



## Academic Senate Meeting

February 20th, 2026 at 9:10-11 via WebEx

*Academic Senate – Connecting Colleagues, Steering Student Success*

**Present:** Dustin Abrego, Brittany Barber, Jacob Callahan, Rick Caprario, Elizabeth Clifford, Mary Clisch, Robyn Corey, Annesia Dillard, Zahra Djibrine, Lisa Dobson, Evan Falk, Joshua Galat, Bill Garlick, Courtney Geisel, Homa Ghaussi Mujtaba, Robert Halgren, Susan Hardie, Melinda Hernandez, Jessica Hester, Jamie Holcomb, Mark Kelland, Eliza Lee, Ian Leighton, Tanya McClain, Tricia McKay, Wade Merrill, Dan Mulligan, Tracy Nothnagel, Jim Owens, Charles Page, Chris Richards, Adam Richardson, Diane Roose, Joann Silsby, Steve Simonson, Diane Snyder, Sally Welch, Jeff Janowick

**Absent:** Marvin Argersinger, Laura Bishop, Chelsea Brandon, Lee Gardner, Ed Kabara, Chris MacKersie, Tamara McDiarmid, Amy Simons, Tedd Sperling, Cheyenne Wallace,

- I. Call to Order – 9:10AM
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Approved without objections.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Approved without objections.
- V. President's Report
  - a. No Senate meeting on Friday, March 6, 2026. When we built the meeting schedule this year, the Executive Committee determined we would not meet on the Friday before spring break.
  - b. Student panel at our in-person Senate meeting on Friday, April 17, 2026, at West Campus. More details (panel focus, time, and format) will be shared as we get closer. This is being organized and led by Senator's Jim Owen and Dustin Abrego.
  - c. Highlight the Academic Procedure Advisory Committee (APAC) and the role it plays in supporting student success across the College. APAC is a committee composed of faculty and administrators from all areas of the College that reviews procedures that impact student success and helps ensure we are meeting accreditation and regulatory requirements. In practical terms, APAC's work focuses on consistency, clarity, and access. The committee works to ensure procedures are consistent across the College and provides guidance on the use

of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); ensures procedures are documented and accessible; reviews and revises SOPs at least every three years; communicates new and updated procedures college-wide; and maintains an APAC process review flowchart.

- d. New ongoing item: highlight one SOP each meeting or every other meeting. The goal is to keep our work aligned to our shared learning priorities and to make it easier to connect committee work, proposals, and discussions back to what matters most for students.
- e. Highlight an important agenda item planned for our March 20 meeting: faculty and staff mental health. We will be using small-group breakouts to reflect on the question: “What is your biggest pain point in your job—what causes you the most stress?” To be clear, we will not be discussing pay or benefits, as those topics fall within the scope of MAHE. This conversation is intended to focus on the workplace pain points and stressors that impact our day-to-day work and well-being. Please talk with your constituents and invite them to join us for this discussion. If someone cannot attend the meeting, I encourage you to gather their feedback on this question in advance and bring those themes forward. For the breakouts at this meeting, faculty and administrators will be in separate breakout groups so each group can speak candidly and focus on their own lived experience and work realities.

#### VI. Provost’s Report

- a. Please see the survey sent out by the Provost asking for what AI the college can support people with.
- b. No Pathway changes next year. Faculty can take time off from that.
- c. Graduation is May 7<sup>th</sup>. Wear cap and gown.
- d. Story: With Envision Green group this week. Relationship with MSU to make sure students have a warm handoff between there and here. Someone knew someone at LCC. Child wasn’t thinking about college at all, had a hard high school time. Got into a math class, and from that moment on decided they loved school and want to continue. Huge shout out to all faculty for all they do!  
[Envision Green webpage](#)

#### VII. Consent Agenda

- a. Curriculum Committee Report
- b. Approved without objection.

#### VIII. Spring Elections Update – Senator Eliza Lee

- a. Spring elections will be starting in February. Nominations are open February 16<sup>th</sup> through March 6<sup>th</sup>. Self-nomination is encouraged.
- b. Open positions for Spring:

- i. Communication Media and the Arts
- ii. Health and Human Services At-Large, 2 three-year positions
- iii. Library Instruction
- iv. Technical Careers At-Large, 2 three-year positions
- v. Member At-Large

IX. Standing AI Agenda Item: No Perfect AI Detectors – Senator Bill Garlick

- a. Students who might be utilizing generative AI to shortcut the learning process or thinking process for assignments that were not intended to be done that way. We need a way to insure this isn't happening. TAC was charged with looking at this.
- b. There are tools out there that would look at this problem statement. But they are not where we want them to be. Problem is that the landscape of these tools are changing regularly because AI is changing regularly. Accuracy changes. Don't have a good tool that can accomplish everything we are looking for.
- c. TAC understands this is a concern and a problem. This is not an easy thing for faculty to navigate. Technology may not be the solution, but there still needs to be a search for a solution.
- d. Senator Lisa Whiting Dobson – Hard to accuse a student of cheating. Like getting a false/positive health report. Student will always feel they are labeled a cheater.
- e. Senator Ian Leighton - Have you heard anything about SI? Synthetic Intelligence? Unless it's just a conspiracy theory, this is supposed to be 1,000x better/worse than AI and is being worked on.
- f. Senator Dustin Abrego – [Google Deep Mind](#)

X. Community Engagement Definition – Senator Mark Kelland

- a. Senators spent time wordsmithing the proposed definition of Community Engagement for LCC.
- b. Senator Mark Kelland – Motion for the President to select a workgroup to continue work on the definition of Community Engagement and bring it back to the Academic Senate.
  - i. Senator Rick Caprario – Second
  - ii. Approved without objection.

