

1 **ACADEMIC SENATE**

2 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

3 October 18, 2023

4 Hybrid Meeting

5 2:00 - 4:00 pm PST

6  
7 **Present (Senate Members):** J. Armour, P. Adler, M. Apostolos, J. Bankard, M. Bayiz, D. Becker,  
8 P. Cannon, K. Carlson, M. Chatterjee, T. David Church, J. Dinalo, J. Dopheide, S. Dughmi, N.  
9 Duquette, C. El Haddad, S. Faris, E. Fife, A. Foster, B. Head, S. Hsu, K. Imagawa, S. Kim, M. Kong,  
10 G. Kung (alternate-V), R. Labaree, D. Lee, W. Mack, M. Mather (alternate-V), J. Matsusaka, C.  
11 Neumann, S. Schepens Niemiec, S. Nye, L. Olivera, T. Patel, D. Pecchenino, M. Philadelphia, C.  
12 Resnik, A. Samkian, S. Shroyer, A. Siegel, J. Swift (alternate-V), A. Tzoytzoyrakos, J. Urbano, J.  
13 Walker, C. Young

14 **Absent:** S. Aguilar, L. Alfaro, S. Altman, M. Aranda, S. Barbot, C. M. Beckman, S. Bradforth, D.  
15 Brooks, E. Brummel, A. Cannon, J. Condon, A. Das, A. Dukes, J. Ellenburg, S. Enguidanos, J.  
16 Godges, D. S. Grimes, S. Gruskin, A. Hollingshead, N. Houser, A. Imre, S. Iqbal, J. Israel, H.  
17 Jaddoud, J. Jones, R. Jubran, J. Kirschner, V. Kuhn, J. Kutch, D. Lainer-Vos, J. Lantz, C. Lee, L. B.  
18 Lewis, J. Lin, T.J. McCarthy, C. Martinez, L. Matchison, M. Nadim, J. Nyquist, E. Ochi, R. Parke, L.  
19 Perin, G. Prieto Botana, S. Rao, B. Salhia, K. Savla, G. Sanchez, C. Soto, B. Swartout, L. Turcotte,  
20 M. Turner, A. Uyeshiro Simon, F. Valero Cuervas, D. Wadhwani, E. Warford, K. Wilber, J. Wild, A.  
21 Yang

22 **Guests (Senate Members alternates & invited guests):** F. Bar, K. Burrows, A. Cheung, G. Clark,  
23 M. Dalrymple, K. Eden Dukes, H. Findling, S. Gupta, A. Guzman, C. Kane, H. Kaslow, L. Lauretta  
24 Hill, M. Levine, A. MacArgel, L. Mann, M. Moghaddam, J. Moore, R. Newmyer, A. Smith, T.  
25 Tambascia

26  
27 **AGENDA**

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29 **Call to order: Margo K. Apostolos, Senate President - 2:05**

30 Academic Senate President Apostolos called the meeting to order at 2:05pm.

31 Nov 15 meeting will be held at Health Science Campus, Soto Building, 1845 N Soto, SSB  
32 115/116, Los Angeles, CA 90043. Parking will be provided

33  
34 **Approval of the 9/20/23 Meeting Minutes; Christal Young, Secretary General**

35 Tabled to the November meeting

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37 **Discussion with Provost Andrew Guzman**

38 Provost Guzman commented on the events in Gaza. He shared that everything that's happened  
39 has had a big impact on many people in our community in ways that we're not conscious or  
40 aware of. He stated "It's important that you take care of yourselves and give yourselves some  
41 grace as you go through this process." He went on to note that "There are [people] both

informally in your colleagues and others, and formally through our structures of support that are available” to utilize as necessary.

President Folt has put out 3 statements regarding the conflict in Gaza. Spending a lot of time on this. They are doing everything they can to ensure that there’s safety on our campus. This applies to students, staff, and faculty. There are many people engaging in ways to connect with student groups. Department of Student Life. Dean of Religious Life, Varun Soni, has strong relationships with religious leaders across the world. It is not true that the interests of Palestinians and Muslims are aligned on these issues. There is an overwhelming instinct to behave responsibly and behave collegial with one another. Open dialogue helps us to do that successfully.

Examples of cooperative dialogue during events:

- On Monday night, there was a vigil by Tommy Trojan for people who have lost their lives over the attack. There was a counter-silent protest occurring nearby. They did not disrupt the vigil.
- Tuesday, there was a march in support of Helstein. In both cases, there was communication and awareness with and among leadership.

DPS was present at all events. Provost Guzman shared “We can’t control events but we can control what happens on our campus.”

