GROSSMONT COLLEGE

GROSSMONT COLLEGE
College Council
Thursday, September 24, 2026
3-5 p.m.
Griffin Gate

MEETING SUMMARY

Purpose: The College Council is the apex governance body which provides guidance and recommendations to the College President regarding institutional policies, planning, and processes in support of the college mission. It engages all college constituency groups (students, faculty, classified professionals and supervisors/administrators) and the governance system as a whole through the maintenance of clear governance practices and policies, coordination of committee work across functions, and a commitment to continuous improvement and consensus building. The constituent-based representatives of the council serve the college by maintaining a broad, college-wide, and student-centered view of the needs of the institution – both in the weighing of the input from its committees and in bringing forward items for consideration and discussion. In all matters within its purview, it will maintain a focus on the goal of equitable outcomes for all students as a key value informing decision-making.

CONVENER (NON-VOTING)	ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF GROSSMONT COLLEGE (ASGC)	ADVISORY (NON-VOTING)
☒ *Pam Luster, Interim President*	☒ Joseph Anthony Cruz	☐ *Colleen Moreno, CSEA*
	☐ Valerie Reyes	☒ *Julio Soto, AFT*
	☐ Emilia Auton	☐ *TBD, Administrators Association Rep*
	☒ Eric Anzures	☒ *Stacey Shears, VPSS*
	☒ Proxy: Jacob Wooten	☒ *Joan Ahrens, Int. VPAA*
		☐ *Meya Alomar, VPAS*
		☒ *Tate Hurvitz, Int. Sr. Dean, CPIE*
		☒ *Ernesto Rivera, Director of College and Community Relations*

ACADEMIC SENATE	CLASSIFIED SENATE	ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION
☒ Sharon Sampson	☒ Andrew Hellier	☒ Javier Ayala
☒ Richard Unis	☒ Bryan Lam	☒ Renee Nasori
☒ Karen Caires	☒ Brandi Tonne	☒ Maura Mehrian
☒ Lara Braff	☒ Michele Martens	☒ Abby Algarin

RECORDER	GUESTS
☒ *Bernadette Black*	PJ Ball, Denise Schulmeyer, Dawn Heuft
***Italicized = Non-voting**	

ROUTINE BUSINESS	
1. Welcome / President's Update	Pam congratulated everyone on the accreditation work, acknowledged those who were deeply involved, and noted that she will be sending a notice out to campus providing the results from our ACCJC team. She shared out the accreditation process, noting that the college received two core inquiries – completion of nonfaculty evaluations and RSIs. For evaluations, the college hit 97% completion and is now regularly reviewed at President's Cabinet. Pam also acknowledged their partnership with HR. In regards to RSI, ACCJC has an 85% threshold which we did not meet earlier in the spring. The ACCJC did a second random review of online courses which showed we met the 85% threshold. The team will provide their report to ACCJC with a recommendation for improvement. ACCJC will meet in January where they will make their final decision. If a recommendation for improvement is confirmed, the college will then be required to write a midterm report. Additionally, Pam reminded those committees who are making improvements which impacts the AUP, such as updating their rubrics, to have that completed in the spring so it can be included in the AUP cycle for the fall. She noted the Budget committee made changes to their rubric last spring however they did not meet quorum so it was not included in this year's cycle. She emphasized the importance of recommendations going through the governance structure.
2. Establish Quorum (50%+1 of voting members)	Quorum was established.
3. Additions/Deletions to Agenda	There were no additions/deletions to the agenda.
4. Approve Meeting Notes (8/27/26)	Motion to approve: Javier Ayala Second: Karen Caires The meeting notes from 8/27/26 were approved.
5. Public Comment (3 min max per comment)	No public comments were made.

DISCUSSION OF PRIOR AGENDA ITEMS / OLD BUSINESS	
1.	

FOR CONSENSUS *	
** On College Council, consensus is reached when at least three-fourths (75%) of voting members present are in agreement, and if there are no more than two members from any one constituency who disagree, then consensus to move recommendation forward to President is reached.*	
1.	

NEW BUSINESS	
1.	

INFORMATION	
1. Strategic Hires: • Associate Dean, CTE (New) • Counselor (CN-00023) • Anthropology faculty (New) • A&R Assistant Sr. (CL-00092) • Biology faculty (IN-00134) • BOT faculty (IN-00227) • Theater Arts faculty (IN-00244) • ESL faculty (IN-00152) • Counselor (CN-00032) • Counselor (CN-00027) • Counselor (CN-00017) • Nursing faculty (New) • CVT faculty (New) • Program Specialist/MESA (New) • Administrative Assistant III/ALC (CL-00520) • Work Based Learning Coordinator (New) • Director, MESA	Pam noted these strategic hires are moving forward. There was an inquiry about the Associate Dean of CTE. Pam noted that this position is currently with the Foundation and will be moving to the college under Strong Workforce. There was also an inquiry about the MESA positions, and Pam noted that these are funded by permanent categorical funding from the state.
2. Accreditation Update	Tate thanked all those involved with accreditation, including Karen Hern, Karo Macias and Courtney Willis along with those Pam mentioned earlier.
3. Update on Searches	Pam provided an update on current searches. • VPAA: The permanent search has been launched and will be chaired by Nancy Saks. • Dean of Exercise Science, Health, Nutrition and Athletics was a failed search and will reopen soon. The goal is for a January start. • Dean of Counseling will be launched this semester. • Assistant Dean of Nursing is currently underway. • The district will be launching the presidential search. HR will run the logistics and will bring in a firm for the recruitment.
4. Update on PRT visit and next steps	Pam thanked everyone who was able to visit with the PRT team that was sent to the college to help with professional development. Next steps: The team will send a report on what they heard and will share that with the PD committee. They will then send the Menu of Options (MOO), and from there, we will need to sit down to decide how to spend the IEPI funds. Renee noted it was a great experience. Sharon added the ACCJC team asked about the PRT visit.

