



PROFESSIONAL SENATE MEETING MINUTES

1/16/2026

10:00 AM MDST | LRC 121 (Flex Room)

ATTENDANCE

- **Officers Present:** David Castro, Juan Hernandez, Sarahi Diaz
- **Senators Present:** Keegan Bain, Vanessa Borunda, Carmen Short, Chris Shuster
- **In Person Attendees:** 4
- **Virtual Attendees:** 10

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Call to Order at 10:20 AM by Juan Hernandez

- Professional Senate meeting was delayed due a shelter in place order.

II. Approval of Agenda

- David Castro presented the meeting agenda.
- Motion to approve: Vanessa Borunda
- Seconded by: Keegan Bain
- Outcome: Approved

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- David Castro presented the previous meeting minutes.
- Motion to Approve: Keegan Bain
- Seconded by: Chris Shuster
- Outcome: Approved

IV. Updates

- **Senate Housekeeping**
 - Rules and Etiquette: David Castro reviewed the rules and etiquette maintain decorum during senate meetings. He reminded senate members to refrain from singling out one specific individual or department during meetings. Any persistent issues with a department or individual should be reported to HR
 - Roles: David Castro reviewed the roles of the Senators with the senate members.
 - New Senators: Elections for the 4 vacant senator positions will begin in March 2026 and the elected individuals will be sworn in by April 2026. They will begin their official term in July 2026.

- NISOD AoE
 - The NISOD nominations form was completed and presented by David Castro. Unfortunately, the funds were not secured to send a member of the professional staff for the 2026 NISOD Awards.
- Lunch N' Bowl Survey Results
 - The survey results for the Lunch N' Bowl were presented. Senators and officers will begin plans for the use of the 2026 Professional Senate Funds. Suggestions and ideas are welcome.
- Committees
 - Alt. Work Schedule: A vote was held to approve the creation of the Alternate Work Schedule Committee.
Outcome: Unanimous approval.
Kim Biggs volunteered to chair the committee and will be recruiting 4 other members from different departments.
 - Professional Senate Activities: A vote was held to approve the creation of the Professional Senate Activities Committee.
Outcome: Unanimous Approval.
The senate is currently accepting volunteers for this committee.

V. Open Discussion

- Recognition Section
 - David Castro presented the idea of having a recognition section added to the agenda of the Professional Senate meetings. During this section of the meeting supervisors can praise a member of the professional senate for their work. Kim Biggs suggested bringing this idea to the campus wide meetings and including the Support and Faculty Senates. Staci Barrios suggested teaming up with Martha Stabb and providing those being recognized with some campus merchandise. This topic will be brought up again at a future Senate meeting.
- Open Floor:
 - Michelle Williams asked which areas have vacant Senator seats. The vacant seats include 2 seats for Student affairs, 1 seat for Academic Affairs and 1 seat for Business Affairs.

VI. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Vanessa Borunda
- Seconded by: Carmen Short
- Vote to Adjourn: Unanimous
- Meeting Adjourned at 11:01 AM

*Please watch the video recording of the Professional Senate meeting [here](#) for full details on meeting topics