

University Senate Norms & Expectations Summary

Norms: Familiar ways of interacting within the Senate¹

- The purpose of the Senate is to address important campus issues and create policy to support and strengthen the institution.
- Senators and guests as part of the campus community should model appropriate behavior in this representative body.
- We will ask questions to clarify understanding.
- Our feedback is meant to be constructive and solution oriented.
- Though we may disagree, our conversations will be collegial and focused on the issues. We will not direct criticism towards an individual or groups, nor will we allow ad hominem attacks within the Senate.
- The chair will acknowledge the concerns of speakers who come to the open forum and follow up with them.
- We will use *just enough* Parliamentary Procedure - keep the meetings running, but depend primarily on mutual respect to ensure order, use the parliamentary rules only when necessary.
- We will build time for questions into the agenda. If we run out of time, time on the next agenda will be made to allow for questions to be asked and answered. .

Expectations: Desired behaviors and outcomes¹

- Start from a position of gratitude with each other.
- Assume others have the best intentions and everyone wants Cal Poly Humboldt to excel.
- Be open to other people's perspectives and aware that they may have a different lived experience than you.
- Listen intently, think before speaking, and ask yourself, "How can I add value to this space?"
- Avoid: hyperbole, personal attacks, and hostility. Grant each of us the grace you wish to be granted, even on your worst day.
- Be aware of your positionality, be conscious of who you are speaking to and how your words might be heard differently by different people.
- Maintain a healthy dose of humility of all flavors (intellectual, cultural, etc.)

¹ Evertson, C., Poole, I., & the IRIS Center, (2003), *Establishing classroom norms and expectations*, Retrieved from https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/wp-content/uploads/pdf_case_studies/ics_norms.pdf