5. Slice of PIE	In follow up to last month's slice of PIE discussion, Tate shared the disaggregation of the adult learners from 25-29, which showed that the headcount for this group has remained relatively flat. There was a drop from 2024/25 to 2025/26 in our Latinx population (from 664 to 587), and an increase in our Asian student population, which is being driven by our Afghan students. He shared disaggregated data on attempted units which showed a general shift towards higher average unit totals for students in this age group. This trend is least pronounced among White students and most pronounced among Asian students. Tate added that when we looked at this data and what might be driving the increase in the number of Asian students that are taking high loads, there was no conclusive answer. Julio suggested bringing this to the Latinx Alliance for further discussions. There was also a suggestion on comparison data with other age groups, and not just attempted units but also completed units. Lastly, another suggestion was separating the data out by modality. Joan noted that our local Strong Workforce consortium is hosting a series geared towards this population called the Adult Learner Success Initiative. They invited colleges in the region to put together a team. The RFA was announced at the Enrollment Strategies committees and are already getting volunteers. The kickoff is a week from tomorrow. The goal is to develop an action plan over the year to present to the college. See Handout.

DISCUSSION	
1.	

CONSTITUENCY AND COMMITTEE REPORTS (2 minutes maximum)	
1. Accreditation Steering Committee	
2. Constituency Updates: ASGC, Academic Senate, Classified Senate, Administrators Association	**ASGC**: Joseph indicated ASGC has been meeting regularly. They plan on doing something for Filipino Heritage month. **Academic Senate:** Sharon reported they have hosted sabbatical workshops; they received 28 applicants. They are recruiting members for a Feasibility workgroup. They also have a call out for volunteers to serve on various search committees. She noted a Canvas container was created for Academic Senate and will use that as a platform to send announcements.

3. Constituency Updates: ASGC, Academic Senate, Classified Senate, Administrators Association	**Classified Senate:** Andrew reported they hosted "Getting Real with the President" at their last meeting. They are also planning for their annual retreat for the end of October where they set goals for the year. They are also in the middle of preparing for their annual thank you grams. Classified Senate will be partnering with the API club to host the student pop up event, as well as Latine Alliance for their heritage month. Lastly, they are partnering with Cuyamaca's Senate and CSEA to come up with a plan for the professional development funding that we received from the state. **Administrators Association:** Javier stated their focus has been on professional development for members around leadership, meditation, and wellness in partnership with ACCCA. Renee acknowledged the good experience they had with HR and the new administrator's orientation. Pam congratulated Maura and Renee for the kickoff of the AAWCC San Diego chapter event.
4. Budget Committee (BC)	
5. Facilities Committee (FC)	Pam reported the guardrails are finished by athletics. There was a work stoppage that was demanded by the Water board. There is work being down off the hill as soil has been eroding significantly. She noted there has been some challenges in buildings 51/55 and will not be taking the keys until we are assured all is good. She reminded the group that Measure G is on the ballot and 1/3 of it is for infrastructure. She thanked ASGC for tabling to share out information.
6. Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee (PIEC)	Tate noted the first meeting is tomorrow. One of the central tasks will be to work on the draft of our new Mission and Vision statements and shepherd that through constituent groups. The goal is to have the first read to College Council in February and recommendation in March.
7. Professional Development Committee (PDC)	
8. Classified Staffing Prioritization Committee (CSPC)	
9. Faculty Staffing Prioritization Committee (FSPC)	
10. Student Success & Equity Committee (SSEC)	Their next meeting is scheduled on October 1st.
11. Technology Committee (TC)	Their first meeting is next Monday.

FOLLOW-UP		

Participatory Governance:

College Council Website

Governance Handbook

College Council Recommendation Form

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, October 22, 2026 @ 3:00-5:00, Griffin Gate

Committees are to establish norms

In order to create valued outcomes, a commitment to participation, dialogue, and the pursuit of value in the form of useful output by all is necessary. It is acknowledged that there are power dynamics in a room. Work must be done to create the equitable and inclusive environment sought for effective and active participation. To do so, council/committee members will establish behavioral norms that include the following meeting rules of engagement, make use of meeting tools, and respect the roles of each member.

Engagement Norms
In participatory government, a high level of collegiality, respect, and civility is expected. Those expectations include the following rules:

1. Free flow of conversation and raising hands when needed.

2. Thumbs up/Thumbs down/Thumbs sideways to convey individual council members vote toward action items.

3. Parking lot for ideas and possible future action items.

4. Summarize talking points with similar language for constituency representatives to take back to their respected constituency and taking the last 5 minutes of the meeting to do this.

5. Estimated times for each agenda item is up to the Convener of the council.

6. No rank in the room, but those that wish can use salutations.

7. Please keep dialogue respectful.

8. Reminder – body language.

9. Once a semester we have a social gathering.

10. Starting and Ending the meeting on time.

11. Respect each other.

12. Repeating what was voted on after the vote.

13. Education/background from other committees to make appropriate decisions.

14. Use of technology/cell phones is only in an emergency, and to be mindful and professional of the meeting.

15. Norms will be revisited once a semester for now.

Virtual Norms (Established April 2020):

1. Consensus / voting: (a) state item for vote in the chat, (b) record votes in chat grouped by constituencies.
2. Use the raise hand feature in the participant window when you wish to speak.
3. Mute microphone when not speaking.
4. Record the meetings for note taker to use as needed.
5. Consider ways for guests to observe (i.e. use “Registration” feature for meetings. Keep the chat area reserved for voting and advisory members.