1. **Call to order**  
2:05pm

2. **Approval of Agenda**  
Approved.

3. **Approval of Academic Senate Minutes of August 27, 2013 and September 17, 2013**  
(distributed electronically)  
Approved.

4. **Introductions**  
The following guests were welcomed: James Tuedio, Linda Nowak, Annie Hor, Reza Kamali, Dennis Shimek, Martyn Gunn and Chuck Gonzalez.

5. **Announcements**  
ERFA representative Manrique reported on developments in the quest for retired faculty parking. On April 26, 2011 the senate endorsed free parking for retirees. After being told by University Police that free retiree parking was prohibited, further information was provided to University Police and to Business and Finance. Recently Manrique and Dieter Renning met with VP Shimek and later with President Sheley with the result an allowance for retirees to purchase parking for $24 per year. The remaining problem is that the retirees are not allowed to park in the faculty and staff parking lots which would provide better access. Manrique thanked the senate for its support.

The Provost announced the recent passing of Trustee Mehas. Chancellor Timothy White plans to attend the funeral service which is on Friday, October 4th, so the Chancellor’s scheduled visit to CSU Stanislaus this Friday will be postponed. Information will be relayed to the campus as soon as a new date has been confirmed.

O’Brien saw a scandalous report that the PandaCam has been shut down at the National Zoo. Let the record show that the CSU, Stanislaus senate met on the first day of the government shutdown.
6. Committee Reports/Questions

**FAC (Sims):** Still discussing policy related to disruptive students, and will meet with VP Espinoza and Dean Noble. The committee is continuing discussion of chair workload.

New item: request for lecturer representation on the committee which has led to a fuller discussion of lecturer representation overall.

New item: The committee received from VP Shimek a request to examine all policies pertaining to Professional Ethics and Network Use. The request was characterized as a reminder to faculty of ethical behavior in internal workplace exchanges via email, which is a concern.

**SWAS (Eudey/Filling):** The Governor has still not appointed a faculty trustee although the ASCSU has forwarded nominees. The SWAS and some campuses have passed resolutions calling on the Governor to appoint the Faculty Trustee.

The ASCSU also passed a resolution on meeting ACR73 for a plan to increase the percent of tenure-track faculty. An implementation plan exists, but the request is for development of a new implementation plan which the Chancellor wishes to see. Sarraille noted that the number of lecturers/coaches/counselors are over 51% which is significant. The calculations vary depending on whether we talk about headcount percentages or full-time equivalent faculty (FTEF).

The California Community Colleges are working toward offering bachelor’s degrees, a plan that apparently did not arise from their faculty. There is opposition in the SWAS and Chancellor’s Office. Regalado noted that we might examine some of our arguments for offering the doctorate as some of the community colleges arguments for the bachelor’s may be similar.

The Executive Vice-Chancellor reported on the Online Concurrent Enrollment (OCE formerly, Intersegmental Concurrent Enrollment, ICE) program with a call to do more (180 enrollees so far). More information is available at [http://groups.csuprojects.org/online-fall2013](http://groups.csuprojects.org/online-fall2013)

The Governor, at the Board of Trustees meeting, noted his inability to provide more money while encouraging faculty to have stronger connections to students.

A CO survey pointed to lack of faculty and lack of funds to hire faculty as the primary cause of the much-discussed “bottleneck” courses.

The system is attempting a common personnel database which promises better data.

**FBAC (Lindsay):** FBAC met last week and discussed the FBAC budget priority resolution. FBAC thought it was a good idea to review the previous year’s resolutions and will move forward with a budget priorities resolution. The FBAC data template may see completion because the “data warehouse” at Stanislaus now exists. An FBAC ad hoc committee (Lindsay, Tan) will meet with Gary Torngren to start this process.

**Graduate Council (Perrello):** The CEGE quarterly report was discussed; the grant will expire in two years, and the discussion focused on how to institutionalize and prioritize programs and activities. Assessment of graduate education is on its way to the SEC and Senate. CEGE-funded assessment of graduate education resulted in the formation of a one-year ad-hoc committee.
The Provost invited the council to consider combining the offices of Director of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) and Graduate Dean.

**UEPC (Schoenly):** In response to EO1064 the committee is discussing splitting community-service learning and internship policies into two separate policies; the committee will forward draft resolutions to the Senate soon.

7. **Second Reading Item**
   a. 35/AS/13/UEPC - Resolution for Two-Pass Registration System (one year pilot) California State University, Stanislaus Replaces the previously approved 2/AS/12/UEPC – Resolution for Two-Pass Registration System (one year pilot)

Schoenly noted that the UEPC will conduct another survey to solicit input after this one-year pilot.

There was a question of timing of the onset of second and subsequent passes. The first pass priority with scheduled times and up to 12 total units will be followed by a second pass priority registration with scheduled time and up to 18 total units followed by open registration.

The Senate accepted a friendly amendment to the third resolved clause: *That this first-pass priority registration be followed immediately by a second-pass priority registration period to be followed by an open registration period that shall continue for at least 15 business days and should continue until 12:00 midnight of the first day of instruction; and be it further*

There was concern that the move to a 12-unit first pass would negatively affect freshmen and sophomores, and it was noted that improved advising and better coordinated course offerings would improve progress to degree for students.

The amended resolution passed on a voice vote.

8. **Discussion Items**
   a. President Sheley’s memo regarding Advising/GE/Writing (Memo dated 9/20/13)
Speaker Garcia noted the memorandum focuses on three issues: advising, general education, and writing. Today’s focus is on advising.

