

## Academic Senate

The regular monthly meeting of the NOCE Academic Senate was held on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 3:00 p.m., in room 105 (Anaheim Campus), staff lounge (Wilshire), and room 118 (Cypress Center), and as a videoconferencing meeting for approved attendees who submitted an emergency cause or just cause form. The President being the chair and the Secretary being present.

Senate President Michelle Patrick-Norng called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

Present Members: Cynthia Azarcon, Jennifer Carey, Heather Carlopio, Danielle Carlson, Raheem Collins, Carlos Diaz, Luz Fernandez-Marquez, Sara Franko, Yvette Krebs, Megan Ly, Candace Lynch, Cathleen Mang, Tina McClurkin, Khanh Ninh, Jennifer Oo, Michelle Patrick-Norng, Megan Reeves, Bryan Reyna, Afraim Sedrak, Erin Sherard, Julie Shields, Alli Stanojkovic, Ivan Stanojkovic, Matt Stivers, Anacany Torres, Matt Van Gelder, Kenny Yu.

Kristina De La Cerda (remote non-voting)

Guests: Karen Bautista, Dulce Delgadillo, Julie Schoepf, Valentina Purtell

- 
- I. Approval of agenda – Motion to approve the agenda, motion by E. Sherard (seconded R. Collins) approved by unanimous consent.
  - II. Approval of December 2, 2025, meeting minutes. – Michelle Patrick-Norng provided edits to Item e. to clarify that both the SLO Coordinator and Accreditation Faculty Chair roles were discussed, and to revise language regarding reassigned time to reflect that recommendations are discussed by the NOCE President and Academic Senate President and brought to the Senate for a vote of support. A formatting correction was also made to ensure all names in the Present Members section appear as last name, first name. Motion to approve the minutes as revised, E. Sherard (seconded R. Collins). Motion passed.  
Abstention: C. Mang
  - III. Announcement and Public Comments (Limited to 3 min per person, 15 min total)
    - a. Cathee Mang
      - Cathleen Mang shared that enrollment is still open for her ESL College Success Skills courses in Listening and Speaking and Reading and Writing. She also announced a screening of her sabbatical project film, The Three Queens of Bali, scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. in the Anaheim Campus Board Room. Additionally, she noted that the NOCE UF meeting will take place in Room 100A following the Academic Senate meeting.
    - b. Khanh Ninh
      - Khanh Ninh announced an upcoming APIDA Lunar New Year celebration to be held on Wednesday, February 11, from 5:30–7:30 p.m. in Room AN105–107 at the Anaheim Campus, which will include food and activities. She also shared that APIDA has

## Academic Senate

doubled its membership and that the APIDA FSA scholarship amount has increased from \$300 to \$500.

c. Jennifer Oo

- A United Faculty (UF) update was shared regarding scheduling. It was noted that within the district, NOCE instructional faculty are the only group not compensated for office hours, despite students frequently requesting such support. UF is working toward addressing this issue, and it was clarified that providing compensation for office hours would not increase instructional teaching load.

d. Jennifer Carey

- An update was shared regarding the NOCE Learning Center. Faculty were encouraged to refer students to the Learning Center, and it was noted that Learning Center staff are available to visit classes to provide brief presentations. An additional update was shared regarding Sherry, the third puppy raised by NOCE, who is currently in team training and is expected to test for graduation in approximately one and a half weeks, with a graduation date scheduled for February 12.

e. Erin Sherard

- NOCCCD is preparing to send a cohort of employees to attend the 2026 All African Diaspora Education Summit (ADES), which will be held in Ghana, Africa, September 24 – October 3, 2026. NOCE will send four employees as part of the district's cohort. The focus of the summit is on promoting African-centered education, which is seen as key to achieving freedom and empowerment for African people. Participants will explore ways to implement educational systems that prioritize the history, culture, and experiences of Black people, both in the U.S. and Africa. A link was provided to learn more about the history of the summit and logistical details: <https://www.thesummit.info/>. The goal for our ADES cohort is to develop recommendations address the disproportionate impact for Black or African American students at NOCE. We do not expect the cohort to independently fix this equity gap, but to inform and present ideas for how we, as an institution, can address this issue together.

f. Anacany Torres

- Information was shared regarding an upcoming five-session, in-person Transitioning to College course designed to support NOCE students in preparing for college. The course will focus on identifying academic goals, understanding degree pathways and college policies, and navigating the college process. Faculty were also encouraged to refer students who may be experiencing difficulty to the Counseling Department.

g. Michelle Patrick-Norng

- A United Faculty (UF) update was shared regarding the Article 5 re-opener related to noncredit faculty instructional workload. It

## Academic Senate

was clarified that individual faculty do not bargain directly with the District and that re-openers move through a formal negotiations process. The primary focus of the current discussion is compensation for office hours, noting that many NOCE instructional faculty are already providing student support outside of class time without compensation. It was emphasized that the intent of the re-opener is not to increase instructional workload, but to recognize and compensate work currently being performed.

