

Berkeley City College College Roundtable for Planning and Budgeting MEETING MINUTES Monday, March 24, 2025

Draft

Members Present (bold to indicate present, delete absent):

Ari Krupnick, Carolina Martinez, Carolyn Martin, Denise Richardson, Annie Liu, Gail Pendleton, Joya Chavarin, Himali KC, Matthew Freeman, Phoumy Sayavong, Ramona Butler, Skyler Barton, Stacey Shears, Thomas Rizza, Amy Lee

Guests (manually type): Joseph Bielanski, Chris Lewis, Armando Franco, Izzie Villanueva, Natalia Fedorova, Jenny Yap, John Saenz, Kyla Oh, Zaira Sanchez, Patrick Wallace

Tri-Chairs: Denise Richardson, College President; Matthew Freeman, Academic Senate President; Tom Rizza, Classified Senate President

AGENDA AND DISCUSSION ITEMS	
1. Roll Call / Review Agenda	
Tri-chair <u>Richardson</u>	called the meeting to order at <u>12:23</u> pm.
Motion to approve agenda by: Stacey Shears	
Second by: Chris Lewis	
Votes in favor: 13	
Objections:	
Abstentions:	
Motion passes.	
2. Review Minutes	
Tri-chair <u>Richardson</u>	requested a review of the <u>3/10/25</u> minutes.
Motion to approve minutes b	y: Matt Freeman
Second by:	
Votes in favor: 14	
Objections:	
Abstentions:	
Motion passes.	
3. Public Comment	
N/A	
4. President's Updates	

Leader: Denise Richardson

President Denise Richardson provided an extensive update beginning with her recent trip to Los Angeles to meet with the visiting team for the College of the Sequoias' ACCJC accreditation. She reflected on the experience and highlighted several key takeaways, especially around distance education and shared governance. She emphasized the importance of consistent and quality instruction in online learning environments and the need for evidence of student engagement, particularly in asynchronous classes. Richardson also praised the College of the Sequoias for their visible commitment to shared governance, as exemplified by a poster they have in many of their rooms outlining their governance structure. She proposed this could be a helpful visual addition at BCC.



Community engagement was another area President Richardson stressed, citing that increased community input at College of the Sequoias led to the successful implementation of a four-year degree program. She suggested that BCC might benefit from similar initiatives by reaching out to community stakeholders. On a more practical note, she updated the Roundtable on the ongoing parking negotiations. The college is working with DC Nelson and the district to secure contracts for existing and potentially new lots, although some proposed options, such as the lot across the street, may cost approximately 15% more.

President Richardson also discussed a recent presentation where district reductions were reviewed, including cuts in HR, administrative, and finance services. She mentioned the district's introduction of a new tool, EUNA, which is expected to streamline grants and budgeting processes starting this summer. Additionally, she discussed the launch of two surveys—one focused on institutional priorities related to budgeting and planning, and the other seeking feedback on whether to prioritize reserve funding or additional classes. She encouraged everyone to participate to ensure informed budget development. Finally, President Richardson announced a Shared Governance Retreat scheduled for Friday, May 23, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, with planning to begin immediately following the meeting.

5. ASBCC Resolution: Equitable Access to Technology

Leader: Himali KC

The meeting continued with a presentation by ASBCC President Himali KC regarding a resolution on equitable access to technology. The resolution was initially inspired by a presentation from Patrick Wallace and Jenny Yap, who noted the declining availability and aging condition of Chromebooks. The ASBCC unanimously endorsed the resolution, which emphasized the importance of Chromebooks and hotspots for student success, particularly for those from underserved backgrounds. KC read through the formal resolution which highlighted how the digital divide has been exacerbated by the pandemic and disproportionately affects low-income students, students of color, and those with disabilities.

The resolution called on the district and campus administration to allocate funding for loaner technology available through the library. The intent is to promote digital equity and ensure academic success. VPI Lewis followed up, stating that lottery funds could be applied toward purchasing new Chromebooks, and the college is already in talks with IT and district staff to expedite this process. Patrick Wallace also shared that BCC recently received 90 Chromebooks from the College of Alameda, of which only about 20 are fully usable due to the age and battery issues. Hotspots are no longer available since that program was discontinued. Additional relief is expected through the ongoing tech refresh process, once all inventory verifications are completed and deployment is finalized. The Roundtable appreciated the leadership and initiative shown by ASBCC in pushing for student-focused resources.

