. Sen. Roberta Prior, Chair of the Council of Professional Staff for Student Services and Affairs
Recommendations:

i. Website – Sen. Roberta Prior

1. Encourage employees to read the newsletter for updates: Continue to use newsletters for communicating webpage changes and updates.
2. Senators encourage employees to use the Online form to submit issues.
3. Share with campuses that the best way to suggest changes for departments that are across multiple campuses is to use the representative councils or committees to ensure content is reviewed from multiple lenses. Council and committee leaders should consult beyond just their respective councils, i.e. Deans Council, Advising Council, Career, etc.
4. Create a website advisory council that works with CT State Marketing Team.
5. Develop a faculty and staff directory.
6. Sen. Moeckel-Rieke collecting concerns from senators related to the website.

a. Motion made Sen. Roberta Prior

i. Seconded by Sen. Stephen Kittredge

a. In favor: 35

b. Opposed: 0

c. Abstentions: 0

i. The motion carries.

ii. Drop for Non-Payment – Sen.
Roberta Prior

ii. CT State should enhance communications and marketing efforts by developing clear and accessible materials, including tutorials for both students and employees, on drop dates and related processes. To achieve this, we recommend that the College Senate Council of Professional Staff, CT State Enrollment Management, CSU Finance, CT State Marketing, and Instructional Design and Educational Technology Coordinators collaborate to create a glossary of terms and simplify the language in marketing materials and tutorials. This approach will ensure that the information is easily understood by the entire campus community, using less jargon and more straightforward language. Others of considerations would include:

1. Campus social media
2. Online and in person New Student Orientation programs
3. CT State website
4. Handouts
5. CT State develop marketing plans to help students understand the importance of following up with their financial aid from semester to semester.
6. Education and communication regarding the importance of financial aid and payments be included in all online and in person all New Student Orientation programs.

7. CT State and CSCU Finance educate advisors and all call team members on appropriate use of “Memos” and when students should start a payment plan.
8. To give advisors query access to Customer Service Inquiry Screen, named TSICSRV.
9. All Guided Pathway Advisors are added to all twelve campus Call Campaign Teams.
10. DNP lists are shared with campuses no less than three business days prior to the scheduled drop excluding abbreviated terms.
11. Each campus must designate an owner of the DNP list and the outreach process for their campus.
12. Drop lists also include student’s program, advisor, all holds, if they have a FAFSA on file, email address, and phone number.
13. All campus personnel report any discrepancies or suspected errors to their assigned Bursar to investigate and report to the CSCU Finance Director of Systems and Support to track, distinguish between what was an error and what was resolved, assess patterns, and report outcomes to campuses at the conclusion of each of the DNP cycles.
 - a. Motion made by Sen. Roberta Prior
 - i. Seconded by Sen. Bonnie Solivan
 1. In favor: 36
 2. Opposed: 0
 3. Abstained: 1
 - a. The motion carries.

11. Closing Remarks

- a. At the 18 November TRCC faculty council meeting, the body voted favorably in requesting the college senate to investigate the financial situation surrounding Chancellor Cheng and act accordingly. At the faculty council meeting held on 19 February, the body approved a resolution thanking the senate for its efforts and endorsed the vote of no confidence in Chancellor Cheng.

Reminders: AY24-25 Senate Meetings 12:30

Mar 28

Apr 25

May 23