

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
September 11, 2025 – 2:30 pm
Magnolia Room, Morris University Center
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee was called to order at 2:30 pm on Thursday, September 11, 2025 in the Magnolia Room by President Wai Cheah.

Present: **President** Wai Cheah, **Past President** Marcus Agustin, **President-Elect** Sue Wiediger, Leah Baecht, Igor Crk, Tim Kalinowski, Jon Pettibone, Chrissy Simmons, Gloria Sweida, Kevin Tucker, Amy Winn

Absent: None

Guests: Andy Benoit, Eric Ruckh

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Guests:

Dr. Andy Benoit, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management, spoke to FSEC for the first time since his appointment in Spring 2025. Dr. Benoit outlined the Enrollment Management division's vision. It focuses on building relationships with students and families through targeted outreach programs and events to improve yield, enhance graduate programs, and address students with some college but no degree. The university supports student success with new advising models, technology like Smart Plan, and collaborations with academic departments to improve course offerings and support systems. This fall, the Enrollment Management unit will focus on improving follow-up procedures for flagged student concerns using the Starfish system. To boost graduate and international enrollment, the university will target specific populations, build relationships with institutions in key markets, and utilize the new graduate-level CRM, Slate. Despite challenges, enrollment projections and retention efforts show positive results, with targeted communication, collaboration with housing and financial aid, and establishing benchmarks for registration.

Dr. Eric Ruckh, Director of SIUE's John Martinson Honors Program, spoke to FSEC about a few items. The University Honors program is revising its retention policy to address high dropout rates, especially between the second and third, and third and fourth years. The proposed policy introduces thresholds with support courses and advising to help students regain their standing. The program aims to improve support, increase graduation rates, and maintain diversity. Dr. Ruckh spoke with FSEC about the best time to review the policy with Curriculum Council. It was decided to review it at the January 2026 meeting. The Honors Program also faces challenges with student retention due to financial and family issues. A packet with data and policy changes will be prepared for the Curriculum Council, focusing on transitioning to an Honors College. The

Faculty Senate will review the program externally in April and be informed about the strategic plan.

Consideration of Minutes:

There was an error in the August 28, 2025 minutes. It listed 19 vacant seats on Faculty Senate, but the correct number is 13. After correcting this error, the amended minutes were approved.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Update on approval to Changes to Policy 1Q8 (Implementation and Administrative Responsibility Policy) – still waiting on approval from the Provost and Chancellor.
- b. Update on approval to changes to Retired/Emeritus Faculty Policy – still waiting on approval from the Provost and Chancellor.
- c. Update on approval to changes to Policy 1C1 (Guidelines for Course Categories, Class Scheduling and Publications) – still waiting on approval from the Provost and Chancellor.
- d. Update on approval to changes to Policy 1H1 (General Education Program) – still waiting on approval from the Provost and Chancellor.
- e. Program Prioritizations: Phase 2 – No update since the one Provost Cobb provided at our last FSEC meeting. Her update, from August 28: We modified Phase 2 to collaborate on repositioning programs and resolving issues to avoid another process. Phase 2 doesn't involve closing programs. The Office of the Provost will work with Faculty Senate to expedite reviews. Departmental proposals addressing Phase 2 concerns must be submitted to their respective Dean by **February 1, 2026**. A committee consisting of the UPBC Chair, Faculty Senate President, Grad Council Chair, and Student Government President will review the proposals and make recommendations to the Provost by **April 15, 2026**.

New Business:

- a. Quadrennial Review for Dean Judy Liesveld – Dr. Min Liu
- b. Council Operating Papers – Please check to see if you need edits to your operating papers.
- c. UPBC Strategic Plan – Due to time constraints, this will be discussed at our next FSEC meeting.
- d. Senator Resignation Process – The Senate faces challenges in replacing resigning senators, especially instructors, due to communication gaps and the need for a better platform for transitions. The current meeting schedule conflicts with academic course blocks, affecting faculty senators' attendance. While the Senate controls its meeting time, review and adjustment are needed to accommodate members. Please forward resignation notices to Tim Kalinowski, Governance Council Chair.

Reports:

UPBC: Next UPBC meeting is October 3 at 9:30 am. Faculty will need to appoint one more representative to sit on UPBC from the Budget, Finance, & Academic Operations Council.

Curriculum Council: Meets next week. We will be looking at something from Liz Cali.

Faculty Development Council: We are working on potential speakers for next year's Continuous Improvement Conference (February 27).

Governance Council: Will appoint someone to look at the minimums per Council.

President-Elect: Will be the OMA designee for FSEC.

Past President: At the last UPBC meeting, the staff made a case for why CHAPA is important for both the staff and students, because without it, there is no mechanism for them to review either the Chancellor or any of the Vice Chancellors.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 pm.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock-Jackson, University Governance