Riverside City College Academic Senate
May 4, 2026 • 3:00 - 5:00 PM • Hall of Fame

3:00 I. Call to Order at 3:00 pm, quorum met

Roll Call

Academic Senate Officers (Term ending 2026)
President: Jo Scott-Coe
Vice President: Star Taylor
Secretary-Treasurer: Megan Bottoms

Department Senators (Term ending 2026)
Art: Bryan Keene- Not present
Chemistry: Leo Truttmann
Cosmetology: Rebecca Kessler
Counseling: Sal Soto- Not present
Dance and Theatre: Jason Buuck
Economics/Geography/Political Science: Sean Pries
Kinesiology: Jim Elton
Nursing Education: Lee Nelson
Physical Science: Aaron Sappenfield
School of Education & Teacher Preparation: Kayla Henry

Associate Faculty Senator (Term ending 2026)
Lindsay Weiler -Not present

Department Senators (Term ending 2027)
Applied Technology: Patrick Scullin
Behavioral Science: Eddie Perez – Not present
Business, Law & CIS: Skip Berry
Communication Studies: Lucretia Rose
English: Christine Sandoval
History/Philosophy/Humanities/Ethnic Studies: Daniel Borses
Library & Learning Resources: Sally Ellis
Life Sciences: Gregory Russell
Mathematics: Mary Legner
Music: Steve Mahpar
World Languages: Huda Aljord- Not present

Ex-Officio Senators
TLLC: Lashonda Carter- Not present
ASC: Jacquie Lesch
EPOC: Wendy McKeen
GEMQLC: Virginia White
RDASLC: Patrick Scullin

SAS LC: Melissa Harman -Not present
Curriculum: Kelly Douglass – Not present
Parliamentarian: Sal Soto- Not present

RCCD Faculty Association
Araceli Calderon

Administrative Representatives
College President: Eric Bishop (Interim)
VP Academic Affairs: Lynn Wright
VP Business Services: Elia Blount
VP Planning and Development: Kristi Woods
VP Student Services: FeRita Carter

ASRCC Representative
Latiesha Williams- Not present

Recorder of Minutes
Sydney Minter

Guests
Micherri Wiggs- Dean LHSS
Courtney Carter- Counseling
James Rocillo- Music
Joan Gibbons- Anderson, DE at Large
Janet Hill- Business/CIS/DE Committee
Elena Kobzeva- World Language/DE Committee
Mona Jazayeri- Life Sciences
John Adkins- FPA
Lisa Martin- Counseling
Monique Greene- Faculty development
Carla Reible- ESL/English-Noncredit

3:05 II. Approval of the Agenda

M/S/C: (Taylor/Henry) approved by consensus with a correction under "New Business VIII item E" the date needed to be corrected for a typographical error. The date should read May 11 not May 22.

3:05 III. Approval of the Minutes April 6; April 20 (tabled)

M/S/C: (Borses/Nelson) Approved by consensus April 6

3:08 IV. Public Comments

- No public comments

3:18 V. Liaison Reports

A. RCCD Faculty Association

a. Faculty negotiations have concluded, and there will be a town hall on Zoom to discuss the contract
b. The Faculty Association is in the IOI process, and there have been several issues with IOIs. Professor Calderon will meet with Dr. Lynn Wright to gain a better understanding of the IOI process.
c. About 80% of faculty have finished the cybersecurity training, but some—mostly part-time faculty—have been locked out of Canvas for not completing it.
d. The search for our next chancellor is underway, and Araceli Calderon and Rhonda Taube will be on the committee. Angela will also be on the committee to represent part-time faculty.
e. The Faculty Association elections have concluded. Thank you to everyone who voted
f. A call for a PAC chair is out. Two or three board members are up for re-election, so the Faculty Association is supporting them with advertising and reporting.

B. College President or designee

a. RCC's Chancellor's cabinet met with UCR's Chancellor's cabinet to discuss ways to shorten time-to-completion and the connection among RCCD, our three colleges, and UCR. They discussed opportunities for dual enrollment with UCR, such as 2+2 and 2+3 agreements, to help us be more intentional in connecting students.
b. Happy Teachers Appreciation Week!

C. ASRCC Representative - Not present

3:30 VI. Committee or Council Updates

A. Accreditation co-chair, Jacquie Lesch or designee, will share the final draft of the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) with a recommendation for approval (third read and action

a. This is the third review of the ISER Report, and the Accreditation Team is seeking approval. Jacquie Lesch presented key highlights and themes across all four standards:
   - The institutional context section includes comprehensive data from the broader Inland Empire service area, covering demographics, educational attainment, and high-impact career opportunities.
   - Standard 1 focuses on the college's mission and effectiveness, showing strong alignment between mission, planning, resource allocation, and outcomes assessment.
   - Standard 2 addresses student success, emphasizing an integrated, equity-minded approach to teaching, learning, student support, and engagement.
   - Standard 3 covers infrastructure and resources, demonstrating alignment between financial/facilities planning and the college mission.

