

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

April 6, 2026, 3:30 p.m.

The Faculty Senate of Eastern Kentucky University met for a hybrid meeting Monday, April 6, 2026, in Science Building room 2221. Chair Brent called the meeting to order at approximately 3:30 p.m.

ABSENT: Senators Smith, Kazadi, Plutt, Turner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Senator Nachtwey moved to approve the March 2, 2026, minutes as written, seconded by Senator Settimi. Motion carried. (YES = 44 votes NO = 0 votes ABSTAIN = 0 votes)

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT: David McFaddin

TO: Eastern Kentucky University Faculty Senate

FROM: President David T. McFaddin

DATE: April 6, 2026

RE: Faculty Senate April Report

April 2026

Springtime is here, marking one of my favorite times of year. Our Campus Beautiful comes alive with buds and blooms and student activity. It's the time of year when we celebrate excellence with our President's Awards, student awards and several other events, like our annual Giving Day. Spring also means graduation is right around the corner, where we'll celebrate degree completion for thousands of ECU Colonels.

ECU Becomes Third-Largest Public Institution in Kentucky

Thanks to the hard work of our faculty and staff, ECU's admission numbers raised our ranking to the third-largest public university in Kentucky for student enrollment. The Fall 2025 enrollment reached 15,969 students and reflects a steady enrollment growth over the past few years. This ranking places us ahead of all state regionals including Western Kentucky University, Northern Kentucky University, Murray State University and Morehead State University.

ECU Named Number One Nationally for Military Friendly® Schools

After hovering for many years in the top five in the nation, last month, ECU was named the Number 1 large public university in the nation according to the 2026-2027 Military Friendly® Schools Rankings. More than 3,200 organizations across the country participated, including military schools. This ranking highlights our commitment to our over 1,900 veterans, active duty service members, Reserve/National Guard members and

military spouses and children (Fall 2025). I want to recognize our excellent team in the Military and Veteran Programming Department: LTC Vin Thomas, Nick Wentzel, Madison Green, and Rae Caldwell.

Legislative Update

This session, ECU was well represented in Frankfort in more ways than one. First, I cannot express how proud I was of our 10 student interns who worked with various legislative members throughout the session. They not only gained a vast amount of experience but highlighted the quality education they are receiving at ECU. Second, this session our legislative team of Amy Scarborough and Jordan Smith managed more than 200 bills with potential impact to our institution. We are fortunate to have such expertise representing us at the State Capitol.

The General Assembly is currently in the veto period with the legislature reconvening April 14 and 15 to consider additional bills and potentially act on bills that were vetoed. As I mentioned in my email earlier today, most public universities, including ECU, will see a base fund reduction over the biennium to cover debt service for capital projects. For our campus, this represents a 6.3% reduction in recurring state support. This is a significant impact for campus that the Cabinet is currently evaluating to ascertain next steps. Once the session ends, we will provide an update on the budget preparation process.

During the Session, we did receive:

- \$50M Escrow for the D.O. School (\$42M for accreditation requirement and \$8M startup funds)
- \$8M to begin an Air Traffic Control (ATC) Program - this has been asked of us by the State Senate
- \$10M to purchase aircraft for our Aviation Program
- \$18.1M for Asset Preservation
- We secured \$11.1 million in the Kentucky Road Plan for turn lanes on Lancaster Avenue to support the new Model Laboratory School and alleviate traffic congestion.

Giving Day

Giving Day is quickly approaching. The 2026 ECU Giving Day will be Wednesday, April 22, 2026. This year's goal is 2,134 donors representing the number of students who graduated from ECU last spring. There are many challenges planned throughout the day and I encourage you to participate in whatever way is best for you. Some suggestions from the Alumni Engagement are:

- Be part of the goal by making a gift
- Share on social media
- Reach out to friends and family

Commencement

My favorite time of year is finally here... commencement. There is nothing more rewarding than watching our students proudly walk across the stage, receiving their diploma to the applause of their friends and family.

