

College of San Mateo – Finance Committee

January 27, 2026 11am-12pm

Building 18 Room 206

Voting Members

Name	Representation/Position	In Attendance
Gerardo Ramirez	Vice President of Administrative Services, Chair	N
David Crafts	Dean of Enrollment and Student Support, At-Large Member of IPC	Y
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Executive Committee Member selected by the Academic Senate</i>	
Makiko Ueda	Personal Counselor, At-Large selected by the Academic Senate	Y
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Classified Staff Member selected by Classified Senate (approved by CSEA)</i>	
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Classified Staff Member selected by Classified Senate (approved by CSEA)</i>	
Moe Thanzin Cho	ASCSM Finance Director, Student Representative	N
Kohya Lu	Ombudsperson/At-Large Member of Management Council	Y
Victoria Lin	Chief Business Officer	Y

Guests & Non-Voting Attendees

Name	Representation/Position	In Attendance
Kim Lantz	Executive Assistant, V.P. of Administrative Services Office	Y
Steven Lehigh	Economics Professor	Y
Daniel Keller	English Professor, President of Academic Senate	Y

Action Items	Lead Responsible	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose that Academic Senate create pre-written questions for April Budget Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel Keller 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2/12/2026

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose that Classified Senate create pre-written questions for April Budget Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kim Lantz 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2/12/2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule Flex Day Budget Forum for early morning and no longer than an hour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gerardo Ramirez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3/1/2026

Minutes

Minutes from November and December, 2025 are approved, pending change to Makiko Ueda's title from "Psychologist" to "Personal Counselor".

December Budget Forum Feedback

Members who were unable to attend the December Finance Committee meeting have time to give feedback, and hear more from those who did attend.

There is concern among Committee members that campus constituents who do not attend these forums may still be unaware of the changes and challenges, which decreases morale while there are rumors of the deficit worsening. Some on the Committee sense that leadership & the District seem to be hiding the real conversations around budgetary moves & decisions, increasing the sense of mistrust.

The Committee re-emphasizes the importance of the work that the forums do provide (e.g., discussing ways to cut costs for departments), but also recognizes there is a need for actions to prevent this from happening again. There has been a lack of communication regarding methods for cutting costs, such as class cutting, and other instances of miscommunication—such as receiving incorrect information from the Chancellor about the property tax status for the District—without clarification or correction.

Next Forum: April Flex Day

The Committee discusses concerns that the December forum was dominated by a select few employees, and that many varied voices were not able to be heard.

To improve the next budget forum in April, the Committee recommends the following:

- Academic & Classified Senates will be asked to put together questions in advance. Daniel Keller will propose this at Academic Senate today (1/27/2026). Kim Lantz will reach out to Classified Senate to propose this.
- Scheduling the Flex Day Budget Forum early in the day and longer than an hour, to improve attendance.

Additional Budget Questions

The Committee brings up other topics for discussion and for Administrative Services and other College leadership to broach:

- Addressing the rumor that the deficit is getting worse.
- Clarification on source of additional funding added to CSM. Steven interjects that this money was money that wasn't taken away from the College, not additional funds dispersed.
- Are there things happening behind the scenes that would inform us about the action leadership is taking to remedy the situation?
 - It feels like information is being hidden. Cutting classes vs beach volleyball court—we need leadership to tell us why they are doing this, because otherwise frustration grows.
 - Even small mistakes create a sense that leadership is not being completely straight with us.
- How will the student housing project will affect ongoing staffing costs once complete?

Presentations & Documents