

University of Central Arkansas
Council of Deans
Wednesday, April 8, 2026
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Wingo 214

MINUTES

1. Welcome: The Council of Deans met on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in Wingo 214. Provost Michael Hargis presided, and the following members were present: Dr. Stephen Addison, Dr. Tim Bisping, Dr. Kurt Boniecki, Dr. Jason Trumble (for Dr. Debbie Dailey), Dr. Patricia Smith, Dr. Nancy Reese, and Dr. Tom Williams.
2. Action Items
 - a. March 11, 2026 COD Minutes: A motion by Dr. Stephen Addison and a second by Dr. Patricia Smith was made to approve the minutes from March 11, 2026 as presented. The motion carried with one abstention.
 - b. March 19, 2026 Graduate Council Items: A motion by Dr. Jason Trumble and a second by Dr. Nancy Reese was made to approve the Graduate Council items from March 19, 2026 as presented. The motion carried.
 - c. March 5, 2026 Undergraduate Council Items: A motion by Dr. Kurt Boniecki and a second by Dr. Stephen Addison was made to approve the Undergraduate Council items from March 5, 2026 as presented. The motion carried.
 - d. April 2, 2026 Undergraduate Council Items: A motion by Dr. Kurt Boniecki and a second by Dr. Stephen Addison was made to approve the items from April 2, 2026 as presented. The motion carried.
3. Provost Updates
 - a. Course Enrollment: Members were directed to monitor online, summer and fall classes, noting enrollment and seats. Members were asked to encourage their chairs and directors to encourage students to register for summer and fall classes as soon as possible.
 - b. Summer Teaching - Members were directed to communicate with chairs the importance of being mindful of faculty loads in the summer.
4. Discussion
 - a. Associate Dean and Chair Annual Reviews: Members discussed the timeline for faculty and staff annual reviews. Provost Hargis will share with Human Resources the questions and concerns discussed. A follow up conversation will take place at the May 6, 2026 Council of Deans meeting.
 - b. Position Request Metrics: Members received a draft of an academic position review framework for review and discussion. This document would create uniformity in position requests by using a set of metrics to streamline the review process. Member discussion and input will continue throughout the summer.

- c. Dean's Retreat Meeting Agenda: Members shared items to be added to the May retreat agenda.
5. Important Dates and Information Items
- o [2025-2026 Academic Timetable](#)
 - o [Academic Year 2025–2026 Schedule for Student Course Experience Surveys](#)
 - o COD Meetings
 - May 6, 2026
 - o April 14, 2026: Faculty/Staff Recognition Celebration
 - o April 23, 2026: [UCA Research Symposium](#)
 - o April 30-May 1, 2026: [Commencement](#)
 - o May 18-20, 2026: Dean's Retreat
 - o May 27, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:00 am