

University Resources Council Minutes (Approved) – Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (5<sup>th</sup> meeting)

Anatol Center

**Members in Attendance (28)**

Eun Jung Chae for Ju Cheol Moon; Jesse Dillon; Cyndi Farrington; Diane Hayashino; Araceli Gonzalez; Ben Huff; Sai Santosh Malladi; Chris Miller; Will Murray; Gavin Newton; Sara Nourazari; Avery Olson; Sarah Corona for Hema Ramachandran; Rene Trevino; Ali Rezaei; Sam Vickovic; Suzanne Perlitsh Wechsler

ASM: Terie Bostic (CLA); Michael Clements (CHHS); Carrie Hernandez (CED); Melissa Mata (COB); Jeannine Pociask (CNSM)

Marianne Hata (Asst. VP academic resources); Kara Perkins (AVP Budget & U Svcs; AA); Claudia Plaza (SA)

Praveen Soni (Chair); Dave Whitney (Vice-Chair), Pitiporn Asvapathanagul (Secretary).

**Guests in Attendance (12)**

Scott Apel, Beth Lesen; Shariq Ahmed; Christine Scott Hayward; Tiffanye Vargas; Matt Reimers; Laura Ceia; Jalal Torabzadeh; Ebrahim Amiri; Antonella Sciortino; Sandra Perez; Kerry Johnson

1:00PM	<b>Meeting Called to Order</b>	Praveen
1:00PM	<b>1. Approval of the agenda – Meeting of November 05, 2024.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The November 05, 2024 URC agenda was moved, seconded and approved.</li> </ul>	Will moved & Dave seconded  Approved
3:07PM	<b>2. Approval of the minutes – Meeting of October 01, 2024.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The October 01, 2024 URC minutes was moved, seconded with amendment of adding Claudia Plaza.</li> </ul>	Will moved & Sam seconded  Approved
3:07PM	<b>3. Approval of the minutes – Meeting of October 15, 2024.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The October 15, 2024 URC minutes was moved, seconded.</li> </ul>	Will moved & Jesse seconded  Approved
1:01PM	<b>4. Presentation and review of the changes in the 2024/25 and 2023/24 budgets in the Division of Administration and Finance; budget cuts thereof; progress and outcomes on current projects/initiatives; upcoming new projects/ initiatives in the Division.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VP Apel shared the financial challenges faced by the university, including a significant budget deficit (-\$11M in AY2024-2025 and -\$30M in AY2025-2026 approximately) and the need to cut costs. He explained that the university's budget is primarily used for benefits, insurance premiums, and utility bills, with a smaller portion allocated to academic affairs and his division.</li> <li>VP also mentioned the university's capital construction program, which has been underfunded for several years. He highlighted the need for deferred maintenance funding, which has been cut in recent years. VP Apel also discussed the university's budget cuts, which have affected various departments, and the need to reduce employee costs. Scott mentioned the allocation of additional funds for the Title IX office and the Barrett Athletic Center during transferring to State Building for maintenance fund.</li> <li>VP Apel discussed the university's budgetary strategies in response to financial constraints. He mentioned that they are holding positions vacant, reducing non-employee spending, and not spending on professional development or computer refreshes. The campus is not using reserves to perfect cuts, instead, they are using reserves to help the university slide into the new fiscal year. He emphasized the</li> </ul>	VP Scott Apel

	<p>importance of funding sections and maintaining academic buildings. VP also mentioned a project to fully utilize workstations and exploit all the good space on campus, with the aim of eventually abandoning underutilized buildings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VP Apel discussed the ongoing maintenance project on the parking structures, which involved scraping and recompacting the entire area to ensure safety and extend the lifespan of the structures. He also mentioned the implementation of the Crisis Assistance Team (CAST) program, which has been successful and is spreading throughout the system.</li> <li>• Additionally, VP shared about the university's solar panel investments per Suzanne's question, explaining that while the majority of the solar panels are owned by a private company, the university owns the solar panels on top of buildings. Therefore, for the solar rooftop systems, CSULB pays for the capital and gets electricity for free. However, for the next 20 years when the solar panels need replacement, there will be needs of large fund. Scott also mentioned the challenges of financing new solar panels due to the lack of funds for debt service payments. Lastly, He introduced the new programs and discussed the ongoing expansion of the CAST program.</li> <li>• VP Apel discussed the state's budget situation per Dave's question, noting that while the economy is doing well, the state's revenue projections were initially pessimistic. This led to a multi-billion dollar shortfall prediction, which has since been revised upwards. He also mentioned that the state's budget is highly dependent on the economy. The Governor's proposed budget in January is a starting point for planning, with revisions made in May based on tax revenues and sales tax. If there is more fund available, the State may allocate more to the CSU for AY2025-2026.</li> <li>• VP also touched on the topic of space allocation on campus, suggesting that unused spaces could be consolidated and reallocated. However, he emphasized that this would require a cultural shift and would likely be a long-term process. Chris expressed spaces need for COTA.</li> </ul>	
1:42PM	<p><b>5. Presentation and review of the changes in the 2024/25 and 2023/24 budgets in the Division of Student Affairs; budget cuts thereof; progress and outcomes on current projects/initiatives; upcoming new projects/initiatives in the Division.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the meeting, Beth Lesen discussed the organizational structure of the division, which includes various functional areas such as student affairs, etc. She highlighted the roles of different associate vice presidents and deans, including Jeff Boss, Daria Graham, and Damian Zavla, for example. Beth also emphasized the importance of accessibility and responsiveness within the division, encouraging anyone with questions or concerns to reach out directly. The conversation ended with Beth preparing to share updates on the division's progress and future steps.</li> <li>• VP Lesen discussed the restructuring and budget cuts within the division, emphasizing the importance of equity, inclusion, mental health, and basic needs. She highlighted the significant increase in student employment and the need to continue this trend despite potential challenges. She introduced the "Speak Boldly, Listen Bravely" campaign aimed at promoting free speech and understanding of campus policies. Lastly, she mentioned the successful reaccreditation of Student Health Services.</li> <li>• VP Lesen discussed the progress made in various areas of the university. She highlighted the successful implementation of a new policy that designated flagpoles as private property, enabling the raising of the LGBTQIA flag. Beth also mentioned the hosting of the Be Well Conference and the development of an online platform for mental health training. She emphasized the importance of increasing enrollment, particularly among underrepresented groups, and the need for a diverse and robust approach to mental health support. She also discussed the growth of housing and residence life, the demand for more housing, and the need to improve financial aid services.</li> </ul>	VP Beth Lesen