### IV. Executive Council and Faculty Leaders Report

#### a. President's Report, Michelle Patrick-Norng

- Due to the Power Up Career Resource Fair taking place the same day, our March 3 Academic Senate meeting will take place in Room 402A.
- Council on Budget and Facilities (CBF) agreed to form a Resource Allocation Model (RAM) Workgroup to further evaluate changes to the RAM before forwarding additional recommendations to DCC.
- The only approved revision to the RAM was shifting 100% of indirect cost funds from the District and the campuses to *Districtwide* and to utilize the dollars to fund a post-award grants accounting team; this will be implemented during the 2026-27 academic year.
- Districtwide FTES for P1: Up 1,153.54 FTES when compared to annual FTES last year. Below target for goal FTES, but not drastically. Spring semester often generates more FTES than fall.
- The Board of Trustees formed a Board Policy Review Committee. The committee falls under the Brown Act as a subcommittee of the Board. The group currently has three trustees who will meet monthly to review new or revised Board Policies that are moving through the participatory governance process.
- AP 3440 Service Animals (new) was adopted at the 1/26/25 DCC meeting and will move forward to the BOT as an informational item.
- ASCCC Spring Plenary is taking place in April in Santa Rosa. Three faculty will be attending: Candace Lynch (VP, voting delegate in Michelle's absence), Ivan Stanojkovic (Secretary), and Alli Stanojkovic (SLO Coordinator).
- A survey will be distributed via email seeking feedback on Senate meetings and procedures. All Senators are asked to complete the survey for a clear representation of the Senate's preferences moving forward.
- The three Senates (CC, FC, and NOCE), along with UF and AdFac leaders, will be hosting an All Faculty Picnic on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 12-4 p.m. A Save the Date flier will be emailed to faculty.

#### b. Vice President's Report, Candace Lynch

- Candace is serving as a faculty advisor to the student leadership group and is exploring ways to share student feedback with the Senate. She is also meeting with the student navigator team as part of this work.
- It was reported that changes to the bylaws and constitution have shifted the election cycle, and that elections for Senate President and Curriculum

## Academic Senate

Committee Chair are being finalized, with the ballot to be distributed the following day. Adjunct Faculty Senator elections will also be conducted, with voting limited to adjunct faculty.

- An update was provided on the Faculty Fellow role, noting that Faculty Fellows work with the District Office of Diversity, Culture, and Inclusion on the Future Instructor Training (FIT) program. Candace expressed appreciation to Tina McClurkin and Anacany Torres for volunteering as mentors.
  - c. Secretary's Report, Ivan Stanojkovic
    - No Report.
  - d. Curriculum Committee Chair, Jennifer Oo
    - There are no updates at this time regarding the CourseDog transition, and NOCE has submitted all requested curriculum materials to the District, as have the sister colleges. An update was also provided on Program Review, noting that meetings were held with faculty working on Program Review to review the template and process, and that the first review cycle is expected to be completed this semester.
  - e. Distance Education Committee Chair, Jennifer Carey
    - The Distance Education Committee meeting will be held this Thursday. Guests are permitted to attend in person; however, due to Brown Act requirements, guest attendance requires advance notice of physical location to be included on the agenda. It was also reported that eleven faculty have expressed interest in participating in the NetTutor pilot program. The committee is developing a SharePoint repository that will include a Canvas-ready informational page faculty can add to their courses to explain NetTutor services to students.
  - f. SLO Coordinator, Alli Stanojkovic
    - SLO Leads from each department will meet for the first time this Friday to check in and identify Professional Development (PRO D) times, consistent with prior practice. An update was also provided on SLO data integration, noting that SLO data from CurricUNET has not yet populated in Canvas and is expected to be uploaded by the end of day on Wednesday, February 5. A message has been posted in the Canvas shell indicating the data is not yet available, and a follow-up message will be sent once the data is live.
  - g. Accreditation Faculty Chair, Tina McClurkin
    - No Report
- V. Unfinished Business
- a. Partnership with CalBright College, Action (10 Min) – Valentina Purtell

## Academic Senate

Information was presented regarding a proposed partnership with Calbright College, including a review of materials previously shared at the December meeting. It was noted that Calbright College would identify a liaison to coordinate meetings, presentations, and collaboration efforts. The partnership would not involve direct financial cost to NOCE beyond faculty and staff time.

Discussion included clarification of the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), including faculty involvement and potential areas of collaboration such as discipline-specific expertise, Distance Education practices, and student services models. Clarifications were also provided regarding Calbright College's structure as a fully online, noncredit institution, its funding model, and its national accreditation through the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC).

