

Quick Notes for Representative Assembly Members to Share at Department Meetings

June 2, 2026 Representative Assembly Meeting*

Link to meeting agenda and meeting materials:

<https://senate.ucsd.edu/media/754742/june-2-2026-representative-assembly-meeting-materials.pdf>

Link to presentations:

<https://senate.ucsd.edu/media/755258/june-2-2026-presentations.pdf>

San Diego Divisional Senate Chair Plant's Remarks

Systemwide Updates

- Enforcement of website accessibility standards has been delayed one year. While there is one more year to be compliant, the intent is to proceed based on the original timeline.
- A new Title VI lawsuit has been filed involving students at UCLA. A prior Title VII suit from February involves employees. Both allege breach of contract; remedies sought include rescission of grants and appointment of a court-supervised monitor.
- BOARS completed a roadmap for a comprehensive admissions review next year, including scrutiny of A-G requirements. A Berkeley faculty letter is circulating calling for immediate restoration of the SAT.
- The AFSCME contract has been ratified through 2030. The UC is now bargaining with lecturers.

Campus Updates

- UC San Diego is transitioning to the new Triton Student System (TSS) this summer. It is replacing aging technology that no longer meets many of the university's long-term operational, reporting, and compliance needs. Faculty may notice the following changes:
 - Updated terminology and navigation within student systems;
 - New processes for viewing class and student information, and for entering grades;
 - Different ways of accessing scheduling, waitlist, and roster information;
 - Changes to enrollment-related workflows and timelines; enrollment for Fall 2026 this year is shifting from May to July;
 - Temporary process workarounds while additional functionality continues to mature after launch.

The initial launch this summer will not represent a polished end state. The TSS team will continue to make adjustments and improvements. As TSS prepares to launch this summer, if the project team encounters any unanticipated issues related to enforcing Senate policy, Academic Affairs may request an exception. Senate Council (the Senate's executive committee) may need to act on behalf of the Representative Assembly to consider the request because Assembly does not meet during the summer months.
- The Senate election result for Vice Chair-elect was announced on May 29:
 - Steven P. Briggs, Professor, Cell and Developmental Biology

*These notes are intended to be a quick recap and supplement to the notes taken by Representative Assembly members at the meeting, in order to aid them in their reporting at Department meetings. The notes do not replace the minutes, which are the official record of Representative Assembly meetings and are approved at the following Assembly meeting.

- The Senate election results for Committee on Committees and Divisional Representatives to UC Assembly were announced on May 18.
 - Divisional Representatives to UC Assembly
 - Eric Halgren, Professor, Neurosciences and Radiology
 - Shahrokh Yadegari, Professor, Music
 - Committee on Committees:
 - Gert Cauwenberghs, Professor, Bioengineering
 - Tracy Handel, Professor, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
 - Paola Cessi, Professor, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
 - Mica Pollock, Professor, Education Studies
 - Brian Goldfarb, Associate Professor, Communication (two-year term)

Chancellor Pradeep Khosla's Remarks

- The AI Symposium was a highly successful event born out of a collaborative effort between administration and the Academic Senate. The discussion addressed the opportunities, challenges, and risks associated with AI integration. Since AI cannot be avoided, the University needs to approach its integration with diligence and careful consideration.
- The budget allocation process is underway. The overall state budget outlook remains healthy. Compensation increases are anticipated: approximately 6% overall for policy-covered employees; faculty increases are projected at ~4% and staff are projected between 4–6%. \$10M has been reserved for pending litigation; additional reserves designated for graduate student backpay. A projected deficit of approximately \$32M is anticipated for the coming fiscal period. Budget reductions are planned at 2% on the academic side and 5% on the administrative side, with a proportionally larger reduction applied to the administration side of Academic Affairs.
- Federal grants remain stable; however, many are forward-funded over 3 to 5 year periods, distributing their impact over time. The federal indirect cost (IDC) rate remains unchanged; however, slower federal spending will reduce IDC returns to the VC area, presenting an additional budgetary impact. The current fiscal pressures are institution-wide, not isolated to any one area. Despite a projected \$32M deficit, leadership remains confident in the institution's financial trajectory and anticipates a return to greater fiscal stability.