XI. Faculty Input in Establishing Minimum Qualifications for Courses – Academic Affairs Project Manager Rafeeq McGiveron

- a. Existing language can bypass faculty input.
- b. Wanted to know if the Senate thinks faculty should be part of the process.
- c. Senator Mark Kelland – Faculty shouldn't just be involved, should be a vote.

- d. Senator Dustin Abrego – Agree subject matter experts should be involved in the process.
  - e. Academic Affairs Project Manager Rafeeq McGiveron – Thanks for the input, APAC will add language to include faculty.
- XII. AI Across the College: Arts & Sciences – Senator Jessica Hester
- a. Faculty Amy Keely, Historian Jeff Janowick, Faculty Jessie Draper, Faculty Emily Lawrence, Senator Jamie Holbrook, Senator Eliza Lee.
  - b. Focused on the integration of AI in various disciplines across the college.
  - c. Faculty express concerns about AI's impact on critical thinking and writing skills.
  - d. Discussions highlight the need for collaborative approaches to address AI's challenges and benefits.
  - e. Faculty emphasize the importance of teaching students effective AI usage while maintaining academic integrity.
  - f. AI's impact varies across disciplines, with math experiencing less disruption compared to other fields.
  - g. Emphasis on using AI as a tool for learning, not as a substitute for understanding.
- XIII. Public Comments - These public comments reflect the thoughts and opinions of their speaker and are not endorsed by the LCC Academic Senate or LCC.
- a. Senator Annesia Dillard – Spring 2026 workshops. This semester, we are offering over 20 sessions! A big thank you to everyone who is facilitating sessions that is how the magic happens. A few themes are:  
 Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Inclusion
    - 3/6 & 4/9: Aligning Your Teaching with UDL for Novices/Beginners
    - 3/27: Inclusive Teaching Strategies
    - 4/10: Leveling the Playing Field: UDL in Action Panel Discussion
    - 4/24: UDL Slam Dunks!
 Student Support and Mental Wellbeing
    - 2/20 + 2/27 & 4/3 + 4/10: Mental Health First Aid Training
    - 2/26: Academic Alerts - New and Improved!
    - 4/7 & 4/8: Navigating Testing Services: A Faculty Guide
 Embracing and Understanding AI
    - 3/2: The Adaptive Support System: Three Ways AI Can Scaffold Learning
    - 3/6: NotebookLM in Practice
    - 3/27: AI Companions and Student Mental Health
    - 4/24: Cognitive Atrophy and Other Faculty Concerns
    - 5/6: The Opposite of Cheating is Learning: AI, Integrity, and Opportunity
 Innovative Pedagogy and Collaboration
    - 2/24 & 4/2: Yes, And: Improv for Educators

- 2/25, 3/16, & 4/2: Creative Collaborations: Inspiring Interdisciplinary Programs
- 4/14: Zero-Cost Textbook Materials Options for Your Class

Professional Growth and Peer Support

- 3/24: CV & Resume Development Workshop
- 4/7: Building a Professional LinkedIn Profile
- 4/21: How to Provide Concrete Classroom Visit Feedback

- b. Faculty Martine Rife – Try not to bug the Provost. Over the last several years interactions, she listens. She really cares and pushes the colleges mission forward. Want to show appreciation for her.

XIV. Potential Future Agenda Items

- a. None

**Purpose:** *The Academic Senate is dedicated to enhancing student success at Lansing Community College (LCC). It provides input and advice across the College on matters related to collegewide educational philosophy, academic policy and procedure, strategic initiative priorities, and the deployment of capital or financial resources – except where such matters fall under the scope of collective bargaining. The Academic Senate will take a proactive and collaborative approach, seeking consensus whenever possible, respecting diverse perspectives and striving for inclusivity. It will foster and support effective, transparent communication with the LCC community.*

**LCC Mission Statement:** *Lansing Community College provides accessible, high-quality education through relevant and innovative instructional methods to equip and empower a diverse community of learners to complete their educational goals while becoming engaged global citizens.*

**Land Acknowledgement:** *Lansing Community College occupies the ancestral, traditional and contemporary lands of the Anishnaabeg - Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples. In particular, the City of Lansing and LCC reside on land ceded in the 1819 Treaty of Saginaw.*

Respectfully submitted by Academic Senate Secretary, Eliza Lee.