

University Resources Council Minutes (Approved) – Mar 18th, 2025 (10th meeting)

Anatol Center

Members in Attendance (21)

Abduel Basit; Sarah Corona; Jesse Dillon; Cyndi Farrington; Araceli Gonzalez; Ben Huff; Anna Kang; Chris Miller; Will Murray; Sara Nourazari; Sam Vickovic; Suzanne Perlitsh Wechsler

ASM: Terie Bostic (CLA); Staci Freeman (CHHS); Melissa Mata (COB); Janine Pociask (CNSM)

Marianne Hata (Asst. VP academic resources); Claudia Plaza (SA)

Praveen Soni (Chair); Dave Whitney (Vice-Chair), Pitiporn Asvapathanagul (Secretary).

Guests in Attendance (4)

Michael Gardner, Mark Zakhour, Robyn Ames-Woodyard, Corry Colona

1:03PM	Meeting Called to Order	Praveen
1:04PM	1. Approval of the agenda – Meeting of March 18, 2025. <ul style="list-style-type: none">The March 18, 2025 URC agenda was moved, seconded and approved.	Will moved & Sam seconded Approved
1:04PM	2. Approval of the minutes – Meeting of March 04, 2025. <ul style="list-style-type: none">The March 04, 2025 URC minutes was moved, seconded and approved as written.	Will moved & Sam seconded Approved
1:05PM	3. Presentation on Space standards and Space Reconfiguration plans at CSULB <ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussing Space Standards and Configurations: The discussion centered around the need for change in how space is used on campus, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The new approach aims to optimize space usage, reduce energy consumption, and promote collaboration. A study was assessed/studied by Deloitte before the planning stage. The attendees were encouraged to provide input and feedback on the new standards.Optimizing University Spaces for Future Work: The discussion focuses on implementing future work principles at the university, emphasizing space optimization and creating a better office culture. Mark explained that the Future of Work team and Beach Building Services are collaborating to reconfigure spaces, considering flexible work arrangements and shared space strategies. The process involves determining how teams work, optimizing space usage, and implementing changes to create more efficient and appealing work environments. Examples of projects include creating central offices for shared staff, implementing hoteling systems, and redesigning spaces to be more aesthetically pleasing and functional. The goal is to make better use of limited space while creating an environment where people want to work. The showcase at the Math Department has been completed.Pilot Projects and Space Adjustments: The team discussed the ongoing pilot projects and case studies for showcasing projects, emphasizing the importance of early involvement for potential funding. These projects are happening across the campus, including the 3rd floor Brotman Graduate Studies, and the library on the second floor. The need for space adjustments have been planned due to the growing number of students and staff. The team to discuss potential projects with Michael, Mark, or Robyn. Michael also mentioned that furniture projects and graphic projects are relatively inexpensive ways to improve spaces. Michael acknowledged that the current trend of remote work may be a long-term adjustment. The team also discussed the integration of the new USY design for faculty and staff, with the team clarifying that there are no faculty in the USU.	Michael Gardner, Mark Zakhour, Robyn Ames-Woodyard

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although CSU is under budget cut, the small improvement is needed to better support the students, staff and faculty, said Robyn. Sam asked if what we are doing is in the same trend with other campuses across the nation. Michael replied that the Deloitte study has provided comparison with other campuses. However, the private schools move faster than public institutions and the model is depended on the nature of the employment. 	
1:38PM	<p>4. Presentation on Housing and Residential Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Department Operations and Future Plans: The housing department provides an update on their operations and future plans. The housing is the second largest of student employment on campus. ~44% of the budget is for personnel, which has increased due to addition of professional staff. The housing currently manages 21 residence halls and 3 dining halls, with 83 full-time staff and 149 student staff. Housing demand continues to increase, with over 2,000 students on the waitlist last year. To address this, they are converting 166 rooms to triples at Beachside, which will generate additional revenue. A new residence hall, La Playa, is under construction and set to open in 2026. They are also expanding the Hillside dining hall to increase capacity. The department faces challenges with rising costs and deferred maintenance needs. Housing rates will increase by 6.75% next year, with a standard room costing around \$10,000 for the academic year with additional meal plan around \$2k to \$3.5k. The department emphasizes the positive impact of on-campus housing on student retention and graduation rates. 	Corry Colonna
2:10PM	<p>5. Resource requirements for the GWARC proposal – Discussion and possible action plan by Subcommittee chair Dave Whitney and the council members. (The proposal was sent to you prior to the March 4 meeting.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UWR Approval and Resource Requirements: Praveen thanked Whitney and his subcommittee for their work on the UWR. Praveen also mentioned that Neil asked him to work on resource requirements for the GWAR C proposal, which is not yet approved nor sent to CEPC for review. Dave presented the factors that might determine the resources for the GWAR C proposal, and the subcommittee members were encouraged to speak up if they needed to. The meeting was then opened for discussion. Praveen also mentioned that the next URC meeting would be on the 3rd Tuesday in April. Course Requirements for Freshmen and Transfers: The committee discussed the differences in course requirements for first-time freshmen and transfer students. The subcommittee highlighted that the work proposal requires four courses, including two lower division courses and two upper division courses, while the CEPC/UWR proposal requires two courses. Dave also noted that the proposal caps the number of students in these courses, which could impact departments that currently teach writing-intensive courses. The group discussed the potential impact of these changes on their departments and the need for further discussion in the academic setting. GWAR C Proposal Review: The committee discussed the ongoing review process of the GWAR C proposal by the Senate. The CEPC is expected to provide feedback by March 20th. The committee also highlighted the potential impact of the proposals on the availability and competency of faculty and departments to teach writing-intensive courses. The next meeting is scheduled for April 15th, and the outcome of the review process is uncertain. Course Differences and Resource Implications: Dave discussed the differences between two courses, W and WI, and their impact on resource requirements. The committee suggested that the second course, WI, might have a detrimental effect on some departments, particularly computer science and biology. The committee also discussed that the second course might require more competent and qualified faculty. The committee proposed that the differences between the two courses 	Dave Whitney and GWAR subcommittee

	<p>should be written down and sent to the Senate for further discussion. The committee also discussed the potential cost implications of reducing the number of courses from 24 to 15, suggesting that it might not be feasible due to the high cost of faculty training and the need for additional sections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparing Writing-Intensive Course Proposals: The committee discusses two proposals for writing-intensive courses, comparing their resource implications. The committee decided to draft a qualitative analysis highlighting the differences between the proposals, including the number of courses required (4 vs 2), potential impacts on faculty hiring and development, and effects on students. The subcommittee will prepare this summary by Monday, focusing on resource-related aspects without explicitly endorsing either proposal. The analysis will note the increased complexity and potential costs associated with implementing more writing-intensive courses across majors, as well as possible impacts on graduation rates and time to degree. 	
2:54PM	6. Adjourn	