The Spring 2026 Commencement ceremonies will be Thursday, May 7, and Friday, May 8, 2026, at the Baptist Health Arena at Alumni Coliseum. Ticket reservations open Monday, March 16, for graduates and their families to receive tickets.

Thursday, May 7, 2026

- 6:00 p.m.: Master's and Doctoral Graduates from all Colleges

Friday, May 8, 2026

- 9:00 a.m.: College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences and the College of Education and Applied Human Sciences
- 1:00 p.m.: College of Health Sciences and the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- 5:00 p.m.: College of Business and the College of Justice, Safety, and Military Science

March in the News

- ECU Graduates Drive Literacy Success in Kentucky Classrooms
- Kenton Buckner Honored with ECU's Distinguished Service Award
- Paige Williams Honored with ECU's Professional Achievement Award
- ECU Becomes Kentucky's Third-Largest Public University
- Mollie Harris Honored with ECU's Young Alumni Award
- AI is Another Tool in Higher Ed, Not a Threat to it, ECU Expert Says
- ECU No.1 for Military Friendly® Schools

- Mom of Three Finds a Path in Social Work Through ECU
- Amy Baumann Sapsford Honored with ECU's Professional Achievement Award
- Turn Experience Into a Degree With Credit for Prior Learning at ECU
- From Creek to Community: ECU Research Tracks Water Quality
- ECU Board of Regents Extends McFaddin's Contract Into 2029
- Humana to Invest \$125K to Benefit Students, School of Nursing at ECU
- Education: Aligning Degrees with Demand
- ECU's Budget Request for the Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine Advances Unanimously Through CPE Review
- ECU Teacher Recruitment Fair
- WKYT Kentucky Newsmakers 3/8
- Fall 2025 Graduate List / Fall 2025 Deans List, Deans Award, President's Award
- Ron House Honored with ECU's Hall of Distinguished Alumni Award
- Protecting the Skies Through Drone Detection Research at ECU
- ECU Occupational Therapy Celebrates 50 Years of Impact
- Dr. Maisha Jack Honored with ECU's Professional Achievement Award
- Building Kentucky's Healthcare Future at ECU
- Art with a purpose; ECU students create bowls to fight hunger
- ECU Powers Kentucky's Workforce

Upcoming Events

April 16-President's Excellence Awards

April 22-Giving Day

April 23-Foundation Scholarship Dinner

April 24-Foundation Spring Board Meeting

April 27-Colonels Choice Awards

April 28-Midnight Breakfast

April 29-Society of Foundation Professors Dinner and Induction Ceremony

May 7-8-Commencement at Alumni Coliseum

May 13-Board of Regents Meeting

May 25-Memorial Day

One Eastern,

Dr. David T. McFaddin

President

REPORT FROM THE PROVOST: Sara Zeigler

TO: Eastern Kentucky University Faculty Senate

FROM: Provost Sara Zeigler

DATE: April 6, 2026

RE: Faculty Senate April Report

Essential Education Implementation

As part of the implementation of Essential Education, the Provost's Cabinet has created a steering committee and additional subgroups. While you should have received the information from your chairs, I have provided a summary document to Senate. The Faculty Senate representative on the Steering Committee is Erin Stevenson.

College of Business

EKU's FBLA Collegiate Team

- Delivered an exceptional performance at the FBLA State Competition in March
- Earned 43 top-three finishes across 42 events
- Swept the category in five of the competitions

- Thirty-five percent of all awards among the 10 competing state institutions went to ECU students
- Team received the Largest Chapter Award
- Kara Bullock was elected State President
- Reflecting the strength of our students and the effectiveness of our business curriculum

College of Business Community Engagement

- Finance & Banking Meet-Up
- Financial Literacy Fair
- Dean's, Banking, and Risk Management Advisory Boards will be on campus
- Distinguished Alumni for 2025–2026, Mr. Nick Bertram ('02), the President and Chief Operating Officer of Michaels Stores

