

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE

Academic Senate Meeting | March 04, 2025 | 11:30 am - 12:30 pm | Student Union 214/Zoom Link: <https://cccd-edu.zoom.us/j/86541330812>

Academic Senate Member Attendance

Jason Ball , <i>Part Time Faculty</i>	Absent	Jodie Legaspi-Kiaha , <i>Athletics & Kinesiology</i>	Present
Carol Barnes , <i>Counseling</i>	Present	Mike Lannom , <i>Curriculum Chair</i>	Absent
Lauren Becker , <i>at-Large</i>	Present	Kate McCarroll , <i>at-Large</i>	Present
Tyler Boogar , <i>at-Large, Parliamentarian</i>	Present	Irene Naesse , <i>at-Large</i>	Present
Allissa Blystone , <i>Math & Sciences</i>	Present	Jeanne Neil , <i>Business & Computing</i>	Present
Eric Budwig , <i>Technology</i>	Present	Leland Paxton , <i>Part Time Faculty</i>	Present
Jodie Della Marna , <i>Library</i>	Present	Loren Sachs , <i>at-Large</i>	Present
Rendell Drew , <i>at-Large, President</i>	Present	Katherine Sheehan , <i>Visual & Performing Arts</i>	Present
Lily Ei , <i>ASOCC Student Representative</i>	Absent	Jordan Stanton , <i>Social & Beh. Sciences</i>	Present
Carly Gonzalez , <i>at-Large</i>	Present	Vacant , <i>Part Time Faculty</i>	Vacant
Lee Gordon , <i>at-Large, Vice President</i>	Present	Vacant , <i>at-Large</i>	Vacant
Marilyn Kennedy , <i>Lit & Lang, PDI Chair, Secretary</i>	Present	Vacant , <i>Consumer & Health Science</i>	Vacant

Please see the Voting Tally Chart after these minutes for the individual members' votes.

Guests (Optional & Voluntary Sign-In): No sign ins.

1. Preliminary Matters

- A. **Call to Order:** **President Drew** called the meeting to order at 11:30 A.M.
- B. **Public Comments:** Megan Johnson, Heidi Segovia, Erica Koester, Nuestra, Eva, Elena, Marilyn Kennedy, Jodie Legaspi-Kiaha, Alyssa Blystone, Curtis Williams, Tara Giblin, Heather Dy, Lucy Groetsch.
- C. **Approval of the Minutes:** Tabled until the next meeting.
- D. **For the Good of the Order:**

Senator Kennedy announced that the PDI Sabbatical Subcommittee is looking for two representatives from the following divisions: Consumer Health Sciences, Social & Behavioral Sciences, Kinesiology, Library Technology, or Visual and Performing Arts.

2. Consent Agenda:

No consent agenda items.

3. Officer, Senator, & Committee Reports

A. Academic Senate President and Vice-President Reports:

1. **President Rendell Drew's Report:**

Harry and Grace Steele Children's Center: President Drew welcomed the many visitors and public commenters and thanked them for feeling comfortable enough to come to the Senate with their concerns. He pointed out that the topic of the Children's Center reduction in services is not a direct 10 plus 1 Academic Senate issue, but it is still a very important matter that affects the entire campus community. He did want to clarify this was a management decision. He encouraged anyone who wanted to speak on behalf of the Children's Center to attend the Special Board meeting scheduled for Monday, March 10, 5 p.m. He thanked **Senator Becker** for bringing this matter to the attention of the Senate.

2. **Vice-President Gordon's Report:**

Vice President Gordon stated that he was in agreement with **President Drew's** statements in support of the Children's Center.

Vice-President Gordon made this statement to the Senate:

"We have the topic of high-level District Search Committees on our agenda today. Last week, the Senate invited the Chancellor to discuss his proposal to give him the new right to place in high level search committees, additional appointees of his choosing if he deems search committees to be insufficiently diverse. At last week's Senate session, faculty posed questions asking about the legality of this committee packing proposal. The District's proposal may soon go to the Trustees for a vote. It is a case of identity politics vs. faculty's legal rights. Faculty rights in California were hard won, and faculty leadership in both the Union and the Senate are committed to preserving and defending these rights. At last week's Senate session, faculty representatives pointed out the imprecision of the District's claim that using the term, "diversity," will give the District the right to add members to top search committees whenever District leadership deem the original search committees to be insufficiently diverse. By the District's own definition, for this purpose, "diversity" includes national origin, ancestry, mental disability, medical conditions, political beliefs, religion and sexual orientation. How will the Chancellor determine these factors when he will be declaring a committee to be insufficiently diverse and therefore eligible for him to add to it his choice of additional members? How does the Chancellor know that someone is not neurotypical? How does the Chancellor know which countries someone's grandparents immigrated to the United States from? How does the Chancellor know someone's religion or sexual orientation? How does the Chancellor know someone's political beliefs? How does the Chancellor know the medical conditions that someone has? I recommend that the faculty oppose this new power for the District. How do we know the District's committee packing may not stop with the current proposal? The District may try to extend the committee packing plan to include additional positions. And they may further whittle away the faculty rights that those who came before us worked so hard to achieve. It is now our turn to maintain the fight for faculty rights by asking the Board to reject the District Administration's search committee packing plan."