Provost Guzman encouraged the faculty to recognize those realities, be flexible and understanding of students as many of them are experiencing these events for the first time in their lives. Additionally, he recognized that we live in a diverse world and no one will agree on everything. With that said, he asked faculty to behave in a responsible way and find ways to respect those around us and be an example to students of how to engage in discussions around this issue.

### **LibKey Presentation**

Acting Head of Leavey Library and Associate Professor Christal Young gave a [presentation](#) on LibKey Nomad, a browser extension available through USC Libraries to provide single click access to library content directly from publisher websites. Senators who have already begun to use this service spoke about the ease of use and usefulness in their research.

### **Academic Senate Talks**

President Apostolos shared that the Academic Senate plans to take the work from the retreat and bring it to a larger audience. The first Joint Academic Senate/Provost talk will be “Free Speech and Academic Freedom” on Nov. 29th at 1pm in DML 121 with a Zoom option. The full slate of talks will be shared at the November meeting.

### **Presentation from the USC Office of Sustainability**

Mick Dalrymple, Chief Sustainability Officer, and Jill Sohme, Director, Environmental Studies

Program, presented on Assignment: Earth, USC's branded sustainability framework. They explained that USC hasn't created a separate silo for sustainability, rather it is woven through everything. There are 27 goals that range from engagement, DEIB, education, research, operation. It is a key presidential priority. If any faculty are interested in incorporating these efforts into their research or teaching, there are a number of tools and resources available including research seed grants, workshops, and learning communities.

#### *Sustainability Contacts:*

- Program Administrator, Hannah Findling - [hfindling@president.usc.edu](mailto:hfindling@president.usc.edu)
- Chief Sustainability Officer, Mick Dalrymple
- Distinguished Professor, Ming Hsieh Chair in Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Vice Dean for Research, USC Viterbi School of Engineering, Mahta Moghaddam
- Jill Sohm, Associate Professor (Teaching) of Environmental Studies and Director of Environmental Studies Program, USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences - [sohm@usc.edu](mailto:sohm@usc.edu)
- Chelsea Graham, Experiential Learning Manager - [cmgraham@usc.edu](mailto:cmgraham@usc.edu)

#### **LMS Presentation**

Professor of Clinical Education, Ginger Clark  
Change Management and Adoption Lead, Katelin Eden Dukes  
Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Sandeep Gupta  
Solutions Engineer, D2L, Andrea MacArgel  
Interim Associate Chief Information Officer for Application Services and Program Lead for LMS transition, Ashley Smith

D2L (Company) Brightspace (Product). A demonstration of the Brightspace platform was presented. A larger presentation to all faculty will be available at a later date.

This is an integration into our ecosystem, it is a migration project, and a training and communication project. Data will be collected during the pilot timeline in order to refine and improve issues.

A Senator asked if ITS will be migrating our courses directly from Blackboard — including links and YouTube videos — to Brightspace or will faculty have to do the migration themselves? - *D2L will be migrating 3 years of content. What will not be migrated is the student data.* There was conversation around what our archiving approach will be if a professor needs to access a course from 4 years ago.

A Senator asked about students taking an incomplete this semester. - *Students have one year to complete an incomplete. All data will be in the archive. The committee will look into considerations for this population.*

AI integration within the program will serve as a help assistant within the platform. AI is a starting point for getting help.

Students participating in the pilot will receive training in January. TA training will come later as many TA's are not assigned to a course until later.

Anyone with additional questions can contact [ils@usc.edu](mailto:ils@usc.edu)

**Discussion with DPS Chief Laretta Hill**

Chief Hill gave an introduction of herself and her background and spoke on the Safety Vision for the University as well as the Community Advisory Board. Chief Hill wants to make sure that the department is integrated in the campus culture.

**Q&A**

A senator asked about how DPS plans to further address people experiencing homelessness. - *DPS works closely with the city and utilizes city services to clean up a particular area.*

A Senator asked how safe are we compared to similar institutions? - *We are relatively safe. Our biggest crime is scooter and bicycle theft. The violent crime that creates fear is not occurring at USC.*

President Apostolos asked how can we, as a faculty, encourage safety around campus? - *If you see something, say something. Safety is a shared responsibility of the entire campus community.*

**President's Working Group**

President Apostolos petitioned for recommendations from Faculty Council Chairs for names for a President's Working Group. If you have a name to suggest, please contact President Apostolos directly.

The next Academic Senate Meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 15th on Health Science Campus.

**Adjournment**

President Apostolos adjourned the meeting at 4:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Christal Young



Secretary General of the Academic Senate