College of Health Sciences

- Humana invested \$125,000 to support the School of Nursing
- 2026 is the 50th Anniversary of the Occupational Therapy Program at ECU
- Dr. Phyllis Bryden, MPH Director and Professor, received the 2026 Elbert "Al Austin, Jr." Career Achievement Award at the annual Kentucky Public Health Association Annual Meeting on March 18th
- 2026 is the 60th year anniversary of operation of the Recreation and Park Administration program
- ECU's RPA program is the 6th longest accredited program in the country
- The School of Nursing White Coat Ceremony (03/26/26)
- 31 AASN and 85 BSN students
- ESS faculty members Dr. Mike Lane & Dr. Annette DeLage collaborated with the ECU Ranger Company, Ranger Challenge Team
- The team finished 7th out of 35 teams
- LTC James Plutt, Jr., AR, praised the collaboration and programming in physical programming and nutritional planning as having a significant impact on the team's performance
- CHS Scholars Day – April 14th, Keen Johnson Building
- There will be 82 research posters from CHS students

- 4 Medical Explorers Academy student posters
- For a total of 115 presenters
- Trena Stocker, Mercy Health Marcum & Wallace Hospital, will be the keynote speaker

College of Education and Applied Human Sciences

School of Education and Model Lab School Faculty Collaboration

- National Association of School University Partnerships meeting in DC in February
- Four presentations
- Dr. Kellie Ellis, Chair of Department of Clinical Therapeutic Programs
- Testified before Kentucky House Senate committees in support of HB 266
- Provide future speech language pathologists with access to more funding for training
- As of 3/30, this bill is awaiting the Governor's signature

College of Sciences, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

The Department of Engineering & Technology

- Successfully wrote and secured a \$400,000 grant from Toyota
- Matched by an additional \$400,000 from the state/CPE
- \$800,000 total funds
- Toyota Endowed Chair in Engineering & Technology
- The award was announced on 3/23/2026 in Georgetown
- Toyota celebrated its 40th anniversary in Kentucky
- ECU represented by
- President David McFaddin
- Dean Tom Otieno
- Department Chair Nilesh Joshi

Honors Program

ECU Honors delegation of 20 honors student presenters and four faculty

- Annual Southern Regional Honors Council
- Montgomery, Alabama
- March 26–28
- Largest student delegation of any university at the conference

Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning

Data Initiatives

Data Initiatives provided the Thank-a-Professor Committee with initial analysis of 2023–2025 Thank-a-Professor data; more quantitative analysis in fall 2026. Qualitative analysis will be conducted by a research group now through fall 2026.

- Note Submissions (Significant increase for 2025)
- Word Cloud (Overall; frequency)

Faculty Research Showcase

The first session of the 2026 Faculty Research Showcase was held on March 27 in the New Science Building's STEM Center for Excellence. Presenters included:

- Pete Edwards – School of Education – Embedding Teacher Preparation in PK-12 Settings: Revitalizing a University-Lab School Partnership
- Stephanie Binion and Nicole Lavy-Joy – Department of Social Work – Rural vs. Urban: A Contextual Comparison of Law Enforcement Job Retention and Satisfaction Survey Data
- Jill Campbell – School of Music – Technology Provision and Access: Growing the ECU Student Experience through the Graduate Profile
- Reya Andrews – Department of Applied Human Sciences – If Food is Medicine, Why aren't we Prescribing It?
- Judah Schept – School of Justice Studies – "They're Just Slinging Them Back Out to the Street": Infrastructures of Confinement and Care in Central Appalachia
- Meg Gravit – Department of Applied Human Sciences – Children's Agential Voices in a Climate Changed World
- Ozan Kalkan – Department of Government – Authoritarian Personality and Abortion Attitudes in the United States
- Laura Barthel, Associate Dean, College of Business, hosted the session and Elizabeth Smith, Dean, College of Education and Applied Human Sciences, provided the welcome

The remaining sessions of the Faculty Research Showcase are April 17, 12:00–2:00 in the Library's Grand Reading Room, April 24, 1:00–3:00 in the Ravine, and May 1, 1:00–3:00 in Campbell Building 239.

