

Meeting Minutes - SSU Staff Council

September 16, 2025

Call to Order

A meeting of the SSU Staff Council was held on September 16, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m..

Attendance: 45 participants

Staff Council Updates

- Gillian announced that the Staff Council report had been released and was available on the website.
- Staff Council planned to distribute a staff survey regarding Staff Council and an additional agenda topic.

Administration & Finance Update

- Chandra announced that open enrollment was underway and that an open enrollment fair would be held September 23 in the Ballroom.
- The PE pool is being refurbished. In response to a question about lake dredging, Chandra said the work was expected to be completed in November; Sean later noted dredging would begin the following day.

UBAC Funding Discussion

- Aiden, Staff Council's UBAC representative, reported that UBAC was charged with advising the President on the use of additional funds. Of the available funding, \$6 million was directed to enrollment and UBAC was expected to advise on the use of an additional \$3 million.
- UBAC had two meetings remaining before its recommendation was due, and two community members were to be added. A survey was distributed to gather staff recommendations for use of the funds.
- Kyle clarified that the President had described the funding focus as enrollment and marketing, rather than marketing alone.

Academic Senate and WASC Update

- Kate Sims provided the Academic Senate report.
- Stacey reported that the WASC review identified challenges but did not recommend suspension of accreditation or place SSU on notice. The review team recognized SSU's commitment to student success, retention and graduation rates, affordability and access, data-informed decision making, openness, and community role.
- WASC recommendations included addressing declining enrollment, strengthening transparency in decision making, supporting leadership stability, reassessing the university's mission and values during transition, and clarifying SSU's role in the SF Bay Area Network.

Academic Programs and Budget Considerations

- Stacey discussed the limitations of using one-time funds to restore programs and noted that some program decisions remained under review. Graduate programs in History and English were discussed as possible suspensions rather than discontinuations, and a Water Resources Board contract for Geology was noted.
- Discussion included ways Theatre, Dance, and Women and Gender Studies courses may continue to serve students through general education or elective options. Faculty determine whether elective courses fit within individual majors.
- Participants discussed whether a task force or existing governance body should help shape future elective offerings. Stacey said UBAC may contribute to the discussion and emphasized that available funding remains the primary constraint, particularly as new programs such as Nursing and Health Sciences expand the base budget.

Good of the Order

No additional items were recorded.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m..

Kelly Clark

Secretary

Date of Approval

9/24/25
* date of meeting updated 9/25/24