2:17PM	<p><b>6. Presentation and review of the changes in the 2024/25 and 2023/24 budgets in Academic Technology Services; budget cuts thereof; progress and outcomes on current projects/initiatives; upcoming new projects/initiatives.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AVP Ahmed discussed the funding and budget of the department, which includes general funds, lottery, and Student Excellence Fund on Technology. The department supports around 2,000 faculty members and has a budget of 3.4 million dollars. He also highlighted the usage of Canvas, Zoom, and other tools, with a focus on accessibility and student support. The department has seen a decrease in survey responses but is working on improving this.</li> <li>• AVP Ahmed also mentioned new initiatives such as Adobe Classroom Project and AI for Teaching and Learning. The department also provides various services like media services, workshops, and consultations. Pitiporn expressed concern about potential budget cuts affecting classroom support and event support services.</li> <li>• Eun Jung asked if the online writing tools such as Grammarly is available because other CSUs offer the tools to assist with academic and scholar writing.</li> </ul>	AVP Shariq Ahmed
2:39PM	<p><b>7. Proposal for a fully-online, self-support AA to Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice, <u>Second Reading</u>.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal was approved.</li> </ul>	Christine Scott Hayward, Ass. Dean Tiffanye Vargas & Matt Reimers  Approved.
3:08PM	<p><b>8. Proposal for the Discontinuance of the MA in Dance (Stateside), <u>Second Reading</u>.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal was approved.</li> </ul>	Approved.
2:41PM	<p><b>9. Proposal for a name change of the Department of International Studies to the Department of Global Studies, <u>First Reading</u>.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will moved and Sarah seconded to review the proposal.</li> <li>• The proposal of the name change was driven by the new trend in the discipline.</li> <li>• Laura shared the Department of International Studies is changing its name to the Department of Global Studies to better reflect the interdisciplinary and global nature of the field. The current name causes confusion and does not accurately represent the department's curriculum and faculty expertise. Laura, the department chair, provides details on the rationale behind the name change and the diverse backgrounds of the faculty.</li> <li>• A concern is raised about potential overlap with a track called Global and Regional Studies offered by the Geography Department, and Suzanne and Laura agree to work on resolving any potential issues before the next meeting.</li> </ul>	Laura Ceia
2:48PM	<p><b>10. Proposal for the discontinuance of the Antelope Valley Engineering Program (AVEP), <u>First reading</u>. AVEP is a self-support degree completion program offered in partnership with CPaCE for the BS in Mechanical Engineering and BS in Electrical Engineering at an external site.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will moved and Jesse seconded to review the proposal.</li> <li>• Antonella led a meeting discussing the discontinuation of the Antelope Valley programs in electrical and mechanical engineering, which have been unsuccessful due to low enrollment and lack of support from the Air Force Research Lab.</li> <li>• The program was initially launched in 2011 in the City of Lancaster near the Air Force Research Lab joint with CPaCE.</li> </ul>	Jalal Torabzadeh, Ebrahim Amiri & Antonella Sciortino.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The last cohort is set to graduate at the end of the semester (Fall 2024). Although the program no longer exists, students can still take classes and graduate (no impacts to existing students, but no longer admitting new students).</li> <li>• The Air Force supported one full-time director of this program, and was separated prior.</li> <li>• Jesse requested for the financial impacts of removing both programs, which Antonella will provide during the second reading.</li> </ul>	
<b>2:54PM</b>	<b>11. Proposal for a new 'Certificate in Los Angeles,' First Reading.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting also discussed the introduction of a new certificate in Los Angeles, which aims to provide interdisciplinary learning opportunities for honors students.</li> <li>• The plan has been implemented since 2011, but no formal curriculum approval is processed.</li> <li>• No new course proposed or required for this new proposed certificate.</li> <li>• The council members raised concerns about the funding for faculty and the potential impact on other programs. Sarah shared UHP has aware of the burden to the faculty and UHP is working with Foundation for \$125k support, so each honor mentor receives \$500 for supervision of one honor thesis.</li> </ul>	<b>Sandra Perez and AVP Kerry Johnson</b>
<b>3:05PM</b>	<b>12. CSU Budget and/or CSU Budget Request Updates, if any.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No updates.</li> </ul>	<b>AVP Kara Perkins</b>
<b>3:09PM</b>	<b>13. Adjourn</b>	