

Monday, February 9th, 2026; 9:00 to 11:00 AM
Hinderaker 0154 | Meeting Minutes
Approved on February 23, 2026

Name	Association	Voting Privilege ¹	Attendance ²
Andrew Wong	Undergraduate, Chair	X	P
Kaden Ho	Undergraduate, ASUCR VP of Internal Affairs	X	P
Grace Su	Undergraduate	X	P
Ananya Goyal	Undergraduate	X	P
Shlok Garg	Undergraduate		P
Amrit Johal	Undergraduate		A
Chandana Anand Rangappa	Graduate	X	A
Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva	Graduate, Vice Chair	X	P/LE
Gene Brewer	Faculty	X	P
Zhijia Zhao	Faculty	X	P
Sally Tavizon	Staff	X	A
Leila Haidar	Ex-Officio, ASUCR President		A
Jordan Steinhauser	Ex-Officio, GSA President		A
Luis Alvarez	Ex-Officio, VCSA		A
David Barrera	Staff Support, VCSA		P
Emily Lee	Student Secretary, VCSA		P

¹ “X” indicates voting privilege

² P: Present | A: Absent | AL: Arrived Late | LE: Left Early

Call to Order: **9:11 AM**

1. Approve the Agenda
 - *Motion to Approve the Agenda by Gene Brewer, Seconded by Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva.*
 - ***Agenda Approved Without Objections***
2. Approve Meeting Minutes – January 26th, 2026
 - *Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of January 26th, 2026, by Kaden Ho, Seconded by Grace Su.*
 - ***Meeting Minutes of January 26th, 2026, Approved Without Objections***
3. LGBT Resource Center – Subcommittee A
 - Director *Nancy Tub* introduced herself to the Committee and began sharing LGBTRC's mission statement and departments that benefit the student body. Like previous years, *Nancy Tub* stated that the department will not be requesting funds from SSFAC this year. *Nancy Tub* added that LGBTRC will be hosting a conference this April to gather more funds and to encourage UCR students to attend. The conference will be centered on how to do more research on LGBTQ populations and provide more opportunities to conduct LGBTQ research on campus.
 - *Chair Andrew Wong* asked how the current climate has affected LGBT students and how the LGBTRC has demonstrated their capacity to help. *Nancy Tub* answered that the current climate has put a lot of stress on LGBT student body. *Nancy Tub* explained that many students have been coming into the center to ask questions and seek support. *Nancy Tub* stated that it is always LGBTRC's prerogative to expand and to work with the system to help support UCR students, especially during time when the government is deriving healthcare access to the students. LGBTRC is looking to gain more medical specialists on campus to help the student community for this exact reason.
 - *Gene Brewer* asked why LGBTRC did not request any funds from SSFAC. *Emily Lee* replied that some departments like LGBTRC have other sources of funding and do need funds from SSFAC. This allows more funding opportunities to be given to other departments. *Gene Brewer* commented that it is generous of LGBTRC to not request any funds.
3. Middle Eastern Student Center – Subcommittee A
 - Director *Gina Weines* introduced herself to the Committee and gave brief background information about MESC's history. *Gina Weines* stated that MESC is the first center to support Middle Eastern students in the nation and noted introduced the term, SWANA – a decolonial term to address individuals from the geographic region. *Gina Weines* requested four priorities – SWANA Con, Middle Eastern Week, MESC Gala, and Graduation and Alumni Programming. SWANA Con is a two-day conference UCR hosts that invites students from across different

universities to build academic and leadership skills and hold conversations about diverse identities. Middle Eastern Week brings in cultural food, dance, and dialogue for the campus to experience. The MESC Gala celebrates the achievements of the graduating students and leaders while making sure it doesn't coincide with religious celebrations. Finally, the Graduation and Alumni Programming would allow alumni to reconnect and mentor undergraduate students. Gina Weines mentioned that although MESC is mostly funded through HESSR funds, SSFAC funds can assist in closing the gaps in resources.

