FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
April 23, 2026 – 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, April 23, 2026 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
Guest: Denise Cobb, Chris Slaten

Public Comment:
There was no public comment.

Guest:
Provost Densie Cobb and Graduate School Dean Chris Slaten spoke to FSEC. The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, despite its research components, is currently classified as "other" in IPEDS reporting, raising questions about its nature and impact on research expenditures and R2 status. The debate centers on whether the DNP program should be classified as a research doctorate due to its research elements and clinical hours. The discussion highlighted the distinction between PhD and DNP programs in Nursing, emphasizing the research-oriented nature of PhD programs and the practical application emphasis of DNP programs. It also touched upon the importance of evidence-based practice implementation, bridging research and practice, and the implications of the University's reclassification to an R2 institution. Concerns were raised about the potential impact on undergraduate programs, resource allocation, and the need for transparent data reporting and communication with faculty. Faculty development, scholarly infrastructure, and the balance between research and service are key concerns. Discussions focused on classifying faculty work, especially DNP programs, and the role of Nursing faculty. The University aims to support faculty research while prioritizing practice, ensuring transparency and collaboration in data management and funding strategies.

Announcements:
There were no announcements.

Consideration of Minutes:
The minutes from April 9, 2026 were approved as written.

Unfinished Business:

a. Council Chairs for Academic Calendar Year 2026-2027
b. Update on approval to changes to Policy 1R2 (Policy on Honors Program) – April 6, 2026

c. Update on approval to changes to Policy 1I11 (Policy on Credit for Prior Learning) – April 6, 2026
d. Update on approval to changes to Policy 1K1 (Policy on Scheduling Final Examinations) – March 23, 2026
e. Temporary Rule on Meeting via Remote Attendance – March 5, 2026
f. Faculty Senate Membership Reduction – March 5, 2026
g. Update on approval to changes to Policy 1Q8 (Implementation and Administrative Responsibility Policy) – February 7, 2025
h. Update on approval to changes to Retired/Emeritus Faculty Policy – May 6, 2025
i. Update on approval to changes to Policy 1C1 (Guidelines for Course Categories, Class Scheduling and Publications) – May 2, 2025
j. Program Prioritizations: Phase 2
k. UPBC Strategic Plan

New Business:
There was no new business.

Reports:
Budget, Finance & Academic Operations Council: A summary of the Smart Classroom Survey (FY26) reveals that SIUE classrooms are functional but often don't align with current teaching practices. Key issues include inflexible layouts, unreliable technology, and inadequate support for active learning. Faculty prefer flexible furniture, expanded writing surfaces, and improved AV reliability, suggesting a coordinated approach to classroom design is needed.
Curriculum Council: Last month, we discussed the English Program Review, and Erik Krag agreed to be Curriculum Council Chair next year. At Senate next month, we'll discuss 1F1.
Faculty Development Council: The Provost approved the nominees for the Teaching Excellence Award and the EWE Awards.
Welfare & Adjudication Council: The Ombuds survey is out. A few people have volunteered to be either Chair or Co-Chair.

Adjournment:
The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 pm.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock-Jackson, University Governance