B. Union/Bargaining Unit Report – CFE President Rob Schneiderman:

CFE OCC Executive Director Vesna Marcina Kuo shared the Union report on behalf of **CFE President Rob Schneiderman**. The union met with the District for the first time to negotiate salaries and compensation for competency-based education. It is a very

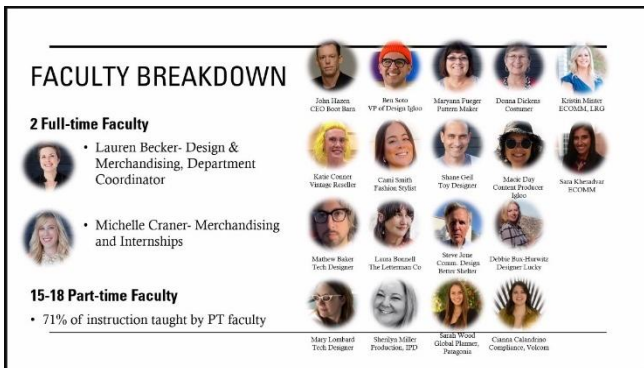
complex educational model that involves three different faculty members for the same class, one to design the class, one to teach the class, and one to assess the class. Meetings will continue with the Union and the District to discuss competency-based education, and the union will continue to update information as they get it.

4. Unfinished Business

A. AP 7120B Recruitment and Selection of Management Employees—Lee Gordon:

Vice-President Gordon stated that he wanted to get a sense of the Senate vote, but not necessarily to address a specific board policy. Do the Senators support the concept of giving the Chancellor the right to add additional members to search committees whose membership he finds to be insufficiently diverse? **President Drew** stated that he has been a District employee for over thirty years, and he has served on nearly every selection committee, but since Rebecca and others arrived, OCC has gone through much EEOC training. You can't serve on committees unless you get the training, and this proposal by the Chancellor and the District seems to be taking a step backwards in the progress that we've made and moving forward in the selection of our candidates. It's nothing personal, but if one chancellor or one manager has the ability to override the selection of a committee, that's the committee's job. **Senator Kennedy** shared a common concern among faculty as to how the Chancellor or others will know personal views and attributes of a faculty member to determine if they are diverse or not? **President Drew** noted the time was almost up, so **Vice President Gordon made the following motion: Motion 1: "The trustees should not endorse the Chancellor's proposal, to give him the right to add additional members to search committees he deems insufficiently diverse"; motion seconded; a roll call vote was taken; the motion passed unanimously .**

B. CTE Highlight: Fashion – Lauren Becker:



Professor Lauren Becker, the program director of the Fashion Department at OCC, shared that the fashion program consists of two main areas: design and merchandising, and classes are taught by faculty who bring valuable industry experience. There are three degree and certificate options they offer focused on design and apparel construction, which cater to various career paths. OCC

is the only college in California to offer two short courses in apparel industry sustainability. The merchandising program focuses on the business aspects, such as E-commerce, marketing, and fashion styling. The program has an 86% enrollment fill rate and retention and success rates of 90% and 80% respectively. There has been a 20% increase in headcount, and 18% rise in associates degrees, and a 17% rise in certificate completions. The program also promotes innovation in teaching using two labs that serve as student-run retail stores. The program's internship placement is twenty to forty students a year, paid and unpaid. The program uses social media for storytelling and advertising their program, with a very strong Instagram account, as well as YouTube, and LinkedIn.

STUDENT SUCCESS

- Transfers & Jobs**
- 9% transfer rate

Program	Institution Set Standard (%)	Placement Rate (%)			
		2019-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Fashion (Apparel Construction / Design / Fashion Production / Product Development / Fashion Merchandising)	75%	91.89	72.22	78.57	89.47



Degree & Certificate Completions

INSTITUTION	Certificates Awarded (2021-2022)	Associate Degrees Awarded (2021-2022)	% Distribution of Total Certificate / Associate Degrees Awarded	Growth % Year over Year (YOY) Compared with 2020-2021
Orange Coast College	17	16	46.5%	+94.1%
Saddleback College	13	6	26.8%	+11.8%
Santa Ana College	4	7	15.5%	+57.1%
Fullerton College	1	7	11.3%	-38.5%

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

- Advisory Boards
- Mentorship Program
- Internship & Job Placement
- Field Trips
- Guest Speaker
- Part-time Faculty
- The Box
- Coast Collective
- Real world Application



5. New Business

A. Children's Center Reduction – Vice President Niroumand and R. Santa Cruz:

Vice President Niroumand stated that he wanted to acknowledge, appreciate, and empathize with all the communities that have come forward. This has been an incredibly heartbreaking, difficult decision for the college to make, and acknowledged the incredible amount of support and service that the Children's Center has provided to the community and to the students.

