

Monday, February 17th, 2026; 9:00 to 11:00 AM
Hinderaker 0154 | Meeting Minutes
Approved on March 2, 2026

Name	Association	Voting Privilege ¹	Attendance ²
Andrew Wong	Undergraduate, Chair	X	P
Kaden Ho	Undergraduate, ASUCR VP of Internal Affairs	X	A
Grace Su	Undergraduate	X	A
Ananya Goyal	Undergraduate	X	P
Shlok Garg	Undergraduate		A
Amrit Johal	Undergraduate		A
Chandana Anand Rangappa	Graduate	X	AL/P
Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva	Graduate, Vice Chair	X	P
Gene Brewer	Faculty	X	P
Zhijia Zhao	Faculty	X	A
Sally Tavizon	Staff	X	P
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: 9:06 AM

1. Approve the Agenda

- *Motion to Approve the Agenda by Gene Brewer, Seconded by Ananya Goyal.*
 - ***Agenda Approved Without Objections***

2. Women's Resource Center – Subcommittee A

- Director *Nina Ruedas* introduced herself to the Committee and began the department overview. *Nina Ruedas* stated that WRC's mission statement consisted of providing an inclusive and inviting environment to the student body. *Nina Ruedas* broke down WRC's organizational structure and explained the significance of the different committees. *Nina Ruedas* presented WRC's FY26 budget overview and requested \$50k to support student salaries. WRC consists of a vast network of student workers to help create, support, and administer WRC's events and programs. *Nina Ruedas* stated that without the funds, WRC will face a shortage of student workers. Additionally, *Nina Ruedas* requested \$30k for WRC's 2026 Alternative Spring Break. The 2026 Alternative Spring Break is a four-day conference in Palm Springs where students learn more about women's health. *Nina Ruedas* stated that WRC is working with the Gender and Sexuality Department on campus to award a unit of academic credit for the attending students. *Nina Ruedas* provided pictures, quotes, and examples of the conferences last year to showcase the significance in evolving the definition of women's health within students. Additionally, due to increased student enrollment, WRC anticipates student growth within their department. *Nina Ruedas* elaborated that although the department consists of a director and two program coordinators, an additional assistant director would assist WRC's goals of scaling up existing programs to better assist the growing UCR population. *Nina Ruedas* stated that lack of funding will continue to be a departmental challenge. Currently, WRC has reduced food budgets for events, missed collaboration opportunities, and discontinued the Campus Safety Escort Service (CSES) due to financial constraints. *Nina Ruedas* expressed that if unmet needs are not funded, student salaries and program budgets will be reduced, leading to more program closures.
- *Chair Andrew Wong* asked how participants are selected for the Alternative Spring Break. *Nina Ruedas* stated that interest forms are sent out to the students followed up with interviews. *Chair Andrew Wong* asked how the services of CSEC will be addressed if the program is discontinued. *Nina Ruedas* replied that WRC has begun supporting ASUCR's initiative of creating more modes of transportation for the students and assisting to alleviate existing programs would be beneficial within financial constraints.
- *Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva* asked if campus partners are paid during the Alternative Spring Break. *Nina Ruedas* answered that professional staff are not paid. *Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva* asked if the \$30k budget is dedicated towards hotel fees and food costs throughout the entire four-day trip. *Nina Ruedas* affirmed.

- *Sally Tavizon* asked if the department supported graduate students. *Nina Ruedas* replied that WRC is mostly funded through HESSR funds, therefore, WRC is more geared towards supporting undergraduate students. However, WRC is open to supporting graduate students. *Sally Tavizon* suggested that the assistant director position be fulfilled with a graduate student to increase mentorship and relationships between undergraduate and graduate students.

2. Undocumented Student Programs – Subcommittee A

- Director *Sonia Garcia Avelar* introduced herself to the Committee and gave brief background about USP and their mission statement. *Sonia Garcia Avelar* stated that USP focuses on supporting a multitude of populations from undocumented students to misplaced families through academic housing, financial means, and in physical and digital spaces. *Sonia Garcia Avelar* stated that USP provides scholarships and fellowship opportunities such as R'Dream to both undergraduate and graduate students. *Sonia Garcia Avelar* also mentioned that USP contains one of the biggest legal systems within the UC system that aids undocumented UCR students. *Sonia Garcia Avelar* noted that due to the sociopolitical climate, many programs have paused due to limitations on out-of-state travel. However, if students wish to proceed, USP provides resources that will assist in guaranteeing student safety. *Sonia Garcia Avelar* highlighted the Butterfly Fellowship Program, one of USP's core programs within the department. *Sonia Garcia Avelar* stated that SSFAC and funds from the Office of the President have fueled this program in the past, however, the department will not be requesting any funds from SSFAC this year. *Sonia Garcia Avelar* added the program has encountered difficulties due to reallocating funds towards supporting professional staff and legal team services. Furthermore, due to the increase stigma about undocumented students, USP anticipates the need to provide more resources and care-related services to the students for the next four years.

