

College of San Mateo – Finance Committee

February 24, 2026, 9-10 am

Building 18, Room 206

Voting Members

Name	Representation/Position	In Attendance
Gerardo Ramirez	Vice President of Administrative Services, Chair	Y
David Crafts	Dean of Enrollment and Student Support, At-Large Member of IPC	Y
Steven Lehigh	Economics Professor, Executive Committee Member selected by the Academic Senate	Y
Makiko Ueda	Personal Counselor, At-Large selected by the Academic Senate	N
Edgardo Molina	Administrative Assisat for PRIE, Classified Staff Member selected by Classified Senate (approved by CSEA)	N
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Classified Staff Member selected by Classified Senate (approved by CSEA)</i>	-
Moe Thanzin Cho	ASCSM Finance Director, Student Representative	Y
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
Daniel Keller	English Professor, President of Academic Senate	Y

Action Items	Lead Responsible	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Senate feedback and questions for April Budget Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel Keller 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3/23/2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose that Classified Senate create pre-written questions for April Budget Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerardo will reach out to President of Classified Senate, Fauzi Hmadeh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3/09/2026

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule Flex Day Budget Forum/ Workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerardo Ramirez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3/1/2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place an open request for questions from campus community at large on weekly CSM Announcements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerardo Ramirez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3/09/2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile list of questions received 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerardo Ramirez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3/26/2026

Minutes

Minutes from January 27, 2026 reviewed and approved.

Update on Committee Members

Steven Lehigh, Economics Professor, is officially joining Finance Committee as a representative from Executive Committee of the Academic Senate.

Edgardo Molina, Administrative Assistant for PRIE, is officially joining Finance Committee as new member selected by Academic Senate and approved by CSEA.

Update on ASCSM Meeting Update

Gerardo Ramirez was invited to speak with ASCSM at their February 9, 2026 meeting. Gerardo gave an overview of the current financial status of CSM and pointed students to December 4, 2026 Budget Forum presentation and prior budget forums for mor details. Students were informed that they might see changes in the number of sections offered, particularly where low enrollment is experienced. Academic leadership will prioritize keeping classes open when they are part of specific degree requirements so as to minimize impact.

Update from Academic Senate President

Daniel Keller provided update on discussions at Academic Senate and feedback he is requesting regarding format and content for next Budget Forum/Workshop. He will be conducting a survey of faculty regarding budget related concerns and questions. He will likely attend the various academic divisions to ask these questions.

See Appendix A - Academic Senate Budget Related Survey.

April Flex Day – Budget Forum/ Workshop

Committee agreed to create a list of questions based on all questions being submitted by Classified Senate, Academic Senate, Finance Committee, and through open call from College community at large.

Gerardo will compile list to be reviewed at next Finance Committee meeting. Committee will summarize themes and forward to CSM Cabinet so they can prepare FAQ document in advance of next Flex Day, April 16, Budget Forum/Workshop.

Finance Committee will participate in budget forum/workshop.

Emerging key themes and questions for FAQ Document *(to be updated once list of additional questions are received)*

1. Clarify why there seems to be a discrepancy or misalignment between messages from District and CSM regarding finances.
2. Address the rumor that the deficit is getting worse.
3. Clarification on source of additional funding added to CSM to cover deficit.
4. Are there things happening behind the scenes that would inform us about the action leadership is taking to remedy the situation?
5. Clarify source of funding for capital construction like volleyball courts and student housing. How will the student housing project affect ongoing staffing costs once complete?
6. Communication on class size cuts, when will those be clearly communicated campus-wide?

Appendix A – Academic Senate Budget Related Survey

Purpose of this survey:

To gather information, over the next few weeks, about what questions people have about the budget.

We are using the feedback mainly to better inform discussions about the budget in academic senate, but also to improve communication with the administration. I'll be sharing some of the responses in the all-campus emails before the flex day, and ideally they will inform the flex day activities but there will be no identifying information if you choose to remain anonymous.

Questions—multiple choice

1. To what extent do you feel you have been informed about the budget challenge at CSM?
 - A. To a very great extent
 - B. To a good extent
 - C. Very little
 - D. Not at all

2. If you have been able to attend any of the budget forums or discussions on campus, did you find the information
 - A. Very helpful
 - B. Helpful
 - C. Somewhat helpful
 - D. Not at all helpful
 - E. I was aware of the presentations, but unable to attend
 - F. I was not aware of the presentations

3. What questions do you have about the budget?