He stated that the Center is not closing. Over the years the Children's Center has operated in a deficit of financial crisis. The past couple of years we have had more than half a million dollars that the Children's Center has been in negative, and this year the projection is that again, in deficit for more than \$600,000.

We need to redirect our focus to mission critical, that of supporting our students, our student parents. That would be the immediate need of the children to that end and to really make an impact into this financial deficit. We have considered various options. The issue of the shortfall of the Children's Center from a budgetary standpoint is not something new. We have explored, had conversations, whether it's in staff meetings or coming up with ideas of what we can do in order to sustain the program. Over the past few years there have been a number of different budgetary line items that had to cover

the shortfall of the Children's Center. For example, in the past couple of years the Covid-related funds had to subsidize the shortfall of the Children's Center, and that fund no longer exists. We had our Associated Students who have really contributed to the Children's Center. We have had other ancillary accounts with the Foundation that have tried to sustain. We had to take a hard look to see what we could do to not close the program yet sustain it in such a way that we stay true to our mission of supporting students. Currently, we have seventeen student parents who have their children, nineteen children at the Children's Center, and we have nineteen employees, I believe, who have nineteen children. So, reducing the five classes into two gives us the widest range, the most flexibility, that we can accommodate as many enrolled children in the program as possible with the exception of three student parents who will be impacted for a short time. I'll be working with the director to address that. No other employee or student parents who have their children enrolled in the center will be impacted, so there will be a possibility for them to re-enroll in the program. The reduction of these classrooms starts as of July one.

We have a few months for the ones who are impacted, primarily community members, to look at options. We have the Children's Center Director who will support the families with other alternatives. The college and our commitment remains with students. We have started financial support for our students, and we are committed to continuing to do that. We started with about \$25,000. Over the past couple of years, every year, we provide tuition support for our students for over \$70,000. I can tell you that while this is a difficult decision, I acknowledge that this is a reduction of services. It is for us to really address a financial shortfall with that operation yet stay true to our mission, to remain supporting our students.

The Center was founded initially and originally to support the student parents and their children and over the years with the expansion of enrolling additional individuals from the community which I'm really proud, the Center was able to support the community, employees, and faculty. But now, because of the situation we are in, we need to stay true to the mission

I will be at the Board meeting Monday, and this will be a session for the Board to look at the situation with the Children's Center and the individual community members can come and share their comments.

President Drew stated that the Senate learned about this issue at the same time that everyone else did and it was not something the Senate played a role in or decided, because all or most of this is not part of the 10 plus one. We're trying to find out, too, and whether there are parts of it that do overlap with the 10 plus one. He also asked if the families who have children there pay less than they might typically pay? **VP Niroumand:** We are not the highest tuition, but the operational costs for an institution like Orange Coast College from salaries and benefits are quite different from the childcare centers in the community, because we work with bargaining units and other compensations, so there's quite a bit of higher expense. **President Drew:** Was there a point in time where we were revenue neutral? And if so, what has changed? **VP Niroumand:** Looking at the historical trend of the past decade, the center has been in operational deficit, so naturally, we have the expenses every year going up and the tuition we have also increased. We have changed the tuition model from what it traditionally was, and over the past two, three academic years we increased the tuition. **Senator Boogar:** What needs to happen to get this back on track? **VP Niroumand:** We need to have a solid plan to address our deficiencies and that is the reduction from the five classrooms to the two. Even with the two classrooms, the Center will operate underneath. Nevertheless, a lot of the resources will be geared towards supporting student parents, which are right

