



Faculty Senate Committees 2026-27

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed

Purpose: Ensure that the work of the Faculty Senate is organized, efficient, and responsive to the needs of the faculty and institution

- Participate in the curricular process
- Advise the Faculty Senate chair in preparing Faculty Senate meeting agendas
- Assist in the supervision of the Faculty Senate
- Prepare, revise, and supervise the use of forms in the faculty governance process
- Provide a forum to facilitate communication between the Faculty Senate and the administration
- Appoint a parliamentarian

Membership:

1. Chair: Brenda Smith
2. Secretary: Joanna Patillo
3. Chair-Elect: Alex Pinnon
4. Past Chair: Anthony Priest

Committees Appointed by Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

ACADEMIC CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed at 9:00 a.m. on the Wednesday before the first day of classes

Purpose:

- Hear appeals of student academic suspensions
- Discuss individual student academic issues

Membership: Members of the faculty appointed by the vice chancellor of academic affairs in consultation with the Faculty Senate chair

Members: Faculty appointed by vice chancellor of academic affairs

1. Chuck Cook, Welding and Technology
2. Melinda Denton, Mathematics
3. Elizabeth Mahan, CBHS, Psychology and Sociology
4. Sheila Rather, Nursing
5. Rajiv Thakur, Geosciences
6. Jerry Trick, Mathematics

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed

Purpose: Provide collaborative leadership for the university's academic enterprise by coordinating academic operations, advancing strategic initiatives, promoting student success, and fostering communication and collaboration across academic units

Membership: Vice chancellor of academic affairs, deans, and department chairs

Members:

1. Michael Orf, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs (chair)
2. Leigh Adams, Dean of General Education and Pre-Professional Programs
3. Cathy Boys, Computer Science and Engineering Department Chair
4. Lacey Campbell, LPN to RN Coordinator
5. Ana Estrella, Natural and Applied Sciences Department Chair
6. Jason McCollom, Arts, Letters, and Education Department Chair
7. Dasha Russell, Dean of Career and Technical Education
8. Brenda Smith, Business and Applied Sciences Department Chair
9. Lisa Wade, Dean of Health and Human Services
10. Tresa Ryan, Faculty, Health Information Technology
11. Elizabeth Mahan, Faculty, Psychology/Sociology
12. Rachael Gipson, Faculty, Vet Tech

DEANS COUNCIL

Meeting Cadence: Meets each Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

Purpose:

- Facilitate communication between the Office of Academic Affairs and the faculty
- Coordinate the administrative functions of Academic Affairs involving faculty, degree programs, course scheduling, and other issues as they arise

Membership: Vice chancellor of academic affairs and deans

Members:

1. Michael Orf, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs (chair)
2. Leigh Adams, Dean of General Education and Pre-Professional Programs
3. Dasha Russell, Dean of Career and Technical Education
4. Lisa Wade, Dean of Health and Human Services

FACULTY HEARING COMMITTEE

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed

Purpose: Select members to serve as a Faculty Hearing Panel

Membership: All tenured, ranked faculty serve on the Faculty Hearing Committee (FHC)

Committees of the Faculty

DIVISIONAL PERSONNEL COMMITTEES

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed

Purpose:

- Prepare and distribute information to faculty regarding appointment, tenure, and/or promotion application timelines
- Review and approve/disapprove applications

Membership: Each Divisional Personnel Committee (DPC) includes five members: Two from the preceding year's DPC, who serve as co-chairs, two tenured faculty from the division, and one tenured faculty member from outside the division who is selected by the co-chairs. Department heads may serve, but tenured faculty members who are seeking promotion may not.

