



UNIVERSITY OF  
CENTRAL  
ARKANSAS™

FACULTY  
SENATE

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 29 at 11:00 AM**

**Wingo 315**

- **Attendance**

- College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences: Mayhew-p, Burley-p, Craun-p
- College of Business: Thomas-p, Otoo-p, Horpedahl-p
- College of Education: McClellan-p, Trumble-p, Couture-p
- College of Health & Behavioral Sciences: Downey-p, Rose-Zoom , Jamerson-p
- College of Science and Engineering: Naumiec-p, Johnson-p, Yarberry-p
- Honors: Frank-p
- Library: LeBeau-Ford-p
- At-Large: Mukherjee-p, Rosenow-p, Spivey-p
- Part-Time: Brazeal-a
- FS President Dunlap-p, Provost Hargis-p, Past FS President Shires

- **Call to order:** FS President Dunlap

- **Approval of Minutes**

- Faculty Senate regular meeting, April 24, 2025
- Vote postponed allowing for all FS to review minutes.
- President Dunlap will send out a google form for online voting.

- **President's Comments:** President Davis

Please share with the new Faculty Senate that I am in DC Monday and Tuesday for AASCU board meetings and direct work on The Hill. We are meeting regarding the latest matters around financial aid policy, accreditation developments, regulatory changes in executive agencies, etc. Obviously, all topics are front and center for all of higher education.

Please give my thanks to the newest senators. We are fortunate to have them step into leadership roles during a very interesting time in higher education and public policy. I look forward to working with all of you through the summer and into the fall semester.

- **Provost's Comments:** Provost Hargis
  - "I would like to thank this senate for all of their hard work this past year".
  - Please remember that Commencement ceremonies are this Friday. Please attend and show your support to our students.
  
- **FS President's Comments:** FS President Dunlap
  - Welcome new senators!
    - Lynn Burley, CAHSS, School of Language and Literature
    - Rhonda McClellan, COE, Dept. of Leadership Studies
    - Valerie Couture, COE, Dept. of Leadership Studies
    - Darcy Downey, CHBS, Dept. of Exercise and Sports Science
    - Garth Johnson, COSE, Dept. of Mathematics
    - Michael Rosenow, At-Large, Dept. of History
    - Jeremy Horpedahl, COB, Dept. of Economics, Finance, and Insurance and Risk Management

- Renee LeBeau-Ford, Library

- The function of the Faculty Senate is to review policies impacting academic functions of the university and faculty affairs.
- To carry out these functions, this year we will focus on organization of Faculty Senate operations and enhancing faculty well-being, engagement, and morale.
- We need organization to be effective. The previous Faculty Senate worked on this by refining the senate bylaws, attempting constitutional amendments, and moving the filling of university committees to the Spring semester. We will continue this work by organizing our online presence and systems, refining how we receive minutes and reports from university committees, and addressing potential changes to voting procedures in our bylaws.
- Working to better the lives of faculty and their ability to carry out their jobs, especially with regards to educating students, should be at the core of what we do. To do this we need to find out directly from our faculty constituents what they need and we need faculty to engage with us and trust our efforts to affect change. We are going to ask department chairs and directors if we can attend some of their departmental meetings to directly interact with faculty and seek their input. Also, our DBIE Committee will be expanding, combining with our *ad hoc* Welcome Committee to focus their combined efforts on faculty engagement and morale.
- We will, as always, continue to examine and provide recommendations on current and new university policies, including the ongoing conversations about salaries.

- **Constituent Concerns**

Q: Why are Faculty Senate minutes buried?

A: President Dunlap: It has never been Faculty Senate's intention to bury meeting minutes. We have been experimenting with the process by which we take and approve minutes in an effort to get the minutes to faculty as soon as possible after being approved by the Faculty Senate. We believe that we have found a reasonable method by which we can send approved minutes out with the agenda for the subsequent meeting, and hopefully this will be satisfactory to our constituents.

Q: Why was the voice of the 24-25 Senate and President Shires deafening?