now the number one priority followed by category two, employees' children? **Senator Becker:** You mentioned that there is a deficit of approximately \$500,000. Why has the Children's Center moved from Title 5 to Title 22, and how has that reduced a State funding grant of approximately \$450,000? **VP Niroumand:** Yes, that was one of the options that we looked at, Title V. Yes, there are grants but at the same time the staffing costs to manage that ratio was really high, especially every year. With the increase we had a significant increase in hourly wage. We have classified employees. So, the ratio is quite different. In a classroom you need to have quite a lower children-to-one-teacher ratio. That was one of the elements. The biggest impact change would have been for students who would receive direct aid, and we made a commitment not to let our students be impacted by that change. Since then, we started providing financial support. So yes, there was funding coming associated with it. But there were a lot of strict ratios with Title 5 as well as that added. **Senator Naesse:** There was a comment in the chat that I wanted to make sure we got in the record that when the funding was cut by the State it was the community that stepped in and allowed the Children's Center to continue serving students for the past fifteen years. Also, where we can find the minutes from a meeting where this was discussed. Was this the Budget Committee? the College Council? **President Suarez:** We can't speak to personnel issues, but we are in the third rendition of our fiscal stability plan, and that has been one of the areas that we have been including. That is a self-supporting unit, the Children's Services, as well as Safety. That's where we have been sharing that information, and I also know that in the Budget Committee you have Vice President Gordon and Vice President Pagel. There have also been reports to the Budget Committee on the Children's Center. **Lucy Groetsch*:** I'm a retired director of the Children's Center, and I was invited to come to this meeting. I wasn't sure how the structure works, so I'm sorry if I have taken this much time to speak, but with relation to how much it cost student parents, it was zero to minimum if they met the need and eligibility requirements. They were provided with free childcare, and most of our program for many, many years was strictly subsidized childcare. And then, if we had extra spaces and you were a student, and you wanted to pay that full tuition, you could certainly apply if there was space available. It's true what Dr. Niroumand said, the cost of hourly employees was quite high, but when you have Title 22 funds, you have quality care and education. You have regular assessments required of the children. The staff has certain requirements for education coming in with Title 5 funding; it's basically twelve units in early childhood education. Education is all you need. And we have a connection with the instructional program that I think is really important that you understand. We've worked very closely with the OCC Lab school. [*Lucy Groetsch was unable to be contacted, but Early Childhood faculty stated that the above descriptions of Title 22 and Title 5 were reversed. Title 22 has less strict requirements than Title 5.]

President Drew: Announced that, unfortunately, the time for public comment and the meeting, had concluded and reminded everyone about the Board meeting next Monday and to attend.

- B. **Caring Campus – Rebecca Morgan:** Tabled.
- C. **Faculty Coordinator MOUs:** Tabled.
- D. **AP 3415 Immigration Enforcement Activities and AP 5107 Responding to Inquiries of Immigration Status, Citizenship Status, and National Origin Information – Marilyn Kennedy:** Tabled.

6. Adjournment

President Drew adjourned the meeting at 12:29 p.m.

Minutes: March 11, 2025

MINUTES: First draft written by Senate Staff Support. Revision of first draft and Senate-approved drafts written by Senate Secretary, Marilyn Kennedy, who also distributes the final Senate-approved version to the Chancellor, Board of Trustees members and secretary, union presidents, GWC and Coastline Academic Senate presidents, OCC

Voting Tally Chart	Motion 1: The BOT should not Endorse the Chancellor's Proposal to Add Members to Committees			
Ball, Jason: Part-Time Senator (2024-2025);	Abstain			
Barnes, Carol: Counseling Senator (2024-2027)	Aye			
Becker, Lauren: Senator at-Large (2024-2027)	Aye			
Blystone, Allissa: Math & Sciences Senator (2023-2026)	Aye			
Boogar, Tyler: Senator at Large (2023-2026)	Aye			
Budwig, Eric: Technology Senator (2023-2026)	Aye			
Della Marna, Jodi: Library & Learning Senator (2023-2026)	Aye			
Drew, Rendell: President, Senator-at-Large (2023-2026)	Aye			
Carly Gonzalez: Senator at-Large (2024-2027)	Aye			
Gordon, Lee: Vice President, Senator-at-Large (2022-2025)	Aye			
Kennedy, Marilyn: Secretary, Lit. & Lang. Senator (2022-2025)	Aye			
Legaspi, Jodie: Athletics and Kinesiology Senator (2023-2026)	Abstain			
McCarroll, Kate: Senator-at-Large (2024-2027)	Aye			
Naesse, Irene: Senator-at-Large (2023-2026)	Aye			
Neil, Jeanne: Business and Computing Senator (2022-2025)	Aye			
Paxton, Leland: Part-Time Senator (2024-2025)	Aye			
Sachs, Loren: Senator-at-Large (2022-2025), late arrival	Abstain			
Sheehan, Katherine (2024-2027)	Aye			
Stanton, Jordan: Social & Beh. Sciences Senator (2022-2025)	Aye			
Vacant: Senator-at-Large (2023-2026)	Vacant			
Vacant, Part-Time Senator (2024-2025)	Vacant			
Vacant: Consumer Health Sciences Senator (2023-2026)	Vacant			

College President, and faculty as per OCC Senate bylaws.