Members:

Career and Technical and Health and Human Services

1. Jacob Poulette, Faculty, Computer Graphics and Programming
2. Chuck Cook, Faculty, Welding and Technology
3. Lacey Campbell, Faculty, Nursing
4. Sheila Rather, Faculty, Nursing
5. Jason McCollom, Faculty, History

General Education and Pre-Professional Programs

1. Gary Phillips, Faculty, Communications
2. Craig Albin, Faculty, English
3. Melinda Denton, Faculty, Mathematics
4. Sharath Rongali, Faculty,
5. Cathy Boys, Faculty, Computer Science and Engineering

Committee Appointed by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

ACADEMIC PERSONNEL REVIEW COMMISSION

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed

Purpose: Serve as a neutral body to determine if a faculty member has made a prima facie case so that a grievance may proceed to the Faculty Hearing Panel utilizing the Academic Personnel Grievance Process

Membership: The Academic Personnel Review Commission (APRC) shall be composed of three commissioners who serve three-year staggered terms. One commissioner shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and shall be a tenured, ranked faculty member. One commissioner shall be selected by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate and shall be a tenured, ranked faculty member. The third commissioner shall be a tenured, ranked faculty member appointed by joint agreement of the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and the Faculty Senate. The three APRC members shall elect their own chairperson. Commissioners may be reappointed.

Members: TBD

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed

Purpose: Facilitates planning, organizing, and promotion of faculty workshops to foster a culture of continuous learning and align professional development goals with the institution's mission, goals, and workforce needs

Membership: Members of the faculty appointed by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Members:

- Gary Phillips, Faculty, Communications (Chair)
- Lindsay Hill, Faculty, Nursing
- Alex Pinnon, Faculty, Honors
- Jacob Poulette, Faculty, Computer Graphics and Programming
- Anthony Priest, Faculty, English

Standing Committees of the Faculty Senate

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Cadence: Meets on the first Friday of every month during the academic year at 1:00 p.m.

Purpose:

- Develop an institution-wide assessment plan
- Monitor the implementation of the plan
- Communicate findings
- Update the plan as needed

Membership: Ranked faculty members, as appointed by the chairperson of the Faculty Senate.

Additional members shall include:

- Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness
- Testing Coordinator
- Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs
- A member of the Student Government Association

Members:

1. Lacey Campbell, Faculty, Nursing (Co-Chair)
2. Jason McCollom, Faculty, History (Co-Chair)
3. ReBena Atkinson, Faculty, Teaching
4. Cathy Boys, Faculty, Computing and Engineering
5. Rachael Gipson, Faculty, Vet Tech
6. James Maxin, Faculty, Physics
7. Gary Phillips, Faculty, Communications
8. Sheila Rather, Faculty, Nursing
9. Misty Walton, Faculty, Nursing
10. Benjamin Wheeler, Faculty, Biomedical Sciences

Ex Officio Members:

1. Leigh Adams, Dean of General Education and Pre-Professional Studies
2. Alex Graham, Director of Assessment and Accreditation

3. Michael Orf, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs
4. Dasha Russell, Dean of Career and Technical Education
5. Carrie Steen, Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness
6. Angie Totty, Vice Chancellor of Student Services
7. Lisa Wade, Dean of Health and Human Services
8. Student Government Association representative - Appointed by September 1

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Meeting Cadence: Meets on the third Friday of each month from August to April, excluding December, at 9:00 a.m.

Purpose:

- Review curricular programs for new associate degree programs
- Review changes to existing degree programs
- Review course additions, deletions, and changes

Membership: Ranked faculty members as appointed by the chairperson of the Faculty Senate and ad hoc members to include the Registrar and Coordinator of Student Services Systems. In addition, the Student Government Association will be invited to appoint a non-voting student representative.

Members:

1. Melinda Denton, Faculty, Mathematics (Chair)
2. Phil Howerton, Faculty, English
3. Elizabeth Mahan, Faculty, Psychology/Sociology
4. Carla Huddleston, Faculty, Nursing
5. Sharath Rongali, Faculty, Biology
6. Tresa Ryan, Faculty, Health Information Technology

Ex Officio Members:

1. Leigh Adams, Dean of General Education and Pre-Professional Studies
2. Michelle Bryan, Registrar
3. Krista Lair, Director of Online Learning and Instructional Technology
4. Dasha Russell, Dean of Career and Technical Education
5. Brenda Smith, Faculty Senate Chair
6. Lisa Wade, Dean of Health and Human Services
7. Student Government Association representative - Appointed by September 1

FACULTY EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed

Purpose:

- Annually review evaluation procedures
- Submit recommended changes to the Faculty Senate

Membership: Ranked faculty members as appointed by the chairperson of the Faculty Senate. In addition, the Student Government Association will be invited to appoint a non-voting student representative.