- *Chair Andrew Wong* asked how many students have attended SWANA Con. *Gina Weines* replied that 56% of UCR students have attended SWANA Con. *Gina Weines* noted this was the first year MESC administered a registrations cost – \$10 for UCR students and \$40 for non-UCR students – and that the current political climate may have influenced student travel and attendance. Additionally, other campuses have begun contributing funds to the activities with more CSU and community colleges attending the conference. If MESC does not receive funding, the department will be unable to host SWANA Con.
- *Gina Weines* concluded the presentation and invited the SSFAC Committee to upcoming MESC events. *Chair Andrew Wong* thanked *Gina Weines* for the invitation.

4. Native American Student Programs – Subcommittee A

- Director *Joshua Gonzalez* introduced himself to the SSFAC Committee and began presenting NASP's history and mission statement. *Joshua Gonzalez* stated that NASP's core service is to provide education, outreach, retention, and promote cultural teaching, leadership and professional development. Since student salaries have increased, *Joshua Gonzalez* stated that the department is requesting funds to pay for 6 student salaries and benefits. *Joshua Gonzalez* noted the importance of student workers and the impact they provide to the NASP community. *Joshua Gonzalez* noted that the department is continuously looking for grant and scholarship opportunities and collaborate with on-campus partners to provide successful events for the students. Alumni are returning as volunteers to assist in student events and provide internship experiences to the students. *Joshua Gonzalez* noted that due to increased student enrollment, NASP has outgrown their space. Bigger spaces will allow students to convene, partake in cultural activities, and hold discussions.
- *Chair Andrew Wong* asked how the increase in indigenous student enrollment will affect faculty. *Joshua Gonzalez* replied that faculty is not affected by student enrollment as one professional staff member on a grant. Thus, allowing the department to reroute those funds to assist the students. *Chair Andrew Wong* thanked *Joshua Gonzalez* for his response and added that any further questions will be emailed to the department.

5. Academic Resource Center – Subcommittee D

- Director *Rena Roberts* and Financial Advisor *Elizabeth Tatum* introduced themselves to the Committee and shared a brief history about the ARC along with the mission statement. *Elizabeth Tatum* stated that the current permanent budget consisted of \$1.6 million funds. However, many of the funds will go to

professional staff salaries and benefits, supplies and services, and events and equipment. *Elizabeth Tatum* noted that due to rising student enrollment, additional staff members may be needed to support the department as well as more funding sources to pay student employees. As far as cost-saving measures or partnerships are concerned, the ARC collaborated with multiple departments on campus to bring events such as the Sophomore Book Club and other workshops. *Rena Roberts* concluded the presentation by stating the ARC will not be submitting an offer for unmet needs.

- *Chair Andrew Wong* asked how student enrollment affected the ARC's capacity to assist the student body and in receiving funds. *Rena Roberts* answered that due to the current budget, the ARC is unable to request funding from SSFAC. Additionally, the increase in student enrollment is primarily from first year students. *Rena Roberts* explained that the Early Assist Program allows incoming students to learn pre-algebra to help fulfill their math requirements early on. *Rena Roberts* expressed the importance of providing support as numbers rose from 300 students seeking assistance from the program to 450 students this year.
- *Gene Brewer* asked if union strikes have affected the ARC. *Rena Roberts* replied that the ARC was impacted by previous strikes, leading to the department cancelling tutoring sessions and workshops, as student employees are part of the union.

6. Discussion on University Advancement

- *David Barrera* informed the Committee that University Advancement has requested not to present to SSFAC this year due to utilizing funds from previous years. *David Barrera* asked whether the Committee agrees with this. The Committee affirmed. Moving forward, University Advancement will be exempted to present this year. *David Barrera* stated that if the department requires future funding from SSFAC, University Advancement will be granted permission to present in front of the Committee.

7. Chair Comments

- *Chair Andrew Wong* informed the Committee that the information he received from the CSF meeting will be incorporated in future meetings. *Chair Andrew Wong* also invited the Committee to attend future CSF meetings if available.

8. Open Comments

- *Zhijia Zhao* asked about the purpose of the subcommittees and if the members will receive time to discuss with their designated departments. *Chair Andrew Wong* replied that the subcommittee's purpose is to research their designated departments and understand their values and needs. During Spring Quarter, the subcommittees have the responsibility to provide the necessary information when it comes to allocating funds to each department.

9.

10. Adjourn: **10:26 AM**

- *Motion to Adjourn by Gene Brewer, Seconded by Ananya Goyal*
 - *Adjournment Approved without Objections.*