

FACULTY ASSEMBLY COUNCIL MEETING

January 23, 2026

12:00-2:00

3607

1. Welcome & Roll Call
2. Exec Reports
 - Mary Gross, President
 - dara, Vice President
 - Billy Gunn, Treasurer
 - Luke Lara, Ombudsperson
 - Michelle Farnam
3. Informational Updates
 - i. *BPC*, Kent McCorkle
 - ii. *CCCI Legislative Update*, Mark Laurel
 - iii. *Online Certification & Recertification*, Billy
 - iv. *TREC Update*, Rich Dicker- FA TREC Liaison
4. MOU 26-01 Update: *Faculty Lateral Transfer Pilot*
Updates to MOU Approved
5. Council Discussion & FA Priorities
 - i. Intellectual Property & Academic Freedom (Billy/dara)
 - ii. FLEX/PD and New Regulations (Luke)
 - iii. Condensed Calendar/Winter Intersession (Mary)
6. Committee Check In
 - i. Education/Contract
 - ii. Operations
 - iii. Professional Relations
7. Closure

NEXT FA Council Meeting
Friday February 27, 12:00-2:00
Zoom Meeting ID: 545 456 834

MiraCosta College

FA Council Meeting

2028

January 23

Exec Reports

Mary Gross, President

dara, VP

Billy Gunn, Treasurer

Luke Lara, Ombuds

Michelle Farnam, Exec Member



Updates

FA Election Timeline- Estimates



Nominations begin Feb 2 - Weeks One & Two of the Process



**Accept Nomination Monday; Statements due Thurs and published Friday-
Week Three of the Process**



Voting Commences Monday and Concludes Friday Feb 27 - Week Four

Informational Updates

Kent McCorkle,

BPC

Mark Laurel,

**CCCI Legislative
Update**

Billy Gunn,

**Online (Re)Certification
Process**

Rich Dicker,

TREC Update

Council Discussion & FA Priorities

November Education Event
Faculty Feedback

- ★ Intellectual Property
and Academic Freedom
- ★ New FLEX/Professional
Learning Regulations
- ★ Condensed Calendar &
Winter Intercession

Intellectual Property & Academic Freedom

Key Takeaways

Faculty found they now have an increased awareness of how vulnerable academic freedom and intellectual property rights currently are without explicit, detailed contract language—and how important it is for the CBA to define and protect these rights clearly. Even more consistent is the takeaway that it's extremely critical to have explicit, clearly written protections for academic freedom (AF) and intellectual property (IP) in the CBA. Many faculty left the session realizing that the current contract either lacks AF language entirely or relies too heavily on general Board Policies, leaving rights ambiguous.

Primary Concerns & Working Condition Impacts

- ★ Boundaries of Academic Freedom: what is and is not covered
- ★ Ownership of Course Materials currently is unclear
- ★ Need for clearer contract language including precise definitions

Council Guidance/Priorities

FLEX and Professional Development New Regulations

Key Takeaways

Recent changes to Title 5 regulations for FLEX and professional development are now applicable to all employees, broaden the scope of FLEX eligible activities, and elevate professional development planning on campuses, potentially impacting current FLEX participation and governance structures. What is most important to faculty is maintaining faculty autonomy, ensuring faculty primacy in PD decisions, staying deeply engaged in the process, and clarifying how new requirements—especially for non-classroom faculty—will be implemented. Any MOU would need to be negotiated by March 17, 2026.

Primary Concerns and Working Conditions Impacts

- **Non-Classroom Faculty:** The FA will need to negotiate non-classroom faculty FLEX requirements.
- **Mandatory PD:** District may want more mandatory and in-person FLEX
- **PD Coordinator:** District may want to exert influence on the PD coordinator role in relation to college-wide PD coordination.

Council Guidance/Priorities

Condensed Calendar & Winter Interession

Key Takeaways

Faculty appreciated the thoughtful process that got us here and are adjusting to the upcoming 16-week calendar and extended class times. Most feedback centered on understanding how the winter interession will work, especially regarding LHE, contractual rules, workload, and departmental input on class offerings. Faculty see significant potential benefits for students but also have concerns about academic rigor and the practicality of compressed courses.

Primary Concerns & Working Condition Impacts

- ★ LHE: where is it coming from for new Winter offerings? Impacts to Fall/Spring?
- ★ Faculty Workload (Contractual Load/Extra Contractual) & Burnout
- ★ Decision-Making Authority: Department Input on Course Offerings
- ★ Student Support Services during Interession: Library, Tutoring, Counseling, Department Chairs, and other Faculty Leads/Coordinators

Council Guidance/Priorities|

Committee Check In



Contract/Education



Professional Relations



Operations

NEXT Meeting

**February 27
2026**

FA Zoom

**See you next
time!**