



Program Research and Recommendation MINUTES May 11, 2026

Members Present

Irma Gonzalez Cuadros, Co-Chairperson
Dr. Robert White, Co-Chairperson
John Dahlgren, Drafting
Colin Ferguson, Physical Sciences
Yasminn Freitas, Student Representative
Jessica Jackson, Articulation Officer

Kim Kirkwood, Academic Senate VP Patrick
McDougall, Curriculum Chair
Brian Murphy, Director, Institutional Research
Luke Sathrum, Computer Science
Erik Shearer, Asst Supt/VP Instruction
Bobby Walden, Counselor

Members Absent

Teresa Doyle, Dean

Guests Present

Tom Williams, Dept. Chair, CNST Instructor
Don Robinson, Dean
Phillip Manning, Drafting Instructor

Jennifer Charles-Tollerup, Agriculture Instructor
Jennifer Bryant, Engineering Instructor
Kelly Womack, Manufacturing Instructor

AGENDA

1. **Agenda Adoption - 1 minute**

Request for unanimous consent to approve agenda; M/S/P

2. **Minutes Approval - 1 minute**

A. April 13, 2026:

Motion to approve minutes; M/S/P

3. **General Announcements - 3 minutes**

Program Research and Recommendation members are invited to make announcements to the committee

- None

4. **Public Comments - 3 minutes**

Members of the public are invited to comment on items not on the agenda

- None

5. **Consent Agenda**

- None

6. **Information Item(s) - 2 minutes**

- None

7. **Action Item(s)**

A. **New Educational Program(s)**

1. Application PRR New Program Agricultural Education

2. Application PRR New Program Agricultural Crop Science
3. Application PRR New Program Agricultural Media and Communications
4. Application PRR New Program Regenerative Agriculture
 - The structure of degrees offered, and newly proposed degrees was discussed. The dept. plans to align all degrees to the CSUC under Cal-GETC. The question was asked about additional degrees in catalog and students declaring one major but how many courses are shared within the new degrees and can be housed in the larger degree? There is quite a bit of commonality and the department worked to offer more courses here to minimize students' needs from CSUC. The concern was raised that it's challenging for counseling to have multiple and specific programs that can cause confusion and indecision for students. There isn't enough student flow to support four new programs unless the first semester is the base for all and then moves students into a specific program in terms 2-4. Media will be represented through courses JOUR 2 and CMST 9.
 - Motion to block all four. M/S/P, no abstentions.
 - Motion to approve this for workflow 1. M/S/P 4:50pm
5. Application PRR New Program Heavy Equipment Operator Technician
6. AS Degree in Mechanized Agriculture
7. Certificate of Achievement in Heavy Equipment Operator Technician
8. Certificate of Achievement in Mechanized Agriculture
 - Level 1 and 2 certificates will combine into a third certificate. No changes in faculty needs, equipment. A grant to hire lab tech for the larger labs has been received. Current needs in CNST in the community have shifted the focus from AG to construction and roadwork. JJ – Enrollment affects. Prerequisites will be enforced.
 - Block 5 – 8. M/S/P. Move forward to Workflow 1. M/S/P 4:55pm
9. Advanced Manufacturing PRR Report.
 - Advanced Manufacturing instructor gave presentation on the Labor Report and Market Research.
 - Part 1: Reduce units in the program, utilize existing courses, articulate with CSUC. Part 2: Lower unit program, add classes, refer to presentation. Create a 21-unit cert, a 2nd year 18-unit cert that allows students to move to work or continue and transfer to CSUC.
 - Transformation: articulate MFG 10, 20, DFT 2, 4, with CSUC AMAR 160, 260, MECH 100, 200. Create new ENGR course to articulate with CSUC MECH 140.
 - The current program is being discontinued and creating two new ones. 1st and 2nd cohort students will graduate this May, and no courses were offered last year so there is no impact to students. Butte College can pursue articulation with other schools if their program aligns well with our programs. DFT and Adv MFG do have courses that stack and lead to certificates. It was recommended to formalize the discontinuation and create a "teach-out" plan for students. The concern regarding 8 unit courses articulating to 3-4 units at CSUC was raised. During revitalization and updating CORs, units will be addressed. A multi-year budget is requested
 - Public Comments: 6 dual enrollment courses at CHS and it has students ready to funnel into our programs. There's a need to focus on the certificates that will bring people into manufacturing for the small shops that don't use Calc and other advanced courses or lasers. Multiple community members spoke in favor of the program.
 - Motion to recommend revitalization. Passed, one abstention. 4:24p
10. Application for Noncredit NC-COC Manufacturing Fundamentals
 - Motion to table. M/S/P 4:59
11. Application for New Program Utility Line Clearance Arborist Training
 - Currently lives with The Training Place wants to move it to a program. Will require new course work and eventually a Noncredit NC-COC.
 - Motion to move to workflow 2 (PAT team). M/S/P 5:03.

8. **Discussion Item(s)**

A. Future Meeting Dates

- TBD

9. **Adjournment**

5:04