

# Faculty Affairs Committee

## Minutes

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
10:00 to 11:30 am

Zoom

- I. Call to order at 10:01 am**
- II. Volunteer to Take Minutes (Zoom/AI)**
- III. Approval of Minutes**

- a. January 22 Minutes**

- **Edits:** Amber Stokes requested replacing the word “edge”/“edge case” with clearer language (e.g., “exceptional” or “unique” cases).
- **Approved.**

- b. October 2 Minutes**

- Chair noted minutes were prepared and posted to Box.
- **Approved.**

- c. February 5 Minutes**

- **Edit:** Amber Stokes clarified wording (“Student Opinion on Curriculum and Instruction”).
- **Approved**

- IV. Announcements**

Chair noted remaining FAC meetings and upcoming Academic Senate meeting schedule, including the late-spring shortened meeting focused on welcoming the new Senate and selecting standing committee chairs.

Chair encouraged eligible members (experienced FAC members who will be Senators) to consider running for FAC Chair next year; Chair stated he will not run again.

Lecturer title change honorific referral received.

“Mega-referral” items discussed for future work:

1. Scholarship & Creative Activities Task Force recommendations (Executive Summary).
2. FAC4RISCA / GRASP report and recommendations (overlapping/related). Chair anticipates this will require substantial, multi-year Senate work and may not be fully addressed this year.
3. Chair also flagged the Periodic Evaluation of Faculty Task Force report as another major item the committee expects to address this year.

## V. Approval of Agenda

1. No amendments offered (Chair noted a friendly amendment: items listed as “anticipated” were not anticipated, due to new referrals received).
2. Approved.

## VI. Old Business

### SOCI Modality (Transition to Online)

- Chair reviewed feedback on moving from paper to online SOCIs, emphasizing response-rate concerns, budget realities, Canvas/LMS notification options, and a proposed two-year transition with response-boosting strategies.
- Members recommended practical supports (student instruction webpage/screenshots, dedicated in-class completion time) and raised questions about usable response rates for RTP and how the transition would operate; concerns were also noted about bias in evaluations and the need to avoid unverified CSU comparison claims.
- Decision: Chair will generalize CSU-comparison language to ensure accuracy; committee voted to move the resolution to Second Reading (no opposition).

### b. Required Elements for Unit RTP Criteria (and faculty review clarity)

- Chair introduced draft guidance requiring units to define baseline (acceptable/satisfactory/“essential”) vs exceptional performance, address missing criteria (early tenure/promotion, promotion to professor, PTR), and promote balanced expectations across teaching/scholarship/service without overly prescriptive discipline rules.
- Discussion included adopting “essential” terminology and clarifying current PTR practices: routine notice; promotion typically aligned with PTR cycle; missed PTR files often roll to the next cycle without immediate consequence unless clearer, pre-noticed enforcement steps are adopted.
- Next step: Members will add Box comments before the next meeting; Chair will consolidate revisions for discussion.

## VII. New Business

### A. Senior Lecturer Honorific

- Chair presented a draft honorific title for lecturers with entitlement and three-year appointments (Article 12.12), intended as a non-contractual recognition of long-term service.
- Members expressed mixed views: some supported the symbolic recognition, while others raised concerns about bargainability at the CSU level, longevity vs excellence, possible confusion with range elevation (pay), “senior” terminology, and the risk of the gesture being perceived as tokenistic.
- The importance of symbolism was highlighted, even in non-contractual.
- **Decision:** Committee voted to **seek lecturer feedback** (via Senator Horn) before advancing to first reading; draft will be clearly labeled as preliminary, and feedback will include clarification about any relationship to range elevation/pay processes.

## Summary:

- SOCI modality transition resolution: advance to second reading.
- Unit RTP Criteria required-elements/checklist draft: committee comments due in Box by March 2; discussion planned for March 5.
- Senior Lecturer honorific draft: send to Senator Horn for lecturer feedback; not proceeding to first reading yet.
- Chair awaiting feedback from:
  - Distributed Learning Committee and AAC (teaching modality resolution)
  - VP Lori Blodorn (President's Cabinet structure / Officers of the University)
  - University Review Committee (handbook language on faculty reviews/files/timelines)
- Periodic Evaluation of Faculty Task Force report: Chair asked for a volunteer lead; none volunteered; Md Naser offered to help as needed; Chair will lead drafting and aims to bring something to March 5.

## **X. Adjourn**