REPORT FROM FACULTY REGENT: Lynnette Noblitt

April 2026 Faculty Regent Report for ECU Faculty Senate

State Budget Update

As President McFaddin explained earlier today, ECU was one of several institutions listed in the Executive Branch Budget (HB 500) to receive a base fund reduction over the biennium to cover debt service on capital projects. Currently, the bill proposes that ECU receive a 6.7% recurring reduction in state support.

While the institution received funds for specialized programs and projects, these funds are restricted and cannot be used to make up for university budget shortfalls. For instance, funding for Aviation aircraft and an Enhanced Air Traffic Control program can only be used for those specific purposes. The \$42 million allocated for the Osteopathic Medical School (D.O.) will be in escrow and is not part of the spendable university budget. The \$8 million for D.O. startup operations are also restricted and will likely be spent over several years. The university is grateful for the allocated \$18.1 million for asset preservation, but this is far less than the \$54 million allocated last biennium.

The legislative session continues through April 15, and it is possible that some allocations change a bit during this time, but ECU will most likely be facing a recurring multi-million funding cut.

University Budget Update

As I mentioned last month, the university budgeting process has largely been on hold awaiting the results of the legislative session. The ECU Board of Regents Finance Committee has two meetings currently scheduled. We will meet at 1pm on April 14 and 9:30am on May 6. I will forward the agenda to Faculty Senate when available.

Obviously, the upcoming budget will need to account for the cuts in state appropriation. As many aspects of our budget are fixed costs (i.e., insurance, utilities, safety, pension), the university has very few items that it can cut. I expect that all areas of the institution will suffer budget cuts and Academic Affairs will not be spared. While it is easy to simply commiserate over budget cuts, I fear that is not terribly productive. The Board will be looking for increased productivity and efficiency.

In the coming weeks/months, Academic Affairs will be asked to implement budget cuts. We will have to make significant changes to institutional processes and expenditures. The faculty needs to remain engaged and cooperative during this process. I urge faculty to consider ways in which they can both individually and within their programs/departments increase efficiency while maintaining quality for students. It is critical that faculty be willing to acknowledge financial reality while also advocating for students and academic quality.

Immersive Education Update

A group of faculty and staff interested participating in the Immersive Learning Lab request for proposal process will meet at 3:30pm on April 16. If your department has interest in participating or questions/requests regarding the proposal, please contact me to discuss.

EKU Faculty Regent

FACULTY QUESTIONS:

- Discussion followed regarding recurring state support reductions, the university's budget preparation process, and the likely impact on Academic Affairs. Senators raised concerns regarding long-term planning, faculty workload, and how budget reductions may affect staffing, academic programming, and student support services.
- Questions also focused on how faculty could remain informed and involved as budget decisions move forward and how shared governance would continue to be incorporated into those discussions.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

- N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Policy Updates
 - i. Office of University Counsel:
 - Chair Brent reviewed updates from the Office of University Counsel regarding university policies and regulations currently under review. He emphasized the importance of faculty awareness and participation in policy review, particularly during a period of significant institutional change and legislative activity. For University Policy and Regulation Updates
 - He noted that several policies would soon be posted for public comment, including:
 - a. Evaluation of Adjunct Faculty
 - b. Evaluation of Full-Time Faculty Not Eligible for Tenure
 - c. Evaluation of Library Faculty
2. Legislative Session and Proposed Bills
 - i. Discussion continued regarding House Bill 500, state appropriations, and broader legislative activity affecting higher education. Senators discussed implications for institutional budgeting, faculty governance, tenure protections, and long-term academic planning.