- Standard 4 centers on governance, highlighting transparency, stakeholder engagement, and alignment of structures with college mission and priorities.

b. The team continues to finalize evidence, stories, appendices, and documentation links for each section.

M/S/C: (Nelson/Legner) The ISER Report is accepted as it is presented with an understanding of the final polishing- approved by consensus

B. DE faculty co-chair, James Rocillo, or designee will introduce a proposed resolution regarding the committee’s status (first read and discussion)

a. The Distance Education (DE) Faculty co-chair is proposing a resolution to amend the RCC Academic Senate bylaws, elevating the DE committee from a subcommittee to a standing committee of the Senate, with representation in academic standards.
b. Since COVID, online instruction at RCC has grown from 9% to over 50%, making DE a critical area. Currently, the DE committee acts only in an advisory capacity, limiting faculty input and hindering progress compared to sister campuses.
c. The proposal follows standard bylaw language for subcommittees and recommends establishing a liaison to the Academic Standards Committee, with a review of current representation and consultation with Kelly Douglas. The goal is to enhance faculty influence and decision-making in distance education.

C. Faculty Development co-chair, Monique Greene or designee, will present a committee update with information about a faculty survey to conduct a professional learning needs assessment (information and discussion)

a. Dr. Natalie Vazquez and Dr. Monique Greene are leading a needs assessment, in collaboration with Institutional Effectiveness, to develop a new institutional professional learning plan—the first comprehensive plan since 2016, aiming for implementation by the fall semester.
b. The assessment will identify institutional needs and capacity across employee groups, aligning with the BEST Strategic Plan, Student Equity Plan, and Vision 2030 metrics. Using Dr. Vazquez’s Professional Learning Hierarchy of Needs model, the assessment covers five areas: foundational resources, program accessibility, engagement and motivation, continuous learning, and innovation/leadership.
c. The anonymous 10-minute Microsoft Form survey will be released this week and will remain open through May. Feedback will be gathered in the fall to inform professional learning opportunities for all constituent groups.

D. EPOC faculty co-chair Wendy McKeen or designee will present the Fall 2025 prioritization process results for RCCAS ratification (information + action)

a. EPOC released the approvals for items funded and not funded in Dr. Bishop's prioritization process. Some areas had one-time funds.

b. Some of the items were in the past program review, and we are engaging in conversation. An RCC email was sent out, so this information should not be new.
   M/S/C: (Sandoval/Ellis) - approved by consensus to receive and file the prioritization process

3:35 VII. Ongoing Business

A. RCCAS will receive any updates regarding IETTC (information)
   a. Last week, President Scott-Coe met with Vice President Elia Blount, and there was some confusion about the phase 1 proposal. Some of the items in the document differed from the original. A follow-up meeting will occur on May 5th to discuss the phase 1 differences
   b. The process to recruit an Associate Dean of IETTC, which had previously stalled, has begun; however, Human Resources has been contacted to reconvene the process. The committee has been adjusted and is much more representative, and is more district-focused to ensure it reflects RCC and the programs of the future.

B. President Scott-Coe or designee will facilitate a follow-up discussion regarding the Element 451 Early Alert/Case Management demonstration (discussion)
   a. Many faculties attended the Element 451 Early Alert pilot demonstration, raising numerous questions—especially about its integration with Canvas. The presentation was thorough but did not clarify whether Element 451 would be fully integrated or just linked within Canvas.
   b. Faculty can opt out of the AI component and generate reports themselves, but if the AI option is chosen, customization is at the campus level and requires agreement from all faculty. Concerns were raised about maintaining consistent student support after referral.
   c. Moreno Valley College has a workgroup exploring the system's use, and while Element 451 is mainly intended for counselors and advisors, several questions remain. There is a recommendation to form a workgroup to further discuss its implementation and address outstanding concerns.

4:25 VIII. New Business

A. President Scott-Coe or designee will share the CCC Memo about Regulatory Revisions to Academic and Progress Probation and Dismissal (information)
   a. The state is moving to change academic probation and dismissal language, introducing "academic or progress restart" to replace terms associated with incarceration.
   b. This change will be managed at the district level, requiring updates to documents, catalogs, and handbooks.
   c. Counselors will play a key role in the transition, with a compliance deadline of October 14, 2026. Planning for implementation and necessary adjustments is underway.

B. RCC CPL lead, Lisa Martin, will share the official role description for the ASCCC CPL Liaison, with a proposal for RCCAS to make an appointment (information, discussion, and possible action)
    - This position has a yearly stipend of $500 for each of the major terms.
        - Requesting to be the CPL liaison at Riverside City College
          M/S/C: (Elton/Legner) to approve Lisa Martin as the CPL Liaison

C. RCCD Noncredit Committee Chair, Carla Reible, or designee will introduce and seek feedback on the draft job description for Non-Credit faculty lead (information + discussion)
    a. RCCD's non-credit committee is working to make non-credit courses more effective and accessible, especially as an HSI and BSI institution that promotes equity and stackable certificates.
    b. They have mirrored ESL courses to make it easier for students to enter, regardless of residency or financial aid status. The committee aims to shift control of noncredit programs from the district to the college level, allowing RCC to better coordinate and grow its offerings—currently about 40 noncredit certificates, many online.
    c. Two key positions are proposed: a faculty coordinator and an educational advisor to support students transitioning from adult education to RCC.
    d. The committee seeks Academic Senate feedback on proposed plans and resource allocation, and emphasizes better integration between curriculum and noncredit programs.

