

CLA Senate Meeting Minutes February 2026

Monday, February 9, 2026 | 2:30-4:00pm | I04-4300 in ISC

1. Approval of December meeting minutes (5 min)
 - a. Minutes approved (quorum?)
2. Dean's report (30 min)
 - a. Faculty Hiring
 - i. Chairs will get this information on Wednesday
 - ii. There is a timeline, which might shift
 - iii. By March 5, Deans will submit top 12 for next three years
 - iv. They will ask chairs to come up w/ top 2 hires within a week or so of the chairs meeting
 - v. No longer have to do spreadsheets for requests and can provide paragraph summary
 - b. Budget
 - i. Good news: as we move into BBM, most recent scenarios show that CLA does well
 - ii. We will still be in surplus
 - iii. CLA jumped up in retention rates from upper 60% to ~72%
 - iv. Other news: higher ed in a difficult climate
 - v. Fewer international students (major dip)
 - vi. cautionary budget outlook
 - vii. landscape is outside our control
 - c. GA Allocations
 - i. Still haven't received them, but think they will largely stay the same
 - ii. Certain assistantships will no longer have tuition remission—will hear soon
3. Questions:
 - a. International admissions
 - b. Same for international faculty
 - c. Visa hurdles—cannot pay visa fees
 - i. Can go ahead and offer admission; go business as usual
 - d. 3-year hiring plan
 - i. What about precipitous departures
 - ii. Sort of go to front of line but chairs need to make that argument again
 - iii. Will ask Provost about this
 - e. Did the BBM model change? Why surplus now?
 - i. Had noticed the charges for space
 - ii. Was going to bring this up during private meetings, but CSM brought it up themselves
 - iii. Then there seems to have been a shift
 - iv. CLA still needs to improve graduation rates though- could help there
 - v. Next year's budget is NOT Beacon Budget

- f. Is there any difference in this semester's enrollments?
 - i. Anecdotally, numbers seem way down in this senator's department
 - ii. Pratima: for the most part we stayed stable from fall to spring
 - iii. Will do analysis of which courses actually did really fill
4. Moderator's report (10 min)
- a. Last meeting's motion not sent per Roberts Rules
 - i. Motion in December meeting regarding satisfaction survey
 - ii. Not sent because it was in the chat, and chat was lost
 - b. Update on satisfaction survey
 - i. Provost moving forward on vendors, advisory committee for faculty satisfaction
 - ii. Unclear what the committee's mandate will be at this point
 - iii. CSM may go ahead with another DIY survey- don't have as much faith in external firm
 - iv. Will allow us to compare to other institutions
 - 1. Can we still push for exit interviews? Yes, but through union
 - c. Update on hard copy course packs
 - i. Hard-copy course packs still available through Quinn
5. Course approvals (10 min)
- a. Virtual vote bc no quorum
 - b. New courses: N/A
 - c. Substantial change:
 - i. ART 387: Printmaking Workshop (adds "instructor permission" as a pre-req option)
 - ii. COMM 210: Media Stereotyping (previously taught as special topics, making it permanent)
 - iii. PSYCLIN 698: Master's Research (changes class to variable credits)
 - iv. PSYCLIN 782: Assessment Practicum 2 (allows course to be repeated)
 - v. SOCIOL 102: Sociology in Boston (changes description to make it more clear that the course is an elective for students in the major)
 - d. Undergrad program change
 - i. Sociology Major (BA): changes some required courses
6. New business (20 min)
- a. Graduate programs in your program? One senator has a grant about how to make grad classes more equitable
 - i. Students receive gift cards for participating in study
 - b. Faculty grievance w/union just occurred: there was a FOIA request and university sent private information out publicly, then redacted it and re-sent it, still student information in communication
 - i. Would like faculty review before sending

- ii. Should Senate do motion? Yes, will work on this
- c. Space committee composition issue
 - i. Moderator will follow up and see where that stands
 - ii. Is university dining committee still functional?
- d. One senator states their department is confused about what to do if ICE comes to campus and tries to enter classrooms
 - i. University guidance is to notify the police
 - ii. University guidance also to contact OGC
 - iii. Cannot provide information unless OGC allows
- e. Assessment requests in departments?
 - i. Expected to report on assessment every semester and do assessment continuously
 - ii. Will keep an eye on this, as it is quite vague

7. Adjourn

- a. Meeting adjourned unanimously