

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2026
1:00 – 3:00 PM
Virtual Only - Zoom

Attendance

Officers Present:

- Dr. Kelly O'Keefe, President (Workforce)
- Dennis Just, President-Elect (Sciences)
- Vivian Knight, Vice President (Business, IT, Hospitality Leadership)
- Sarah Kirchoff, Governing Board Representative (AIT)
- Jane Hall, Secretary (Business, IT, Hospitality Leadership)

Senators Present:

- Allison Stacy (Math)
- Sean Mendoza (Business/IT and Adjunct Faculty Representative)
- Maggie Golston (Communications)
- Greg Loumeau (Communications)
- Padma Nair (Sciences)
- Sarah Robinson (Education)
- Caroline Torres (Math)
- Emily Besich (Library)
- Sol Gomez (Library)
- Rita Lennon (Center of Excellence Health Professions)
- Julie Andrews (Education)
- Aaron Kostko (Social Sciences & Humanities)
- Elliot Mead (Communications)
- Liz Rangel-Arriola (PimaOnline)
- Cythnia Howe (Communications)
- Michael Nolan (Visual Arts)
- Alexandra Armstrong (Science)
- Matej Boguszak (Math)

Senators Absent:

- Mark Frederick (Adult Basic Ed)
- Michael Nolan (Visual Arts)
- John Gerard (Applied Tech)
- Anna Nedlin (Communications)

- Stacy Cousins (Health Professions)
- Diane Lussier (Math)
- Crystal McKenna (Science)
- Christina Schemp (Health Professions)
- Nikki Robinson (Health Professions)
- Manal Tafish (Adult Basic Ed)
- Denise Reilly (CRSS)
- Adrian Snellgrove (Aviation)

Guests who signed in:

- Dr. Ian Roark
- Kate Schmidt
- Sam Overton
- Denise Reilly (Past President)
- Erich Saphir
- Dionne Billick
- Jeff Gabbitas
- Lisa Jurkowitz
- Suzanne Desjardin
- Michelle Tong
- Leigh Ann Rangel
- Kimlisa Salazar Duchicela
- Chelsea James
- Ashley Coleman
- Todd Canale
- Amanda Abens
- David Parker
- Terry Filipowicz
- Mary (Mollie) Minke
- Angela Hughes
- Dr. Jeff Thies

1. Introductions (1:00 – 1:10 PM)

a. Welcome and introductions – Faculty Senate President Dr. Kelly O’Keefe

- [Opening video](#) - The meeting opened with a brief video showcasing efforts to build early excitement for this year’s two commencements and encourage students to remain engaged through the full ceremony. Faculty and staff are invited to record and upload short celebratory videos via the provided QR code, which will be forwarded for posting on college-approved social media.

- The meeting recognized the passing of Adult Education Faculty Senator Mark Frederick, and a moment of silence was observed in his memory. Service information and optional donation links were shared in the agenda.
 - [Service](#)
 - [Donations](#)

b. Review and approval of December minutes

- December Faculty Senate minutes will be emailed to Senators, with approval requested via a Google Form. Minutes will also be posted on the D2L Faculty Senate page for review.

c. Requests for Agenda Modification/Executive Session - No requests made.

d. Requests for Open Forum

- **Faculty Emeritus Nominations:** Nominations were presented for Amy Cramer (by Erich Saphir) and Dr. Kenneth Vorndran (by Samantha Overton), recognizing their long-standing service, leadership, scholarship, and impact on student success. Additional nominations will be accepted, with voting scheduled for next month.
- **Badges Pilot Update:** An update was provided on the college's badging system pilot, and interested faculty were encouraged to contact Dionne Billick for participation details.

e. Request for Faculty Engagement

- Several opportunities for faculty involvement were shared, including Professional Development Subcommittee participation, workgroups on late registration access and Faculty Senate Charter review, and the Desert View HS/Pima College Program Showcase Fair. Interest forms and presentation/committee sign-up links are available in the agenda.