M:S:C: (Henry/Truttman) to extend the meeting to 5:10pm

D. On behalf of the RCC Sustainability Collective, Senator Gregory Russell or designee will review a proposal for Leaf Course designations (information and discussion)
    a. The committee is exploring ways to integrate sustainability ("green") elements into the RCC curriculum, inspired by models at other colleges such as Mt. SAC, LA Community College, and the San Diego Community College District.
    b. Faculty interested in a LEAF (sustainability) course designation must complete a 6-hour, self-paced training developed by the Sustainability Committee, with the designation noted in the course calendar. This would provide students with identifiable sustainability-focused course options, aligning with Vision 2030 and potentially offering recognition (such as a graduation cord) for completing multiple LEAF courses.
    c. Key questions remain about the required sustainability content percentage, whether the designation follows the course or instructor, and inclusivity across departments. The next steps include developing the training and coordinating with Faculty Development, Curriculum, and other relevant committees.

E. Ratification of new and ongoing appointments: President Scott-Coe or designee will present candidates for the following committees or councils (action)
    a. Division representation results to be ratified at the June 8 RCCAS retreat
    b. Department representation results to be ratified at the June 8 RCCAS retreat

c. District Committee appointments: nominee statements due May 11 to be voted upon at the June 8 RCCAS retreat
d. We will accept and record election results at our final meeting on June 8th.

4:30 IX. Officer Reports

A. Vice President

- Priority registration begins this week, so please remind your students who qualify to check their registration dates.
- The withdrawal date for full-term courses is May 15th. I hope faculty and their departments are having conversations with students throughout the semester to keep them up to date about their progress
- Remind your students about the ASRCC survey that went out with a ballot. It was pertaining to ENGL C1000/1A.
- LHSS hosting an event on May 7th during college hour in BLCIS 114A/B
- The Welcome Center is hosting a free Immigration Legal Clinic on May 7th from 10am-3pm
- Reminder email went out last week for Academic Senate leadership. Only 98 of the 269 faculty here have voted, so please encourage colleagues to vote.
- The part-time faculty representative ballot was distributed yesterday, and a reminder email will go out next.
- Please nudge colleagues to get involved with division representation on different committees. If they have any questions of curiosity, encourage them to reach out to Academic Senate leadership or the chair of the committee.
- Book orders for summer are due. If you are using a book, please report it to the bookstore so students who have vouchers can use them.

B. Secretary-Treasurer

a. Distinguished Faculty Lecture is next Tuesday, May 12th, during college hour in the Hall of Fame. We want to put on a good show, so please come and listen.
b. Reminder that we have a special meeting next Wednesday, May 13th, from 3-5 in Kane 224. This is the only agenda item we will hear about the methodology for the college's SOS and SUS (space optimization and utilization) studies. We need Senate eyes and ears on this. Also, please encourage other departments or division members to attend.
c. Our Senate leadership team will be representing Academic Senate in conversations with RCC presidential finalist at the end of May. We will agendize time at the next meeting for faculty to share concerns we can make sure to bring up.
d. District Committee nominees' statements will be included in the agenda materials for our May 18th meeting, with voting to be at our June 8th retreat. Any names and nomination statements are needed by Friday, May 11th at 5pm.

C. President

- President Scott-Coe attended a joint cabinet meeting between UCR and RCCD, representing District Academic Senate. The focus of the gathering was on how we can better facilitate joint advocacy and organization to benefit students and foster collaboration, including potential cross-pollination between faculty within disciplines and perhaps the senate. More to come on this.

- The ASCCC final resolution packet was not released until last week. Look for it in the agenda packet on May 18th.
- The high- flex conversation was on the agenda for our District Academic Senate last week but had to be tabled for the next District meeting due to time considerations.
- The updated Board Policy on CPL requested at District Academic Senate and local senates last month was accepted by the district last week and will now be forwarded to SSPC and the chancellor
- District Academic Senate bylaws were approved at last weeks meeting.
- Independent study AP moving to the Chancellor's cabinet.

4:45 X. Open Hearing

- Remind EPOC faculty co-chair position is up for re-election
- Problematic issue, is that the other two colleges are using a different definition of ZTC, which is far more problematic issue that a different definition of LTC
- Our classified association union had a fundraiser last week, f you want to make a donation, please contact Stephen Ashby

4:45 XI. Learn, Share, Do

- A lot and we are going to do all of it!

5:00 XII. Adjourn at 5:10pm

M/S/C: (Bottoms/Borses) approved by consent