Members:

1. Lindsay Hill, Faculty, Nursing (Co-Chair)
2. Jay Towell, Faculty Mathematics (Co-Chair)
3. Craig Albin, Faculty, English

4. Renee Keith, Faculty, Child and Family Development
5. Anthony Priest, Faculty, English
6. Jenni Roberts, Faculty, Nursing
7. Ashlee Smith, Faculty, Nursing

Ex Officio Members:

1. Leigh Adams, Dean of General Education and Pre-Professional Studies
2. Dasha Russell, Dean of Career and Technical Education
3. Brenda Smith, Faculty Senate Chair
4. Lisa Wade, Dean of Health and Human Services
5. Student Government Association representative - Appointed by September 1

FACULTY HANDBOOK REVISION COMMITTEE

Meeting Cadence: Meets as needed

Purpose: Ensure the Faculty Handbook reflects the policies and procedures as agreed to by the Faculty Senate and approved by the administration and Board of Governors

Membership: Ranked faculty members as appointed by the chairperson of the Faculty Senate. In addition, the Student Government Association will be invited to appoint a non-voting student representative.

Members:

1. Tresa Ryan, Faculty, Health Information Technology (Co-Chair)
2. Jerry Trick, Faculty, Mathematics (Co-Chair)
3. Craig Albin, Faculty, English
4. Ed Birdyshaw, Faculty, Economics
5. Phil Howerton, Faculty, English
6. Carla Huddleston, Faculty, Nursing
7. Sharath Rongali, Faculty, Biology
8. Rajiv Thakur, Faculty, Geosciences
9. Misty Walton, Faculty, Nursing

Ex Officio Members:

1. Leigh Adams, Dean of General Education and Pre-Professional Studies
2. Dasha Russell, Dean of Career and Technical Education
3. Brenda Smith, Faculty Senate Chair
4. Lisa Wade, Dean of Health and Human Services
5. Student Government Association representative - Appointed by September 1

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting Cadence: Meets monthly during the academic year

Purpose:

- Advise on assessment
- Develop events, activities, and related programs on campus, including internships, services learning, international travel, class and campus service events, student competitions, and guest speakers
- Promote education and experience in ethical leadership, cultural competence, and community engagement

Membership: Ranked faculty members as appointed by the chairperson of the Faculty Senate. In addition, the Student Government Association will be invited to appoint a non-voting student representative.

Members:

1. Joanna Patillo Faculty, Nursing (Co-Chair)
2. Alex Pinnon, Faculty, Honors (Co-Chair)
3. Jessica Banning, Faculty, Nursing
4. Chuck Cook, Faculty, Welding and Technology
5. Felix Danso, Faculty, Chemistry
6. Ana Estrella, Faculty, Biology/Biomedical Sciences
7. Rachael Gipson, Faculty, Vet Tech
8. Rocky Long, Faculty, Music
9. Jacob Poulette, Faculty, Computer Graphics and Programming
10. Jennifer Strong, Faculty, Nursing
11. TBD, Staff Representative
12. TBD, Staff Representative

Ex Officio Members:

1. Leigh Adams, Dean of General Education and Pre-Professional Studies
2. Biff Bird, Database Analyst
3. CJ Collins, Director, Management Information Systems
4. Douglas Cooley, Assistant Director of Student Life and Development
5. Trevor Cressman, Director of Workforce Development and Community Engagement
6. Alex Graham, Director of Assessment and Accreditation
7. Dasha Russell, Dean of Career and Technical Education
8. Mike Scheidt, Software Support Specialist
9. Brenda Smith, Faculty Senate Chair
10. Lisa Wade, Dean of Health and Human Services
11. Student Government Association representative - Appointed by September