3. Career Services Center – Subcommittee D

- Director *Sean Gil* introduced himself to the Committee and began presenting the Career Center's purpose and mission statement. *Sean Gil* stated that the Career Center provides services including career advising, internships, and other career readiness opportunities for the student body. *Sean Gil* requested approximately \$200k to support five main priorities: expanding federal work study access, increasing student employment, upgrading student assistants to internships, gaining access to career technology, and improving student spaces. *Sean Gil* stated that with these five strategic investments, the Career Center can embed and integrate career readiness into the student body by strengthening the Career Center's existing programs and structures. *Sean Gil* highlighted long-term goals including strengthening internship and employment pathways, earlier career clarity, and improved post-graduation outcomes. *Sean Gil* added that if unmet needs are not funded, the Career Center will defer enhancements and protect core student services. However, this will produce a longer and slower timeline that may not benefit the students.

- *Chair Andrew Wong* questioned how funding will close equity gaps within student workers. *Sean Gil* explained that the Career Center can access data tracked through Handshake, a website that allows students to apply to jobs at UCR or off campus.
- *Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva* asked how career advisors will play a role within the Career Center if the department aims to hire more full-time and part-time positions. *Sean Gil* replied that the Career Center is implementing a program, Faculty Aiming, where current faculty members talk about career readiness and share stories about their personal experiences in obtaining this position. This will allow students to begin seeking opportunities to engage in career readiness early on.
- *Gene Brewer* asked how graduate students will benefit from this process. *Sean Gil* answered that in collaboration with different departments, a listing of job opportunities and work study positions will be sent in a newsletter for graduate students to read about. Additionally, the use of AI technology will be used to promote exposure towards these opportunities. *Gene Brewer* asked for further explanation about AI. *Sean Gil* replied that the Career Center is working with Google to potentially upload a course module depicting a syllabus and a guide in exploring different career paths tailored to the student's academic journey. *Sean Gil* mentioned that this will not be replacing academic advising but be utilized as a tool for students to plan out their academic careers.
- *Ananya Goyal* asked whether previous funded programs were able to evaluate student success. *Sean Gil* replied that although the Career Center has access to data in Handshake, the department has not had the capacity to connect with the students. Currently, the Career Center is collaborating with other partners to analyze the data and collect more data on post-graduation students.

4. Graduate Student Association – Subcommittee D

- Financial Officer, *Samuel Asieda*, introduced himself to the Committee and explained GSA's mission statement and what core services they provide to the graduate students. *Samuel Asieda* stated that the budget consists of temporary allocations including staff appointments and travel grants, and elaborated that major expenses are needed towards Grad Bash, a quarterly celebration where graduate students can engage in fun activities and connect with one another. GSA is requesting \$5k to cover the cost of food to cover food, activities and other expenses. *Samuel Asieda* noted if the event is not funded, GSA will need to downsize the event, which will affect the size of attendance compared to previous years.
- *Gene Brewer* asked if travel grants were funded by SSFAC in the past. *Samuel Asieda* affirmed but stated that GSA will not be requesting travel grants this year.
- *Chandana Anand Rangappa* asked if Grad Bash is free for graduate students. *Samuel Asieda* affirmed.

5. Open Comments

- *Gene Brewer* asked what the purpose of the subcommittee assignments is.
Chair Andrew Wong explained that the subcommittee assignments designate specific departments that each subcommittee member will represent when it comes time to discuss the allocation of funds during Spring Quarter.

6. Chair Comments

- *Chair Andrew Wong* stated that an email will be sent out discussing the role of the Subcommittee Assignments in more detail.

7. Adjourn: **10:25 AM**

- *Motion to Adjourn by Anaya Goyal, Seconded by Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva*
 - ***Adjournment Approved without Objections.***