



Present: Zohra Asad (SSW), Paul Bylsma (ELC), Rita Cooper (CECI Dean's Office), Christopher French (CECI Undergrad Student), Mark Hoffman (CECI Dean's Office), Raymond Higbea (SCLD), Kelly Lormand (T&L), Shelly Page (OCA), Melanie Rabine-Johnson (CECI UAC), Simon Reeves (CECI Grad Student), and Courtney Topić (SCCJLS)

Absent: Mei Mah (CEP), Rui Niu-Cooper (LEFT), and Raul Ysasi (T&L)

1. Introductions

2. Reflecting on 2025–26 Activities

- Members ranked this past year's activities from most to least impactful in relation to the committee's charges:
 - Give-Back Event – 4 votes
 - College Awards – 2 votes
 - Kickoff Meeting – 1 vote
 - Replenish Food Drive – 1 vote
 - KFB Competition – 0 votes
 - Winter Meeting – 0 votes
- The committee discussed the origin and relevance of the current committee charges, including whether revisions should be considered given the evolution of CECI over the past five years.
 - Following the merger, a task force developed the current charges based on previous expectations and responsibilities.
 - Any changes to the charges would require a proposal to be brought before the college for a vote.
 - After discussion, the committee agreed to retain the current charges.
- Members also discussed the “advisory” component of the committee's role.
- The committee reviewed each charge and agreed that charges 1 and 4–7 had been successfully addressed during the academic year.
- Additional discussion focused on improving efforts related to Charge #8 concerning student organizations. Suggestions included:
 - Hosting a tabling event during the Fall 2026 semester.
 - Organizing a collaborative service activity in which student organizations help decorate Kids' Food Basket sack supper bags.
- To better address Charge #2, members agreed to gather feedback from their respective units regarding gaps in communication.
- The committee also discussed creating an end-of-year report that could serve as a broader communications piece for the college.

Action Item: Committee members will ask their units to identify communication gaps and provide recommendations for improvement.

3. 2026–27 Academic Year Meetings

- Monthly meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month from 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- Meeting locations are TBD.

4. Fall Kickoff Meeting Responsibilities

- The committee discussed its role in the Fall Kickoff Meeting.
 - Proposed responsibilities include:
 - Hosting a community-building activity with prizes.
 - Introducing the CECI Give-Back event.

Action Item: Paul will create a matching game based on unit highlights shared during the Winter Meeting.

5. Fall Give-Back Event

- Paul and Kelly presented several potential ideas for the Fall Give-Back event.
- Members expressed strong interest in partnering with John Ball Zoo.

6. Partnering with University Communications

- The committee discussed how Bill Herbst's role may intersect with CACC's communication efforts.
- Members explored opportunities to create well-produced feature content for YouTube and other platforms beyond social media.
- Additional discussion centered around the possibility of hosting a community-based PechaKucha-style event, e.g., "QuickTalks."
 - Melanie noted that similar events are successfully hosted in communities across the nation.

7. University Awards Process

- Members discussed ways to improve communication surrounding the university awards process. Suggestions included:
 - Hosting a college-wide workshop led by the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Legal Studies, who has developed a strong internal process for recommending colleagues.
 - Promoting award opportunities earlier in the academic year, possibly during the Fall Kickoff Meeting.

8. Establishing Subcommittees

- The following subcommittees were established:
 - Give-Back Event Planning: Kelly, Rita, and Shelly
 - Awards Committee: Raymond, Courtney, and Melanie
 - Tabling/Networking Event for Student Organizations: Christopher, Simon, and Paul
 - Replenish Food Drive and Orchestra Concert Planning: Zohra
 - KFB Competition: Kelly and Rita
 - Rhett the Dinosaur Initiative: Christopher

9. Entrance Display Case

- The committee discussed potential themes for the entrance display case during July–December, including:
 - Reflecting on CECI's first five years
 - Promoting the Fall Give-Back event
 - Artwork display by art education students
 - Study abroad student experiences
 - International student highlights
 - Field placement overviews
 - Sabbatical features

10. Winter Meeting

- The Winter Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, from 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Location TBD.
- Lunch to be provided.

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, September 1 at 11-12 p.m.

Tuesday, October 6 at 11-12 p.m.

Tuesday, November 3 at 11-12 p.m.

Tuesday, December 1 at 11-12 p.m.

Tuesday, January 12 at 11-12 p.m.

Tuesday, February 2 at 11-12 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2 at 11-12 p.m.

Tuesday, April 6 at 11-12 p.m.