

**Butte College
Academic Senate Minutes
October 7, 2026
SAS 360**

Members Present: Irma Gonzalez Cuadros – President Kim Kirkwood - VP Deb McCabe – Treasurer Jessica Jackson – Secretary Tommy Cox Gary Harris Laurel Hartley Craig Kielb		Melissa Melendrez Steven Niedbala Stephen Solano Kathy Teagarden Eduardo Diaz (Student Senate, TGE) Damian Martinez (Student Senate, CTE) Andrea Walters (Classified Senate)
Members Absent: Daniel Burke Dillon Carroll Tia Germar Iris Ramirez Diane Wagster Penne Andrea White	Visitors: Julio Delgado Kelsey Harrington Phillip Manning Patrick McDougall Melissa Pearson Erik Shearer Tiffany Trull Kathy Turner Jess Vickery	

I. Call to Order: President Irma Gonzalez Cuadros called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

II. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Laurel Hartley, seconded by Tommy Cox, to approve the agenda.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Academic Senate Meeting Minutes, September 16th, 2026

A motion was made by Laurel Hartley, seconded by Tommy Cox, to approve the minutes as submitted.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: Stephen Solano

IV. Public Comments:

A. None.

V. Consent Agenda

A. Committee Appointments

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros described the consent agenda.

The consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

VI. Updates

A. Current Committee Vacancies

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros described the current committee vacancies.

Some senators asked questions and provided comments.

B. Accessibility Resolution

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros described the accessibility resolution.

Some senators asked questions and provided comments.

VII. New Business

A. Student Enrollment Management Plan

1. Erik Shearer referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Erik Shearer provided background information.
3. Erik Shearer described the Student Enrollment Management Plan.
4. Erik Shearer provided timeline information for the feedback and adoption process.

Some senators and guests asked questions and provided comments.

B. Institutional Effectiveness Manual

1. Jess Vickery referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Jess Vickery provided background information.
3. Jess Vickery described the Institutional Effectiveness Manual.

4. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided additional information.

Some senators asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Tommy Cox, seconded by Gary Harris, to divide up the constituent feedback on the IE Manual as per Irma Gonzalez Cuadros' recommended schedule and page divisions.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

C. Google Gemini and Notebook

1. Phillip Manning referenced screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Phillip Manning provided background information.
3. Phillip Manning provided information about Google Gemini and Notebook.
4. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided additional information.

Some senators and guests asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Deb McCabe, seconded by Gary Harris, to ask the Academic Technology Committee (ATC) to look at the information related to the four listed bullet points along with the notes and ask them to come back to the senate with information in two meetings from now.

A friendly amendment was suggested by Melissa Melendrez, which was accepted, to also provide information about how many faculty are using AI.

Some senators asked questions and provided comments.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

D. AP 4020 – Program and Curriculum Development

1. Patrick McDougall referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Patrick McDougall provided background information.
3. Patrick McDougall asked the senate for any feedback.

Some senators and guests asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Tommy Cox, seconded by Craig Kielb, to forward this on to the IESC.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Equal Employment Opportunity Plan, 2027- 2030

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Melissa Pearson thanked the senate for allowing Irma Gonzalez Cuadros to work on this over the summer.
4. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate to provide any feedback.

Some senators and guests asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Deb McCabe, seconded by Tommy Cox, to forward this on to the College Council.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

B. Strategic Initiatives

i. Strategic Initiative Six

- a. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
- b. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
- c. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate for any received feedback.

Senators provided feedback accordingly.

Some senators asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Tommy Cox, seconded by Laurel Hartley, to allow Irma Gonzalez Cuadros to provide related information and comments to the College Council.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

C. AP 4051 Evaluation of External Coursework and Course Substitutions

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros asked the senate to provide any received feedback.

Senators provided feedback accordingly.

Some senators and guests asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Laurel Hartley, seconded by Tommy Cox, to forward this on to the IESC Committee.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

D. AP 4030 Academic Freedom

1. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros referenced the screen to assist with review and discussion.
2. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros provided background information.
3. Deb McCabe provided additional background information.

Some senators and guests asked questions and provided comments.

A motion was made by Gary Harris, seconded by Jessica Jackson, to extend the meeting by ten minutes.

Motion Passed

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

A motion was made by Laurel Hartley, seconded by Kathy Teagarden, to table this item to the next meeting.

Motion Passed

Opposed: Craig Kielb

Abstentions: Deb McCabe

IX. Reports

A. WeCare@Butte - NA

- B. Classified Senate
 - 1. Andrea Walters provided Classified Senate updates regarding:
 - a. Spirit Week swag.
 - b. Bountiful Butte Harvest Festival.
- C. Student Senate
 - 1. Eduardo Diaz provided Student Senate TGE updates regarding:
 - a. Engagement
 - b. Approval of club grants.
- D. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
 - 1. Gary Harris has nothing to report.
- E. CTE Liaison
 - 1. Kim Kirkwood provided CTE Liaison updates regarding:
 - a. K-14 CTE alignment.
 - b. Needed participation.
 - c. Extended deadline for restorative articles.
 - d. Upcoming Area A meeting.
- F. Vice President – Kim Kirkwood
 - 1. Nothing to report.
- G. President – Irma Gonzalez Cuadros
 - 1. [Academic Senate President's Report 10-7-2026](#)
- X. Future Business
 - A. SPA Committee Charter and Bylaws
 - B. Equivalency Committee Charter and Bylaws
 - C. ATC Charter and Bylaws
 - D. Safety Committee
 - E. AP 7211 Faculty Service Areas, Minimum Qualifications, and Equivalencies
 - F. NAPGRA
- XI. Next Meeting
 - A. October 21, 2026, from 3:00 – 4:45 pm in SAS 360

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

- XII. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.