



PROFESSIONAL SENATE MEETING MINUTES

3/6/2026

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

ATTENDANCE

- **Officers Present:** David Castro, Sarahi Diaz
- **Senators Present:** Keegan Bain, Vanessa Borunda, Vanessa Martinez, Chris Shuster
- **In Person Attendees:** 6
- **Virtual Attendees:** 6

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Call to Order at 10:00 by David Castro

II. Approval of Agenda

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

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

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

IV. Updates

- **Recognition Section**
 - During admin council David presented the idea of a recognition section being included in the campus wide meetings and received positive feedback. The nominations form and other details are still being streamlined. David is hoping the recognition section will be implemented in July 2026.
- **Senate Funds Recommendation**
 - David met with Craig Collins, Staci Barrios, and April Lanning regarding previous purchases using the professional senate funds. Craig, Staci and April are still looking into this subject and once a list has been compiled it will be shared during a Professional Senate meeting.

- A Professional Senate Funds suggestions form has been uploaded to TEAMS.
- Senator Voting
 - Voting for the upcoming senators has opened on 3/6/2026 at 10AM. Professional staff can cast their vote using the MS form that was sent via email or it can be located on the Professional Senate Teams channel. The Vacant senator positions include: 1 Academic Affairs, 1 Business Affairs, and 2 Student Affairs. Voting will close on 4/3/2026 at 12PM. The new senators will be announced during the May 2026 Professional Senate meeting and they will officially assume their positions in July 2026.

V. Open Discussion

- Open Floor:
 - Dr. Craig Leager has been selected as the new Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs. He will assume his new role on July 1st, 2026.
 - The position of Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs is now open until 3/27/2026. Employees who qualify for this position are encouraged to apply.
 - Kim Biggs is currently looking for members for the Alternate Work Schedule Committee.
 - Activities Committee is still looking for a chair and members.
 - Heidi Franks asked if a list could be provided of who is included in the core team and what their responsibilities are.
 - Keegan Bain suggested combining the senates' web pages to a shared governance page and including Admin Council.
 - Vanessa Borunda motioned to end open floor and was seconded by Keegan Bain

VI. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Vanessa Martinez
- Seconded by: Chris Shuster
- Vote to Adjourn: Unanimous
- Meeting Adjourned at 10:18 AM

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