

# PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING *MINUTES*



**Location:** University Union, 220 Conference Room

**Date:** 11/02/2025

## Schedule

**8:15 – 9:00 a.m.** Coffee and Light Breakfast

**8:50 – 9:00 a.m. Welcome from External Relations:** Yukie Murphy & Kanani Makekau

- Yukie welcomed members and reflected on the university's growth and ongoing construction projects, including the new Student Success Center and additional housing. She emphasized the university's transition from quarters to semesters as a significant milestone.
- Kanani and Stanley introduced themselves and facilitated introductions of all PAC members. Members shared their hometowns, students' majors, and experiences with Cal Poly, highlighting the council's diverse representation.

**9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Welcome Address:** Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, Terrance Harris

- VP Harris introduced himself and shared his background as a Cal Poly alumnus and legacy member of the campus community.
- He provided updates on the **Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Affairs (SEMSA)** merge, designed to streamline the student lifecycle from recruitment through graduation.
- **Key campus initiatives discussed:**
  - **Student Success Center:** Opening planned for 2027; will serve as a hub for student engagement, career services, and co-curricular collaboration.
  - **Major Housing Project:** Expansion of student housing along Perimeter Road to meet enrollment growth.

- **Year-Round Operations Initiative:** Aims to expand summer residential enrollment and increase total capacity toward serving 30,000 students annually by 2028.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** Continued commitment to representing California’s demographic diversity through equity-driven student success and retention strategies.
- VP Harris fielded questions on direct admissions, student engagement, and mental health. Members emphasized the need for inclusive, accessible engagement spaces to reduce student isolation.

**9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Associated Students Incorporated (ASI) Report:** ASI President Marc Cabeliza

- Marc shared ASI’s role as a nonprofit auxiliary supporting student life, funded by student fees.
- **Current priorities:**
  - Expanding **student visibility and representation** across colleges.
  - Implementing **a grocery shuttle pilot program** to improve food access.
  - Launching a **medical vending machine** for after-hours wellness support.
  - Advocating for **telehealth and mental health access beyond 8–5 hours.**
  - Continuing large-scale engagement programs like “Buck the Stigma” and intramural events.
- Marc also emphasized partnerships with Student Affairs and university leadership to ensure student voices inform key initiatives.

**10:00 – 10:45 a.m. Maritime Integration:** Dr. Beya Makekau & Josh Machamher

- Dr. Makekau & Josh provided updates on the integration of the **Cal Poly Maritime Academy** with Cal Poly SLO. The integration aims to preserve the maritime institution’s unique culture while aligning academic programs, student services, and governance structures under the Cal Poly name.

**10:45 – 11:00 a.m.** Break

**11:00 - 11:30 a.m. PAC Public Communication Training**

- Members received training on effectively communicating Cal Poly's message and values when engaging with parents, prospective families, and community partners.

**11:25 – 11:30 a.m. Group Photo**

**11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Lunch**

**11:30 – 12:00 p.m. Ryan Weisenberg**

- Announcements included updates on parent philanthropy opportunities and volunteer initiatives supporting Student Affairs events.

**12:30 - 1:00 p.m. Faculty Representative: Dr. Megan M. Lambertz-Berndt**

- Discussion included research engagement opportunities such as:
  - **BEACON Scholars Mentor Program** (November 17).
  - **SURP (Summer Undergraduate Research Program)** timelines and faculty-student partnerships.
- Post-graduation pathways and Career Services initiatives connecting research experiences to employment.

**1:00 – 1:30 p.m. Semester Conversion: Dr. Rachel Fernflores**

- Overview of the upcoming **semester conversion** scheduled to launch **August 26, 2026**.
- Dr. Fernflores shared resources including:
  - The **Semester Conversion Student Handbook** and **faculty office hours**.
  - Answering questions regarding Quarter to Semester Conversion

**1:30 – 2:00 p.m. Breakout Groups**

- Members divided into small groups to discuss:

- How PAC can best support Career Service's Clothing Closet.
  - Ways to expand family engagement in local and regional events such as Summer Send-Offs and Mustang Family Weekend.
  - Professional Development Grant fundraising ideas
- Kanani thanked all attendees for their continued partnership and emphasized PAC's vital role in shaping the parent and family experience at Cal Poly.