

Faculty Senate – Executive Committee

Minutes

Monday, November 17, 2025

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

Absent:

Guest(s): David Bagley (*Vice Provost – Academic Affairs*)

Meeting called to order at 12:29pm.

Motion called to approve the agenda, seconded, carried.

Motion called to amend the minutes of November 10th, 2025; seconded and carried.

Motion called to approve the amended minutes of November 10th, 2025; seconded and carried.

Chairs Report:

The work of the Shared Governance Working Group has presented its report to the President of the University. The report was primarily authored by Chair Godby, with input from the rest of the Working Group. The Working Group will meet at 8:00am on Wednesday.

Chair Godby provided a follow-up regarding the *Pumpkin Incident*, noting the connection between the Young Americans for Liberty, as well as a second blow-up beach ball. Chair noted that further incidents have occurred and are being investigated actively. Chair commented that according to both the President and the President's Chief of Staff, the president was not notified until well after the original incident. Chair commented that there are some potential ill-feelings among certain demographics on the campus community, and the President indicated a desire to address Faculty Senate but there has yet to be room in the President's schedule that permits him to do so. Chair noted that there was a fair bit of questioning what as to what the President stands for now and in the future, especially as it relates to supporting members of the campus community. Chair Godby noted that the external political climate has escalated and continues to degrade, and that the excuse of 'political neutrality' needs to be more broadly discussed.

Chair noted that Jenni Tabler resigned from the President's Access and Engagement Committee. Chair further noted that there is no information regarding the lack of the Ombudsman on Campus.

Chair then provided information about the up-coming Faculty Senate Speaker series, featuring Marisa and David Kruger.

Chair provided an update on potential University Studies Program changes, related to the work of the committee's, subject material seeming to be specifically limited to COMM courses on campus. Some of the potential changes include increasing course size for COMM courses. David Bagley commented that the group working on the proposed changes knows that it needs to secure

the approval of Faculty Senate, and that they intend to secure that approval. The committee discussed the nature of Shared Governance, including styles of shared governance and the role of broader discussion in the determination of events and changes on campus. Chair noted that he received a request from Scott Turpen to meet regarding removing the A&S USP requirements for (global & diversity), and the discussion will be on-going regarding USP requirements.

Other Business:

Ashley Hope-Carlisle brought up the role of Centralized Advising in the college of Arts and Sciences. Chair Godby noted that the Centralized Advising issue is under the purview Deans of the respective colleges, noting that different colleges have different requirements, and the lack of uniformity makes it hard to provide a generalized, universally applicable kind of remedy. The role of advising in terms of accreditation was discussed, as well as the distinct nature of each of the individual colleges and programs, as well as the ratio between students and advisors. Chair Godby noted some of the possible remedies, which rely mostly on external factors and contributors.

The committee discussed some of the potential changes to the Bylaws, which govern the Committee's. One of the recommendations is to make the committee on committee's to be a subcommittee of the Executive Committee, another is to make the Budget Committee a special "on-call" subcommittee of the Executive Committee. Library committee may be suitable for elimination, and Chair noted that the possibility exists that eliminating the committee could silence a voice on campus that may or may not be important for future considerations. The Faculty Awards Committee could be moved to a subcommittee, or subsumed by, the FASRR Committee. The goal in reorganizing the committees is to promote efficiency, remove redundancies and free up some of the faculty for other responsibilities. The mechanisms for the potential changes, and the processes behind the changes were discussed by the Committee. Discussions of the committee will be on-going. Chair noted that at the next meeting discussions and commentary on the role of the committees will come before the Senate.

Chair noted the business for tonight's session of Faculty Senate is light, focused primarily on the certificate being proposed by SER, and several items that are postponed for the time being pending further changes by General Counsel's office. Ray Fertig noted that there seems to be some holes in the program/certificate approval process, including overlapping or cross-curricular conflicts between schools and colleges. Ray Fertig noted that there is potential for college-specific academic planning committees to provide direct feedback to the Faculty Senate Academic Planning Committee regarding the nature of proposed program changes, new programs, and certificates. The committee discussed the processes of Notice of Intent, and RFA's, including the role of the Board of Trustees in such approvals. The committee returned to consideration the proposed certificate, with no concerns or objections being raised by the executive committee.

Ray Fertig then addressed the committee about the T&P process, concerning Regulation 2-7, noting that he would like to see discussion of returning to a 2-4-6 review, expanding the number of options available to T&P committees regarding feedback to faculty members. The goal being to provide more opportunities to take feedback and take corrective actions to, so that junior faculty can earn tenure.

Motion to adjourn at 1:50pm; seconded, carried.