A: President Dunlap: President Shires responded to all constituent concerns either by passing them to the appropriate person to handle them or by bringing them to the attention of the Faculty Senate. He also attended and spoke at all Campus Talks and Board of Trustees meetings to give updates on what Faculty Senate was working on. He always welcomed any discussions on faculty matters both during and outside of Faculty Senate meetings. If there is a particular concern about communication from the Faculty Senate or the Faculty Senate President, I'm happy to hear those concerns and do my best to address them as I am able.

- **Action Items**

- FS Committee on Committees: VP Dunlap
  - C on C has just about finished filling all positions for next year's Faculty Senate committees.
  - The handout (addendum 1) listed appointments for faculty senate only representation from COE.
  - Motion to approve the appointments
  - Unanimously approved

- Election of FS Executive Positions
  - Vice President
    - Nomination of Thomas by LeBeau-Ford
    - Vote - unanimously passed
    - Comments from Thomas - Thank you.
  - Secretary/Treasurer
    - Nomination of Craun by Mukerjee
    - Vote-unanimous with one abstention
    - Comments from Craun-Thank you. I hope to bring a balance between the truth and the clutter.
  - Parliamentarian
    - Nomination of Rose by Trumble
    - Vote-unanimously passed
    - Comments from Rose - I look forward to serving.
  - Web/Archivist
    - Nomination of LeBeau-Ford by Thomas
    - Vote-unanimously passed
    - Comments from LeBeau-Ford- Thank you.
- **New Business - Appointments to FS committees**
  - Committee on Committees
    - Thomas (chair), Craun, Johnson, Downey, Couture, Otto, Frank
  - DBIE/Welcome Committee
    - McClellan (chair), Thomas, Jamerson, Mayhew, LeBeau-Ford, Spivey,
  - Academic Affairs
    - Frank(chair), Rose, Burley, Naumiec, Trumble, Horpedahl

- Faculty Affairs
  - Yarberry (chair), Mukerjee, Rosenow, Otto
- **For the Good of the Faculty**
  - Explanation of this section—when time permits making announcements, congratulations, shout-outs, etc...
  - Naumiec - Congratulations President Dunlap on your 40th birthday
  - Johnson - UCA held the ACTM Regional Math Contest this past weekend. There were over 200 contestants. Ida Waldron was nearly full, bringing us to pre-COVID attendance.
  - Frank - the Honor College just completed all of the capstone presentations. Thanks to all faculty who volunteered as advisors.
  - Craun/Trumble- Five UCA football players are joining professional teams this year:
    - David Walker - Tampa Bay Buccaneers
    - Shunderrick Powell - Philadelphia Eagles
    - TaMuarion Wilson - Buffalo Bills
    - Darius Hale - Kansas City Chiefs
    - Will McElvain - Edmonton Elks
- **Reminders:**
  - FS Fall retreat will be Monday, August 18th.
  - Next regular meeting of Faculty Senate is Tuesday, September 9th.
  - Fall planning: Senators should not schedule Tues./Thurs. courses during FS hours or at 2:40 pm

**Adjourn at 12:20 p.m.**

## **Addendum #1**

Faculty Senate Committee Appointments

Faculty Development Committee  
Ben Garner At-Large 2028

Honors Council  
Ryan Cating COB 2028

Academic Adjustments and Appeals  
Fred Hickling COSE 2028

Graduate Council  
Halvor Halvorson COSE 2029  
Kevin Garrison CHBS 2029

Academic Integrity and Discipline  
Kristin Dooley At-Large 2029

Study Abroad Advisory Committee  
Yinlin Dong At-Large 2028

Undergraduate Council  
Kathryn Carroll CHBS 2029  
Kristin Dooley COSE 2029

University CoC Committee Appointments  
Employee Benefits Advisory Committee

Stephen Yao At-Large 2029

Athletics Committee

Jacob Bundrick COB 2029

Balraj Menon COSE 2029

Information Technology Advisory Committee

Carla Barber COB 2028

\*Charles Hervey CHBS 2026

Diversity Advisory Committee

Steve Schlachter COB 2027

Azida Walker COSE 2027

Honorary Degree Committee

Yinlin Dong At-Large 2029

\* One year replacement to finish a term