Points of discussion: We had a very detailed advising plan several years ago, but that plan can’t be implemented as some of those offices don’t exist anymore. As these transitions have occurred we’ve been in limbo.

As Martyn Gunn told us, we will have a much better computer program in four years. With the new programs, it will be easier to automate some parts of advising. Should GE advising be automated or is it important for students to be advised by faculty or other advisors who can communicate the value of GE? It was also questioned whether the system could track, for example, prerequisites for prerequisites.

In looking at the status quo, do we need a more uniform advising regimen based on “best practices” at the college or university level, either as mandated for use or simply available as a resource to departments and programs? Alternatively, can we even say what our status quo is?
We do have a gap in advising of freshmen, and certain data such as level, placement test scores, and any courses previously taken would help. Departments might build and provide a schedule for students. The efficiency of New Student Orientations and the number of NSOs was questioned. In the recent past freshmen have been provided schedules, but a good number of those had to be redone in part because of conflicts with student work schedules, etc. Now incoming freshmen register themselves, and this causes a different kind of confusion.

We also need to pay attention to the other advising during the academic year, especially in light of reduced number of tenure-track faculty. For most faculty, advising is accounted for by only a small part of our workload; however, the expectations are increasing while the number of tenure-track faculty has declined. Part of the answer may be in better student knowledge of what information is available online as well as training and resources for advisors. Advising is as complex as it is important, and it cannot be assumed that advisors understand all facets. We cannot lose sight of advising in the context of the individual students goals. Four-year roadmaps and peer advising are or will be helpful to students. Advising can be mandated through registration holds.

The College of Business Administration (CBA) Student Success Center was lauded as a model. The cost of the Center, developed in part a response to accreditation demands, is about $50K/year to do GE advising for approximately 1400 students. (Business faculty continue to advise and mentor students.) Biology has an online document that keeps track of the courses students take and also asks them what their career goals are. Some valuable advising can occur in the course of coursework.

Gunn reported that the Student Advising Resource Center attempted to advise 148 undeclared students; 47 had opened their csustan emails. The remainder now have holds and will lose priority registration. The SARC also does 1-on-1 advising for approximately 500 EOP students before registration begins.

How much “hand-holding” should be provided to students once resources have been made available to them? Maybe send them a post-card? It was noted that even some graduate students do not regularly seek out information provided to them via email. How many of our incoming students have a good background that has informed them how to “go to school”?

Speaker Garcia suggested that the Senators continue the discussion with their colleagues.

8. Discussion Items
b. Importance of Faculty Shared Governance document
Speaker Garcia noted that in recent past discussions at the Senate it was asked if there is unhealthy enmeshment of governance and the CFA etc. The SEC developed these two documents, also shared them with the President, and is open to feedback on both items.

Questions were raised about the share of decision making by faculty in strictly curricular matters, for example the level that budgetary decisions impinge on the approval of courses—a matter that could be phrased as budget affecting academic freedom. From a faculty perspective, as has been discussed in many venues, the primacy of faculty is assumed.

Regalado noted that approving a course and offering a course are two different matters, opining that budget should not determine approval, and adding that nothing in the course proposal procedures calls for recourse to budgetary considerations. The pedagogical merit should stand and the course should be approved and not denied based on a budgetary argument around what is strictly an academic matter.
Breshears added that if it is due to a lack of budget, shouldn’t that preclude the department from choosing to offer a different course and not preclude the approval of the course. Such restrictions would put their department in a situation that they couldn’t offer a course, a disservice to students. This is a real issue where budget now interacts with academic freedom. Documents such as this one are important for reference when such questions or complication arise.

Thompson noted the other document concerning Roles of CFA/SWAS and the CSU Administration was also shared with administration. We are open and want to see any acts or policies that contradict our statements.

Speaker Garcia asked Senators to share the documents with their departments.

c. Roles of CFA/SWAS and the CSU Administration document
Discussion included above.

8. Open Forum
Sarraille noted that the two remaining tenure-track faculty in the Ethnic Studies program announced that they will be leaving at the end of the term. He believes the institution has no intention to replace those positions, but he believes that such a program is vital to an institution such as Stanislaus. The two faculty have sent a fifteen-page letter to the President, and Sarraille believes that letter demonstrates that those faculty feel they have been hemmed in and the program is not supported. The letter has just been shared with the Speaker and has been shared with the FAC.

Tuedio noted that two faculty submitted resignation letters; they had been struggling with low-enrolled courses in the program—a long-standing problem. There is a question whether the offerings suit our students. The college was looking at budget reductions, and there had been discussion of discontinuation. CAHSS is trying to reconfigure the program so it does not require four tenure-track faculty because the number of students do not support that number of faculty. The proposal is at the college curriculum committee.

Eudey (co-chair of the CAHSS Curriculum Committee) is disappointed as well as there is no immediate effort to fill those positions but there is a long term effort to revitalize the program. Bell (Senator for Anthropology/Geography/Ethnic Studies) said that they are spearheading the effort and have continued to advocate for the program. Members of the Ethnic Studies faculty were invited but have not attended the meetings.

O’Brien noted that Miller-Antonio reached out to Sociology and asked for interdisciplinary support for the program.

Filling has trouble reconciling these comments in regard to the letter that Sarraille mentioned. Sarraille added that the retiring faculty feel that there is active resistance to the program. It smacks of infighting; but just hearing people say that they have a long term plan with good intentions is not very reassuring.

Speaker Garcia noted that the discussion will likely begin in the FAC.

9. Adjournment
4:00pm