

Monday, March 2nd, 2026; 9:00 to 11:00 AM
Hinderaker 0154 | Meeting Minutes
Approved on March 31st, 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	P
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: **9:04 AM**

1. Approve the Agenda

- *Motion to Approve the Agenda by Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva, Seconded by Gene Brewer.*

▪ ***Agenda Approved Without Objections***

2. Student Conduct– Subcommittee C

- Director *Tasha Yules*, Assistant Directors *Maya Moore* and *Kyle McStay*, Financial Specialist *Karen Lopez*, and Financial and Administrative Manager *John Valdez* introduced themselves to the Committee and stated Student Conduct's mission statement. Student Conduct is committed to creating an inclusive, respectful, and safe environment for the student body. *Maya Moore* stated that Student Conduct provides services that meets with students, faculty members, and neighboring communities 1 on 1 to figure out the underlying reason for misconduct. Student Conduct assists in reflective processes, students' motivation, and academic student engagement. *Maya Moore* added that student workers are part of committees that allow the students to develop leadership and communication skills within the office. The student workers guide other students to live their lives with integrity as well as help protect the school's public image. *Tasha Yules* presented Student Conduct's budget and explained that funds are primarily used to benefit staff. Due to limited funding, there is little flexibility to fund extra areas as Student Conduct does not create revenue, charge events, or provide sources of entertainment that the department can rely on. *Tasha Yules* asked for three unmet need requests: (1) Maintaining Records, (2) Obtaining Protection Measures and (3) Professional Staff Training. The first request will allow Student Conduct to utilize Simplicity, a record database, and share the costs with other offices that also utilize this database. The second request will allow alarms, cameras, and other security measures to protect the physical records located inside Student Conduct's office. Lastly, the third request will allow professional staff to travel to training conferences and be updated on the latest policies and procedures. *Kyle McStay* added that due to higher student enrollment, this potentially leads to a higher number of cases. Although training is not provided by the wider UC system, professional staff are required to be trained on different sexual violence/harassment procedures and anti-discrimination policies every year. *Kyle McStay* highlighted that these requests are the only form of funding the department received to fund staff training. Forgoing these training conferences would directly affect the student experience.
- *Chair Andrew Wong* asked if Student Conduct offers any opportunities to lessen the workload within the department. *Tasha Yules* replied that although Simplicity is already being used at its highest ability, holding previous letter templates and past records of misconduct, manual labor is key to conveying the human aspect throughout this procedure. Committees are a person-intensive, shared governance process that are needed to help the advocate manage their case. Programs such as

Simplicity, cannot conduct these discussions on its own. *Chair Andrew Wong* asked if Student Conduct will adjudicate misconduct if professional staff are not trained. *Tasha* Conduct will adjudicate misconduct if professional staff are not trained. *Tasha Yules* answered that students require an efficient and smooth timeline to help streamline the process. These deadlines and checkpoints are all person intensive. If the departments do not have enough trained staff, students will be unable to receive appointments and other documents on time, which could prevent students from receiving the education they need. *Chair Andrew Wong* asked if the \$10k budget request for travel is the predictable cost every year for training conferences and if the department has online resources to receive training to help reduce costs. *Tasha Yules* responded that training requires in-person attendance. Additionally, new policies and training can be released throughout the year that would require immediate attention. However, if options for online programs are available, Student Conduct will participate in those meetings to help save costs.

- *Sally Tavizon* asked if Student Conduct has received PERM funding. *Karen Lopez* replied that Student Conduct has not received any PERM fundings or any increases in FTE funding for two student chairs, leading to reduced number of hours. *John Valdez* added that student allocations do not receive merit.

2. Student Life – Subcommittee C

- Director *Carly Garcia*, Assistant Director *Gerry Medina*, and Budget, Personnel and Program Assistant *Jennifer Ferrante* introduced themselves to the Committee and gave a brief overview on Student Life's missions on spreading inclusion and belonging on campus. Student Life provides core services including student organizations, leadership programs, and Highlander spirit and tradition activities. *Gerry Medina* noted that Student Life's budget relied heavily on SSFAC funding to provide support towards student programs. Student Conduct is requesting for approximately \$137k for unmet needs to support 7 different priorities. (1) Leadership and Service Programmatic Support, (2) Student Organizations Programmatic Support, (3) Student Employee Salaries – Student Life, (4) Student Employee Salaries – Leadership and Service Programs, (5) Student Employee Salaries – Team Scotty/Mascot, (6) Spirit and Traditions Programmatic Support, (7) Benefits tied to Student Employment. Priority #1 will support the department's efforts to increase student voting. *Gerry Medina* explained that UCR has showcased the lowest number of undergraduate voters compared to all the UC campuses. However, UCR was able to secure increased voter turnout above the national average in the last election. Thus, funding for this priority will allow Student Life to continue these efforts. Priority #2 will assist in club registration, leadership workshops, and fairs that will help promote the 500+ clubs on campus. *Gerry Medina* explained that Priorities #3, #4, #5, center around providing student employees with the salaries they deserve. The funding will allow for six new student employees in the leadership program that will promote student engagement and excitement about UCR. *Gerry Medina* added that funding for Priority #6 will showcase student spirit and tradition at UCR to increase alumni support. Finally, Priority #7 will give benefits to student employees. *Gerry*

Medina stated that Student Life may anticipate growth in student demand, longer staffing and infrastructure needs, as well as ongoing departmental challenges. To combat these challenges, *Gerry Medina* highlighted the department's dedication in searching for cost-saving measures and partnerships, external grants, co-sponsorships, and other shared funding resources. However, if unmet needs are not met, critical programs within Student Life will be sunsetted.