- ii. Concerns were raised regarding the relationship between state appropriations, financial exigency concerns, and future faculty policy protections.
- 3. Lunch and Learn
 - i. Chair Brent announced the upcoming Lunch and Learn with President McFaddin and encouraged faculty participation. He noted that the event would provide an opportunity for direct discussion regarding budget conditions, institutional priorities, and faculty involvement in addressing current challenges.
 - ii. Date: Wednesday, April 29th from 12:00 PM -1:00 PM
 - iii. Location: Case Dining, Regent's Room
 - iv. Topics: The budget, external environment, and how faculty can contribute

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Policy Work
 - a. Motion One: Faculty Senate moves to formally assert that no future revision of Policy 1.1.1 will be adopted without formal approval of Faculty Senate.
 - i. Motion carried. (YES = 47 votes NO = 1 votes ABSTAIN = 3 votes)
 - b. Motion Two: Faculty Senate moves that the drafting committee charge with producing the revision of Policy 1.1.1 shall be composed of no less than 90% faculty/staff.
 - i. Motion carried. (YES = 41 votes NO = 0 votes ABSTAIN = 1 votes)
- 2. Academic Impressions Survey/Evaluation
 - a. Chair Brent provided follow-up regarding the Academic Impressions survey and the related media discussion involving university leadership. He noted that faculty had continued to raise questions regarding the survey findings, the referenced podcast and video discussion, and how those materials were being used in broader institutional conversations.
 - b. Senators expressed concern that although the survey results and related commentary had been referenced in prior meetings and discussions, broader faculty access to the full survey findings remained limited. Members noted that faculty wanted greater transparency regarding both the survey results and any institutional conclusions being drawn from them.
 - c. Discussion also referenced concerns about workload, faculty morale, administrative communication, and how faculty feedback was being represented in broader planning discussions.
 - d. Chair Brent stated that follow-up efforts were continuing and that the goal remained to obtain greater clarity and broader access to the

materials so Faculty Senate could better understand the context and implications of the survey findings before further discussion or action.

3. Faculty Senate Meeting Format for AY 2026-2027

- a. Vote: Move to in-person meetings
 - i. Motion was left on the table for the organizational meeting to take place
- b. Vote: Move to Friday meetings
 - i. Motion was left on the table for the organizational meeting to take place

4. Ongoing Elections

- a. Executive Committee: Faculty Grievance Liaison for AY 2026-2027
 - i. Chair Brent reported that Dr. Barry Spurlock had been nominated to serve as Faculty Grievance Liaison for the upcoming academic year.
 - ii. His qualifications were reviewed, including his status as a tenured faculty member, prior experience serving on grievance-related committees, and his background as a licensed Kentucky attorney. Senators noted that these qualifications made him a strong candidate for the role.
 - iii. The Executive Committee requested a current curriculum vitae prior to final action. The nomination will return for formal vote once supporting materials are received.
- b. Elections and Nominations: Part-Time Senate Representative & Alternate
 - i. Continued coordination remained underway regarding nominations for the Part-Time Faculty Senate Representative and Alternate positions.
 - ii. The Elections and Nominations Committee continued working with colleges and units to verify representation needs, confirm vacancies, and ensure all positions would be properly filled before the organizational meeting.
- c. Faculty Senate Chair and Vice Chair for AY 2026-2027
 - i. Chair Brent informed Senate that due to increasing administrative responsibilities and additional outside obligations, he would not place his name forward to continue serving as Faculty Senate Chair for the upcoming academic year.
 - ii. He noted the importance of ensuring stable leadership and sufficient availability for the role and stated that it was in the best interest of Faculty Senate for new leadership to move forward.