A motion was made to support entering into the partnership with Calbright College. A. Sedrak (seconded J. Oo) approved. Abstention: C. Mang.

- b. DE Committee Bylaws, First Read (10 min) – Jennifer Carey  
A first read of proposed updates to the Distance Education Committee bylaws was presented. The updates are intended to mirror the Curriculum Committee bylaws for consistency and alignment with Academic Senate practices. The proposed revisions include updates to committee composition, member terms, appointment language, voting roles, powers and responsibilities, and duties of the DE Chair. Questions were invited and will be addressed prior to a future action item.
- c. SLO Coordinator and Accreditation Faculty Chair Roles, Second Read/Action, (10 min) – Michelle Patrick-Norng  
A second read was conducted for the proposed SLO Coordinator and Accreditation Faculty Chair role documents, which are tied to Academic Senate 10+1 responsibilities. Feedback provided during the first read was incorporated into the revised drafts.

For the SLO Coordinator role, it was noted that the only substantive change since December was the clarification of term language, highlighted in the revised document. Clarification was provided that the option to continue three-year terms would allow for continuity across up to two full accreditation cycles, with a maximum service period defined. Support was expressed for the inclusion of up to 20 hours of onboarding and training for incoming coordinators.

For the Accreditation Faculty Chair role, discussion focused on aligning the term structure with accreditation cycles and clarifying procedures in the event of an early vacancy. Questions were raised regarding the absence of term limits for this role. A recommendation was made to align term limits with those

## Academic Senate

of the SLO Coordinator to ensure consistency across faculty leadership roles, while allowing for continued service if no other faculty members step forward.

Motion: C. Lynch moved to amend the Accreditation Faculty Chair role to include term limits aligned with the SLO Coordinator role, allowing for continuity across two accreditation cycles, with a provision permitting continued service if no successor is available. Second: J. Carey. Abstention: C. Mang. Motion carried.

### VI. New Business

a. WASC Mid-Cycle Report and Revised Action Plan, First Read (10 min) – Tina McClurkin

A first read of the WASC Mid-Cycle Report and Revised Schoolwide Action Plan was presented. One correction was identified and will be incorporated into the revised documents. The presentation highlighted the CARE Team, community engagement through NOCRC, and updates to the Schoolwide Action Plan to ensure timelines and policies accurately reflect current institutional practices.

Questions and comments included concerns regarding inaccessible links in the draft documents, with clarification that links will function in the second draft. A request was made to notify staff once the documents are scheduled for Board review. Appreciation was expressed for the collaborative approach used during this cycle, which included increased faculty and committee engagement.

It was also announced that Tina McClurkin will be concluding her service in the WASC faculty leadership role at the end of the academic year, and that a call for faculty interest will be forthcoming.

b. DEIAA Action Plan, First Read/Action (15 min) – Casey Sousa

In the absence of Casey Sousa, President Valentina Purtell presented the DEIAA Action Plan using an earlier version of the presentation. The plan was described as an ambitious, multi-year roadmap intended to guide NOCE's DEIAA efforts over several years. It was noted that while implementation will take time, the plan provides a long-term framework for institutional progress.

A finalization note was shared indicating that the document may need to be updated to reflect the current composition of the governing board. It was also noted that the plan had been reviewed by President's Cabinet, and Senate action was required in order for the Cabinet to adopt it. Motion: J. Carey moved to support the DEIAA Action Plan as drafted. Second: A. Stanojkovic. Abstention: C. Mang. Motion carried.

c. Joint Collaborative Consultation Understanding, Discussion (10 min) – Michelle Patrick-Norng

Information was presented regarding the Joint Collaborative Consultation Understanding (JCCU), a districtwide document developed with the support of

## **Academic Senate**

state-level facilitators to strengthen communication and collaboration among Academic Senates, Faculty Senates, and faculty associations. It was clarified that, while sometimes informally referred to as an MOU, the document is not a memorandum of understanding but is structured more similarly to a resolution.

The intent of the Understanding is to clarify roles, strengthen collaboration, and support effective communication while respecting the distinct purviews of the participating bodies. Discussion included whether and how the Understanding should be referenced or incorporated into Senate governing documents. It was noted that Fullerton College and Cypress College Academic Senates are also reviewing the document this month.

Questions were raised regarding the process for future revisions and approvals. It was clarified that, if adopted, the Understanding would be reviewed annually in the fall, and any proposed changes would follow a collaborative approval process through the relevant bodies. Feedback and recommendations were invited prior to any future action.

- VII. Committee Reports (submitted, unless deemed necessary)
  - a. Please send any committee reports from December to Ivan Stanojkovic for inclusion in the minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.  
Ivan Stanojković, Secretary