- *Chair Andrew Wong* asked if there were discussion with the central government to transform the budget with PERM funding. *Carly Garcia* affirmed, however, little results have come out of their discussions. *Carly Garcia* added that Student Life will continue to share how Student Life has impacted the student body and community to raise more funds.
- *Ananya Goyal* asked if Student Life has explored alternative partnership sources. *Gerry Medina* replied that the department was able to secure a mini grant (\$5k) from an organization that promoted voter engagement. However, Student Life was unable to receive this funding this year. In past years, the mini grant was able to fund peer advisors to discuss voting with the student body as well as other programs. *Gerry Medina* noted that it is tough for the department to engage with community partners, however, Student Life continues to engage with partnerships with departments on campus.
- *Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva* asked if Student Life engaged in partial funding and how it impacted overall funding. *Gerry Medina* responded that Student Life experiences many program shortages due to limited funding. However, despite these setbacks, Student Life aims to support the student body to the best of their ability.

3. AVC – Dean of Students – Subcommittee C

- Director *Christine Mata*, Associate Director *Tony Jimenez*, and Financial and Administrative Manager *John Valdez* introduced themselves to the Committee and began presenting the AVC DOS's core services: providing academic guidance and support for students, connecting students to campus and community resources, and serving resources to faculty in matters related to student development and student conduct. *John Valdez* broke down the budget structure and explained that AVC DOS utilized carry forwards from last year to support security costs, student celebrations, and professional development. This year, AVC DOS is requesting \$61.5k in unmet needs to support four priorities: (1) Building our Common Ground, (2) VCSA student Affairs Awards, (3) Student Professional Development, and (4) Speakers/Presenters and General Programming. *Christine Mata* explained that Priority #1, Building our Common Ground, is a group activity during first-year orientation where students connect with one another through various topics and backgrounds. UCR is the first UC to implement this significant program. *Christine Mata* stated that the unmet needs will go towards hiring student coordinators during the summer to help implement this activity. *Christine Mata* added that student coordinators are building career readiness as they receive training and become connected with resources on campus. *Tony Jimenez* added that this program not only helps students become leaders but also introduces diversity and different worldviews early on. Priority #2

consists of funding award ceremonies to celebrate student leaders in showcasing academic leadership and growth. The award ceremonies have grown in attendance over the past several years and were supplemented by SSFAC funds. Priority #3 involves providing professional development for all student employees. *Christine Mata* noted that current resource centers offer workshops where core units of different programs come together to discuss different ideas, skills, and policies. *Tony Jimenez* noted that through student development lens this allows important skills to further grow even after graduation. Lastly, Priority #4 will allow students to experience educated speakers, presenters and other general programming to aid towards academic success. AVC DOS offers a series of speakers that engage, inform, and motivate students to achieve academic excellence. *Tony Jimenez* explained that some future outlooks and challenges AVC DOS anticipates are the growth in student demand, long term staffing or infrastructure needs, and economic and political uncertainty. *Christine Mata* stated that AVC DOS is working to bring in services to create cost-saving measures and partnerships, apply for external grants, co-sponsorships, and other innovative ways to reduce costs. If unmet needs are not met, AVC DOS will experience programs being sunsetted that will hinder student growth.

- *Chair Andrew Wong* asked if Building our Common Ground is embedded within a division at UCR. *Christine Mata* replied that the organization behind Building our Common Ground is separate from UCR and they work in collaboration with UCR's first-year orientation to administer this program to 6000 students. *John Valdez* added that the funding to support Building our Common Ground is separate from AVC DOS's budget. *Chair Andrew Wong* followed up and asked for the specifics of what the \$40k will cover for Building our Common Ground. *John Valdez* stated that it covers training materials, stipends to pay speakers, the space needed to partake in the activity, and more.
- *Sally Tavizon* asked how successful AVC DOS is in securing additional funding. *Christine Mata* responded that AVC DOS's goal is to strength infrastructure within the department and are currently not interested in pursuing external funding sources. AVC DOS acts as a support to other departments, divisions, and units in retrieving resources. *Sally Tavizon* commented that external sources can help pay for student workers. *Christine Mata* agreed and stated that conversations are being implemented in creative ways to achieve this goal.

4. Approve Meeting Minutes – February 17th, 2026

- *Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of February 17th, 2026, by Ananya Goyal, Seconded by Tatenda Nicole Mukuruva.*
 - ***Meeting Minutes of February 17th, 2026, Approved Without Objections***

5. Open Comments

- N/A

6. Chair Comments

- N/A

7. Adjourn: **10:23 AM**

- *Motion to Adjourn by Grace Su, Seconded by Sally Tavizon.*
 - *Adjournment Approved without Objections.*