- iii. Bylaws language was reviewed confirming that nominations occur in April and elections occur in May during the organizational meeting.
 - iv. The following nominations were made. Final voting will take place during the last faculty senate meeting.
 - 1. Matthew Howell was nominated for Chair
 - 2. John Brent was nominated for Vice Chair and declined
 - 3. Raymond Lauk was nominated for Chair and declined
 - 4. Gerald Nachtwey was nominated for Vice Chair
 - d. Elections and Nominations: Faculty Senate Roster for the 2026-2027AY
 - i. Chair Brent reported that continued work was underway with the Elections and Nominations Committee to prepare the Faculty Senate roster for the 2026–2027 academic year.
 - ii. This process included identifying senators rotating off the Senate, confirming departmental representation, reviewing vacancies across colleges and units, and ensuring that unit elections would be completed in time for the May organizational meeting.
 - iii. Special attention was given to standing committee assignments, faculty-at-large representation, and maintaining accurate election unit representation based on department size and current faculty counts.
 - iv. The committee also continued coordination regarding adjunct faculty representation, part-time faculty representation, and alternate positions to ensure all required seats would be properly filled for the incoming academic year.
 - v. Chair Brent emphasized the importance of completing this work prior to the May organizational meeting so that the newly constituted Senate could begin the next academic year with a complete and accurate roster, fully seated committee assignments, and clear leadership transitions.
- 5. Update to the Faculty Senate Bylaws
 - a. Sabrina reported continued work with Paulette on Faculty Senate bylaw revisions and supporting materials for faculty review.
 - b. This work included reviewing sample materials, prior email language, and faculty-at-large distribution items related to proposed bylaw revisions. The goal was to ensure that updates were clearly communicated and that faculty had access to the appropriate materials for review and feedback before formal action.
 - c. Discussion also included clarification of election procedures, leadership transition language, organizational meeting timing, and faculty-at-large communication processes to ensure consistency between current practice and written bylaws.
 - d. Attention was given to language surrounding nominations and elections for Faculty Senate Chair and Vice Chair, committee

- representation, and procedures for filling vacancies or transitions during the academic year.
- e. This work will continue as part of year-end transition planning and preparation for faculty review and implementation.
6. Comments & Questions from Faculty Senate and Faculty Body
- a. Additional comments and questions were raised regarding faculty participation, institutional communication, and the importance of maintaining strong shared governance during a period of budget uncertainty and leadership transition.
 - b. Senators discussed concerns related to recurring state support reductions, the long-term impact on Academic Affairs, and the need for continued transparency as budget planning moves forward. Faculty emphasized the importance of timely communication regarding policy revisions, committee work, and institutional decision-making so that faculty remain informed and meaningfully involved in the process.
 - c. Discussion also reflected the need for clear leadership transitions within Faculty Senate, completion of unit elections, and preparation for the May organizational meeting to ensure continuity for the incoming Senate.
 - d. Members reiterated the importance of preserving faculty voice in policy development, maintaining consistent communication across colleges and departments, and supporting collaborative governance as the academic year concludes.

REPORTS & QUESTIONS:

- None to report

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Executive Committee: Senator Brent
 - Chair Brent reported on the Executive Committee during the meeting.
- Academic Quality: Co-Chairs, Senators Campbell & Yoder
 - The Academic Quality Committee reported continued review of academic policies and processes affecting curriculum, program oversight, and faculty academic concerns.
 - Discussion included continued attention to program review processes, the relationship between academic quality measures and institutional planning, and how committee work intersects with broader policy discussions involving Faculty Senate and Academic Affairs.
 - Vice Chair Howell had previously raised questions regarding the Academic Quality Committee's role in program review as it relates to Policy 1.1.1 and bylaw language, particularly in relation to faculty participation and oversight of academic decision-making.
 - The committee continues to monitor these areas and coordinate with other standing committees as needed to ensure faculty input remains part of academic planning and review processes.

