

Arts & Sciences Chairs Meeting

September 23, 2025 | 9:00 – 10:30 AM | Broom Library 2533

1. Meeting Minutes

Minutes from August 26 and September 9 were approved. Minutes from April 8 – August 12 remain pending; expected by the next meeting.

2. Time Certain

Leslie Abell (Learning & Living-Learning Communities Faculty Director, Sociology): Reported 250 students received scholarships tied to learning community participation. Learning communities are now required, not optional, with courses scheduled T/TH 10:30–11:45 am. Systems adjustments ensure block enrollment to protect financial aid and faculty workload stability.

Rosa Bravo (Director of Business Operations) and Donna Flores (Director of Faculty Affairs): Presented on special consultant classification changes. Effective Sept. 1, part-time faculty stipends now fall under job code 4662 with hourly rates. Faculty must track time monthly in CHRS. Honoraria continue under current process until new P2P system launches in January. Additional guidance and office hours available.

3. Discussion Items

Budget Advisory Committee Update: Year-end balances reviewed; most departments within budget. Proposals to allow limited use of GD901 for travel forthcoming. Field trip reimbursement process still under review. Waiting on the President's budget memo regarding student assistant funding. Concerns noted that some programs (e.g., Black Studies) lack official budgets.

Spring Schedules: Luis began reviewing program schedules. Allocation requests submitted to Provost were reduced; final decisions pending. Phil noted that the augmentation for Spring 2025 would need to cover Fall and Spring Nursing overages. Chairs expressed concern over delays in approvals impacting enrollment and student retention. Phil committed to advocate for additional resources to meet student demand early in the registration process and to explore funding for chair workload during winter.

4. Chair Items

HSI Funding: Lindsey raised concerns regarding the termination of HSI funding and requested clarity on impacts to current and planned grants. Veronica and Jose will attend a CSU HSI Action Research Network conference and may report at a future meeting.

Academic Freedom: Concerns raised following recent national events impacting faculty academic freedom. Chairs requested clear assurances of protections. Phil reiterated protections tied to approved course content and policies against unauthorized recordings.

Promotion: Heather suggested A&S visibility during the .Paak™ House performance, which is expected to draw 11,000 visitors. Opportunity to showcase Arts & Sciences programs.

5. Informational Items

Independent Contractor vs. Honorarium – guidance evolving; more details forthcoming.

Spend course fees by end of October.

Department dashboards available.

6. Open Discussion

Broader reflections on enrollment management, funding uncertainty, and faculty workload pressures. Chairs emphasized the importance of proactive scheduling and communication to support student success.