2. Reports (1:10 – 1:35 PM)

- [Provost Report](#) – Dr. Ian Roark
- [President Report](#) – Dr. Kelly O'Keefe
- [BOG Report](#) - Sarah Kirchoff
- [PCCEA Report](#) - Makyla Hays
- TLC, [Adjunct](#) - Written Reports

3. Business (1:35 – 3:00 PM)

a. Budget Development - Dr. David Bea

- Board Study Session (Feb. 17): Preview of budget and GO bond election.
- Expense Reductions: Progress toward \$4M target; ~\$2.4M identified so far.
- Personnel Cost Pressures: ~\$10M projected increase (benefits and salaries).
- Preliminary Compensation: Minimum 2.5% increase plus experience; ~3% adjunct load rate increase (pending approval).
- Revenue Strategy: Property tax growth and tuition adjustments; no state increase expected.
- Tuition Proposal: \$2.50 per credit in-state increase (~2.5%); updates to Differential A & B for high-cost programs.
- GO Bond: Potential refinancing and deferred maintenance; operational relief beginning FY28/29.
- Questions addressed regarding differentials, transparency, scholarships, and timing.
- **Next Steps:** Budget and GO bond proposals expected to move to the March Board of Governors meeting for consideration.

b. Division Spotlight – Communications and Social Science & Humanities

Presenters: Dr. Lisa Jurkowitz, Dr. Jeff Gabbitas, Leigh Ann Rangel

- Highlights included [Communications](#) and [Social Science & Humanities](#).
- **IA-ESL Program:** Serves about 100 students annually through a credit-bearing, financial-aid eligible sequence that builds academic English skills and prepares students for Writing 101-level coursework.
- **Translation & Interpretation Studies:** A 26-credit HyFlex program with strong certification pass rates, secured internships for all students, and high employer recognition of graduates.
- **Social Sciences & Humanities Division:** A large division offering multiple degree and certificate pathways, announcing Denise Riley as Acting Division Dean, future separation of Education into its own division, and the upcoming opening of a new hub at West Campus.

c. [Graduation Split by Program](#)

Presenter: Dr. Jeff Thies

- An update was provided on plans to split commencement into two ceremonies at TCC (10:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.) to accommodate growth, with a draft, AI-supported proposal outlining participating divisions and programs. Feedback is being requested on the structure, faculty will select a ceremony aligned with their students' programs, and concerns about access, timing, and venues were noted as planning continues toward finalization.

d. [TLC - Pima Teaching Competencies & Slides](#)

Presenters: Dr. Tinklenberg & Adam Baldry

- An update was shared on the draft Pima Teaching Competencies, which define five core areas of effective, equitable, and high-quality teaching and reflect more than a year of broad, collegewide faculty input. Faculty are invited to join a faculty-led group to help develop an accompanying teaching philosophy, and next steps include advisory board discussions and seeking Faculty Senate and Provost approval later this semester.

e. [New LMS for OED training](#)

Presenter: Joey Spray

- Spring College-Directed Training will be assigned to full-time faculty beginning February 9 through the new MyLearning (Percipio) LMS, with four weeks to complete the required modules, while adjunct faculty will complete training in the fall. Training is accessed via the MyLearning widget in MyPima, and questions may be directed to OED@pima.edu.

f. AERC Updates

Presenter: Dr. Aubrey Conover, Matej Boguszak

- No report

g. AP/BP and Improvement Process Deliverables, AP/BP Review

Presenter: David Parker, Michelle Tong, Dr. Jeff Thies

- An update was provided on multiple AP/BP items currently in the February 2026 21-day review, largely related to baccalaureate planning and policy alignment, with faculty encouraged to continue submitting comments. Highlights included revisions to graduation terminology (“graduating with distinction”), updates to the Additional Location AP, creation of a new Academic Calendar AP, planned improvements to the AP/SOP review process, and a rewrite of the Digital Accessibility AP to align with new federal ADA and WCAG 2.1 AA standards, including a phased implementation timeline through April 24.

4. Announcements and Next Steps

- **Commencement Split Feedback:** Feedback is requested on the structural logic of the proposed two-ceremony commencement split, with final decisions needed soon to begin recruiting two graduation speakers.
- **Request to Join Subcommittees:** Faculty are invited to join a faculty-led group (via the Faculty Development Subcommittee) to help develop an overarching teaching philosophy aligned with the Teaching Competencies.

- **Request for Feedback:** Faculty are encouraged to review the Teaching Competencies webpage and submit feedback and examples of effective practices using the QR code/linked forms (contact: pcc-tlc@pima.edu).
 - **Spring College-Directed Training:** Full-time faculty will be assigned required training in MyLearning (Percipio) beginning February 9, with four weeks to complete (through March 16).
 - **Digital Accessibility AP 2.01.02 – Timeline:** February–March: update AP, develop SOPs, educate employees, inventory content, offer learning sessions, and begin audits; April 1: new web content must meet requirements; April 15: grandfathered documents marked as archived/preexisting; April 24: federal compliance deadline.
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5. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:02 PM by Dr. Kelly O’Keefe

Minutes submitted by:

Jane Hall, Faculty Senate Secretary and Faculty Senator for Business, IT, Hospitality Leadership