Executive Vice Chancellor Elizabeth Simmons' Remarks

- Triton One is the institution's new program designed to provide students with textbooks and course materials. The program ensures all students have full access to required materials from the first day of each quarter at a flat rate of \$199 per quarter, regardless of major or number of courses enrolled. Faculty retain full autonomy in selecting course materials; materials are delivered in a digital-first format via Canvas or available for student pick-up by the first day of classes. Textbook adoptions must be submitted prior to the start of summer. Look for an email from VitalSource with access to the selection portal. See page 2 of the presentation slides.

- More than half of UC San Diego students experience food insecurity; many are eligible for CalFresh, California's SNAP program. Faculty engagement has made a measurable difference. Student enrollment in CalFresh increased by 18% last year, resulting in \$5.1M in additional grocery support for students. Faculty are encouraged to include a brief CalFresh message in their syllabus and display informational slides in the classroom. Resources are available on the [Collective Impact website](#). See page 3 of the presentation slides.
- Summer is an ideal time to review and update websites and Canvas materials to meet website accessibility standards. Policy requires compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 for all websites and Canvas content. Checklists and training modules are accessible at accessibility.ucsd.edu. SiteImprove offers targeted [training](#) for updating web content. Step-by-step [checklists](#) are available to guide improvements to presentations and PDFs. See page 4 of the presentation slides.

Special Orders

Consent Calendar

- (a) 2024-2025 Distinguished Research Awards nominations
The following nominations were approved:
- Mark Estelle, Cell and Developmental Biology
 - Terry Jernigan, Cognitive Science
 - Miroslav Krstic, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
 - Bernhard Palsson, Bioengineering
- (b) Non-substantive changes were approved for the following:
- San Diego Divisional Senate Manual Appendix 5.7, Bylaws of the Faculty of the School of Medicine
 - San Diego Divisional Senate Manual Appendix 5.8, Bylaws of the Health Sciences Faculty
 - San Diego Divisional Senate Manual Appendix 5.9. Bylaws of the Faculty of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Reports of Standing Committees

- (a) Graduate Council, Sarah Gille, Chair; and Duncan Watson-Parris, Associate Professor, Department of HDSI.
- Approved: Proposal to transfer the MAS in Data Science and Engineering degree program to the Halicioğlu Data Science Institute.
 - See page 90 of the meeting materials and page 6 of the presentation slides.

- (b) Graduate Council, Sarah Gille, Chair; and Mirle Rabinowitz Bussell, Chair, Department of Urban Studies and Planning
 - Approved: Proposal to establish San Diego Divisional Senate Regulation 724, Requirements for the Master of Urban and Regional Planning
 - See page 91 of the meeting materials and page 12 of the presentation slides.
- (c) Educational Policy Committee, Stanley Lo, Chair
 - Approved: Proposal to amend San Diego Divisional Senate Manual Appendix 2, UC San Diego Academic Integrity Policy
 - See page 93 of the meeting materials and page 17 of the presentation slides.
- (d) Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction, Steven Constable, Chair
 - Approved: Proposal to amend San Diego Divisional Senate Bylaw 270, Faculties of the Division
 - See page 101 of the meeting materials and page 22 of the presentation slides.

Reports of Faculties

- (a) Revelle College, Lisa Lampert-Weissig, Professor, Department of Literature
 - Approved: Proposal to amend San Diego Divisional Regulation 605 Academic Requirements of Revelle College
 - See page 103 of the meeting materials.

New Business

- (a) Educational Policy Committee, Stanley Lo, Chair
Extension of drop deadlines during Summer Session 2, 2026
 - Approved: Two limited-term exceptions for Summer Session 2 2026 to the drop and withdrawal deadlines due to the launch of TSS:
 - A limited-term exception to SD Regulations 501.B.1, 501.B.2, 501.C.1, and 501.C.2 to extend the deadline for undergraduate and graduate students to drop a class or withdraw from the quarter without a "W" grade from August 14, 2026 to August 21, 2026.
 - A limited-term exception to SD Regulations 501.B.3 and 501.C.3 to extend the deadline for undergraduate students to drop a class or withdraw from the quarter with a "W" grade from August 21, 2026 to August 28, 2026.