6. Shared Governance Updates - Integrated Planning Committee / Integrated Planning & Allocation Resources / Facilities Committee / Tech Committee

Integrated Planning Committee (Stacey Shears/Chris Lewis)

• IPC is scheduled to meet on 4/10.

Budget Advisory Committee (Denise Richardson/Phoumy Sayavong/Fatima Shah)



• The BAC will be meeting tomorrow. They will discuss the development of our budget and the creation of a reserve vs adding additional courses.

Facilities, Health, and Safety Committee (Denise Richardson/Armando Franco)

• The Facilities, Health, and Safety Committee will next meet on April 11. Members were reminded to upload the Peralta Safety App and to take note of the safety initiatives discussed with Interim Executive Director Pridgen from the Taco Bout Safety event.

Technology Committee (Mozell Person/Erika Yeh/ Tom Rizza)

• The Technology Committee met on March 13 and hosted the CTIO, who helped guide the review of the District IT Prioritization process. The committee is aligning the tech refresh plan with program review requests to create a comprehensive prioritization list, due to the District Tech Committee by April 30. AV Specialist Joe Bay is assisting in compiling submissions from faculty.

Enrollment Management (Stacey Shears/Chris Lewis)

• The Enrollment Management Committee noted a scheduling conflict for their April 16 meeting and mentioned a potential reschedule. A subsequent meeting is scheduled for May 5.

7. Governance Updates - Faculty Senate / Classified Senate / ASBCC

Academic Senate (Report by Matthew Freeman)

• Matt Freeman shared that their most recent meeting was held on March 19. Discussions included updates from VPI Lewis regarding the possible onboarding of Laney's media program at BCC and the need for strategic faculty involvement in such transitions. The Senate also discussed course scheduling goals for summer and fall, aiming for a 10% reduction, though only 5% was achieved across most drafts. There was optimism that strategic section additions could help generate more FTES. They also confirmed that this year's commencement will take place at Laney College on May 22, from 10 AM to 12 PM, based on a poll conducted with input from the Roundtable. The faculty was excited to be part of the mural design project for the new building opening in 2027, and concerns were raised about the future use of office spaces and the need for a clear relocation plan. Lastly, COO Greg Nelson is scheduled to visit on April 16 to discuss the future of the BCC bookstore.

Classified Senate (Report by Tom Rizza)

• The Classified Senate met on March 12. They presented a statement of solidarity for LGBTQ+ students, particularly in response to pressures from the current federal administration. The statement was endorsed and shared publicly. The Senate also began interdepartmental meetings aimed at developing shared SOPs, mentoring new employees, and streamlining communication across departments. These meetings will continue weekly on Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Classified Senate will meet again on Wednesday.

Associated Students of Berkeley City College (Report by Himali KC)

• ASBCC President Himali KC also provided an update, thanking the Roundtable for the opportunity to present the resolution. ASBCC additionally published a statement of support for the LGBTQ+ and undocumented communities on their social media. They are currently planning a stress-relief ICC



Carnival and coordinating with other colleges to organize a district-wide basketball tournament open to faculty and students.

8. Announcements

- Graduation is confirmed for May 22 at Laney College, with plenty of seating and parking space expected for faculty, staff, and administration.
- On April 16, a "topping off" ceremony for BCC's new building will take place between 11:30 AM and 1:00 PM, signifying the structural milestone of the building reaching its full height. The event will take place in front of the new Milvia building. The Chancellor and the Board of Trustees will attend. Additional details will be sent out later.
- Shoutout to our accreditation committee for completing our ACCJC accreditation report on 3/14/25.
- California State Chancellor Christian was also quoted in response to the recent White House executive order proposing to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education. She reassured the community that federal funds account for only about 3% of the budget, and the state remains committed to continuity in funding and support.

pm.

• There will be a Career Fair hosted in the Atrium on April 16 from 12 PM to 2 PM. The college is actively seeking more employees to table at the event, and faculty were encouraged to share opportunities through Norma or Zaira.

9. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned by Tri-chairs Freeman, Richardson, and Rizza at <u>1:06</u>

Next Meeting: Monday, April 14, 2025, 12:20PM-1:30PM, Room 451A/B (or via Zoom)

Minutes from live meeting: Annie Liu, (510) 981-2851, aliu@peralta.edu