



Faculty Senate
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Faculty Senate – Executive Committee

Minutes

Monday, September 8, 2025

Attendance: Rob Godby (*Chair 2025-2026*), Ray Stuart Fertig III (*Chair-Emeritus*), Ashley Hope Carlisle (*Member-at-Large*), Vladimir Alvarado (*Secretary*), Tiger Robison (*Member-at-Large*), Greg Cawley (*Member-at-Large*), Brad Rettler (*Member-at-Large*), Evan Johnson (*Chair-Elect*).

Absent:

Guest(s): David Bagley (*Vice Provost – Faculty Affairs*), Caroline Pepper (*Interim Dean – School of Graduate Education*)

Meeting called to order at 12:15pm.

Motion called to approve the agenda, seconded, carried.

Motion called to approve the minutes of August 25th, 2025; seconded and carried.

Chairs Report:

Chair Godby discussed the progress and future meetings of the Shared Governance Working Group. Chair discussed the FIRST (Foreign Influence Risk Security & Travel) Working Group, which has been charged by President Seidel to coordinate a focused effort to review state and federal regulatory changes and anticipated changes, review existing University policies and procedures, identify any gaps and propose necessary changes. These actions relate to federal grants and directions, and requirements by the federal government to ensure that there are no untoward benefits to unlawful residents of the country. Further information about future changes to grants and procedural structures regarding foreign influence, unlawful resident, and travel requirements. Chair noted that there would be additional reporting required in the future and noted that these steps are being undertaken to try and protect faculty. Discussion of the role of foreign adversaries in relation to travel to certain countries. Chair also discussed the role of 'strategically important' technology and restrictions around who can interact with the technology.

Policies that became effective this summer were discussed, including bathroom policies and open carry on campus, as well as discriminatory actions related to HB 147, which was signed into law. Chair noted that concerns regarding policies will be addressed in Resolution 494.

Discussion of the call for nominations for Faculty Conciliator and the Faculty Dispute Resolution Panel took place. The need to get these positions filled as quickly as possible was emphasized, and there was some discussion of the procedural elements involved in getting these positions filled. There was some discussion on the potential to change the rules and regulations related to the operation of the panels, and more broadly across the campus.

Chair Godby provided three quick points, regarding upcoming meetings. Next Tuesday, the State of the University Address (formerly known as Faculty Convocation) will be held. Chair Godby noted that this is the 'meeting of the faculty' and should be considered important. On the 7th of October, there will be a combined meeting of Faculty and Staff Senates. The Chair made mention

of moving the regular meeting of the Senate to the 7th and further noted that this is an opportunity to build relationships and networking, as well as an opportunity to strengthen the relationships between the two Senates, both to repairing shared governance, as well as a chance to further unite the two Senates. On October 8th, is the Faculty Town Hall in Coe 406.

Other Business:

No one had any announcements to make.

Faculty Senate Coordinator provided an update on the progress of the website both in its current iteration and in the redesign process.

Discussion of the work of the various committees and their respective workloads, and their overall function and purpose ensued. David Bagley noted that General Counsel delegated the student complaint mechanism to him. Chair noted that Casey Frome is also working on Title IX violations. Chair noted that other committees have yet to respond. Chair noted that the Awards Committee is necessary to identify and select someone for the Faculty Senate Speaker Series. Chair indicated that other committees may or may not be dissolved, or their charges may be changed. Evan Johnson noted as no longer chairing the Reappointment, Tenure & Promotion Committee.

Chair Godby laid out his expectations regarding Faculty Senators and wants to try and shift the cultural mindset and the perception of both Senators and the Faculty Senate at large. Chair Godby noted that Faculty Senate is an important governing body of the University, and that we have a responsibility to try and change the perception of Senate and Senators.

Some discussion over attendance and attendance policies. Discussion of the list-serv's and the operative nature of emails proceeded. Chair Godby brought up his desire to post SAPPs and Resolution in a shared drive/network location/Teams central location which can be viewed and edited by all the membership, to pursue both transparency and allow more 'live' editing. Additionally, he mentioned that he would like to have two separate digital meetings one for Senators and a second one for the regular public. MAL Cawley brought up some concerns regarding open/live editing and the possibility of losing edits.

Chair requested a motion to amend the agenda; seconded; carried. Amended agenda permits the discussion of the changes brought up in resolution 495, regarding the formation and establishment of the Graduate Council and changes to the purpose and function of Graduate Committees. Discussion by the executive committee of the various moving parts that go into both the resolution and the operations of the Graduate Committee. Clarifications of terms and definitions. Discussion of the Graduate Council on 9/22 most likely arrives before Faculty Senate.

Executive Committee discussion of resolution 494, Equal Opportunity and Prohibited Efforts SAPPs. Chair Godby discussed the joined resolutions 494 and 491. Chair Godby would like to remove resolution 494 from the agenda to discuss whether any other issues have come up regarding resolution 491 which was already in place. Discussion of some of the tensions that relate to the SAP, which is a by-product of state legislative action took place. The possibility of reopening 491/494 for review was brought up.



Executive Committee of discussion of Resolution 496, Campus Demonstration Rule Changes, is to be discussed during the next session.

The Chair-Elect position was discussed. With Evan Johnson departing the University after Fall semester, a decision needs to be made as to whether to hold a special election. Chair-Elect's departure will be announced tonight to Faculty Senate.

Discussion of the possibility of changing by-laws, and General Counsels requests to have notice of those changes being discussed by October 1st, 2025. Chair Godby provided the mechanisms by which such changes come to pass. Discussion of some of the difficulties connected to the Faculty Coordinator position proceeded. Further discussion took place on UW Regulation 2-2, 2-300, and 2-301 and the mechanisms by which the reconciliation process is engaged.

Motion to adjourn at 2:04pm; seconded, carried.