- Budget: Chair, Senator Lauk & Vice Chair, Senator Liddell
 - The Budget Committee reported continued monitoring of the state budget process, institutional appropriations, and the anticipated financial impact of House Bill 500 on Eastern Kentucky University.
 - Discussion focused on recurring reductions in state support, restricted appropriations for specialized programs, and the challenges associated with balancing institutional budget reductions while maintaining academic quality and student support services.
 - Members noted that many university expenses, including insurance, utilities, pension obligations, and campus safety costs, remain fixed, limiting areas where budget reductions can occur. As a result, all divisions of the university, including Academic Affairs, are expected to experience budget pressures.
 - The committee continues to review financial planning updates, coordinate with university leadership, and monitor Board of Regents Finance Committee actions as the legislative session concludes and budget planning moves forward.
- Elections and University Nominations: Co-Chairs, Senators MacDonald & Sizemore
 - The Elections and University Nominations Committee reported continued work related to Faculty Senate elections, standing committee vacancies, and preparation of the 2026–2027 Faculty Senate roster.
 - The committee is working with colleges and departments to identify senators rotating off, confirm election unit representation, fill vacancies, and ensure unit elections are completed prior to the May organizational meeting.
 - Additional coordination continues regarding adjunct faculty representation, part-time faculty representative and alternate positions, and committee assignments for the upcoming academic year.
 - The committee also continues to support nominations for Faculty Senate leadership positions, including Chair and Vice Chair, and to ensure all election timelines align with Faculty Senate bylaws and the organizational meeting process.
- Information Technology: Chair, Senator Ginn
 - The Information Technology Committee reported continued review of faculty technology concerns and campus systems that affect teaching, accessibility, and day-to-day faculty operations.
 - Discussion included continued attention to Canvas functionality and recent faculty concerns regarding ADA accessibility compliance in online courses. Faculty had raised concerns about the significant workload involved in manually reviewing individual Canvas pages for accessibility issues.
 - Follow-up with Canvas support and ECU's instructional technology team resulted in progress toward enabling the course-level accessibility checker, which will allow faculty to scan an entire Canvas course for accessibility issues rather than reviewing content page by page.

- The committee continues to monitor technology-related concerns, faculty access issues, and improvements to instructional systems that support teaching and learning across campus.
- Faculty Rights & Responsibilities: Chair, Senators Ginn & Nachtwey
 - The Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee provided the primary policy report of the meeting through continued work on University Policy 1.1.1 and broader shared governance concerns.
 - The committee presented findings related to the review and revision of Policy 1.1.1, emphasizing concerns regarding reduced Faculty Senate authority in the 2021 revision, the distinction between policies and regulations, lack of required tracked changes, archival consistency, and the importance of preserving formal faculty participation in policy approval.
 - Senators Ginn and Nachtwey presented two formal motions for Faculty Senate consideration regarding the revision process for Policy 1.1.1 and the structure of the drafting committee responsible for revisions.
 - Discussion emphasized alignment with shared governance expectations, faculty transparency, and ensuring that no future revision of Policy 1.1.1 proceeds without meaningful Faculty Senate approval and strong faculty representation in the drafting process.
 - The committee will continue working with Faculty Senate, University Counsel, and other standing committees as revisions move forward.
- Rules: Co-Chairs, Senators Bishop-Ross & Stevenson
 - The Rules Committee reported continued work related to Faculty Senate bylaws, meeting procedures, and policy language affecting Senate operations and governance structure.
 - Discussion focused on ensuring consistency between current Faculty Senate practices and the written bylaws, particularly regarding nominations and elections for Faculty Senate Chair and Vice Chair, organizational meeting timing, committee representation, and procedures for filling vacancies.
 - The committee also remained involved in discussions regarding Faculty Senate meeting format for the 2026–2027 academic year, including meeting day, time, and modality, to ensure any future changes align with bylaw requirements and election timelines.
 - Additional coordination continued with Executive Committee and Faculty Rights and Responsibilities to support policy review, procedural clarity, and year-end transition planning for the incoming Senate.
- Faculty Welfare: Co-Chairs, Nachtwey & Bane
 - The Faculty Welfare Committee reported continued involvement in discussions related to faculty working conditions, institutional policy concerns, and the broader impact of budget and legislative decisions on faculty across the university.
 - The committee remained engaged in ongoing review of University Policy 1.1.1 and its implications for faculty governance, faculty protections, and transparency in policy development and revision.

- Discussion also included continued faculty concerns regarding workload, morale, benefits, and how recurring state support reductions may affect faculty resources, academic units, and long-term institutional stability.
- The committee continues to coordinate with Faculty Rights and Responsibilities, Executive Committee, and university leadership to ensure faculty concerns remain represented as policy revisions and budget planning move forward.

ADJOURNMENT:

Senator Stevenson moved to adjourn, seconded by Senator Day, at approximately 6:00 pm.