

University of Central Arkansas
Council of Deans
Wednesday, May 6, 2026
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Wingo 214

MINUTES

1. Welcome: The Council of Deans met on Wednesday, May 6, 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. Debbie Dailey, Dr. Nancy Reese, and Dr. Tom Williams. Guests: Dr. Stephanie Watson, Chair, Department of Accounting and Dr. Stephen O'Connell, Chair, Department of Geography
2. Chair Evaluations: Dr. Stephanie Watson and Dr. Stephen O'Connell, on behalf of the Academic Council, brought questions regarding the current chair evaluation process. Members provided information that will allow the Academic Council to move forward in creating recommendations related to the evaluation process and question set.
3. Action Items
 - a. April 8, 2026 COD Minutes: A motion by Dr. Stephen Addison and second by Dr. Tom Williams was made to approve the minutes from April 8, 2026 as presented. The motion carried with two abstentions.
4. Provost Updates
 - a. At the direction of the President's Office, hybrid Fridays will be May 8 - July 31. All offices must have a point of contact posted.
 - b. Provost Hargis recognized the Registrar's Office and the Graduate Office for their work during commencement ceremonies. Members were asked to encourage their faculty to attend ceremonies in support of students.
5. Discussion
 - a. Sabbatical Leave Application Process: Dr. Michael Mills submitted a proposal for an updated Sabbatical Leave application process. The process was developed and approved by the Sabbatical Leave Review Committee. Members discussed the materials and will provide formal feedback to Dr. Mills no later than May 20, 2026. The proposal will be considered as an action item at the June 3rd Council of Deans meeting.
6. Important Dates and Information Items
 - o May 18-20, 2026: Dean's Retreat
 - o May 27, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting
 - o August 7, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting
 - o August 8, 2026: Summer Graduate Commencement
 - o COD Meetings
 - June 3, 2026
 - June 17, 2026
 - July 1, 2026

- July 15, 2026
- July 29, 2026

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:05 am