



UNIVERSITY OF  
CENTRAL  
ARKANSAS™

FACULTY  
SENATE

**Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 31, 2026**

**12:45 pm**

**Wingo 315**

**I. Call to order:** FS President Dunlap, 12:47pm.

**Present:**

President Davis & Provost Hargis  
FS President Dunlap & VP Thomas

**Senators:**

**At Large:** Mukherjee, Spivey, Rosenow

CAHSS: Burley, Craun, Mayhew

CHBS: Rose, Downey

COE: Couture, McClellan, Buchanan

COB: Appiah-Otto, McCalman, Britton

COSE: Yarberry, Naumiec (Excused Absence), Johnson

Honors: Frank (Excused Absence)

Library: Lebeau-Ford

**II. Notification of Approval of Minutes** from Faculty Senate meeting 3/10/2026

**17 Aye votes. Minutes Approved.**

### **III. Comments**

#### **A. President Davis**

Nothing new to report.

#### **B. Provost Hargis**

Nothing new to report.

#### **C. FS President Dunlap**

Senatorial Elections are in progress.

Constitutional Amendment votes: We have currently 216 votes but we need 284 participants to meet the required level of participation. Please distribute the promotional hand-outs and encourage participation among your constituents.

### **IV. Invited Guest: Brent Shires, Faculty Handbook Chair**

Dr. Shires presented several recommended handbook changes on behalf of the Faculty Handbook Committee. These recommendations are summarized below:

Faculty Handbook- Board Policy No. 300

The UCA Faculty Handbook Committee recommends revisions to the opening pages, document, and chapters three and seven of the current Faculty Handbook. The following is a summary of the recommended revisions:

- Opening Pages:
  - o Cover page: modify date of the document
  - o Title page: modify date of Board approval (pg. i)

- o Table of Contents: modify page numbers (pg. iv-vii)
- Document:
  - o Clerical revisions to handbook
- Chapter Three:
  - o II.B. Remove definition of “close relative” and reference Board Policy for clarification (pg. 12)
  - o III.B.: add language to specify offering years of credit for promotion of non-tenure track faculty (pg. 15)
  - o IV.A.4.: revise language to specify the promotion to professor timeline (pg. 20)
  - o IV.B.3.: revise language to specify the promotion to senior lecture/senior clinical instructor/senior laboratory instructor timeline (pg. 20)
  - o V.D.: revise language to specify the promotion to professor timeline (pg. 23)
  - o VII.: edit procedure and revise language to align with tenure-track guidelines (pg.29-30)
- Chapter Seven:
  - o I.D.2.: add current president of the senate will record meeting minutes (pg. 65)
  - o II.F.: revise language to clarify committee initiative (pg. 68)
- Correction:
  - o Correct one error in the Faculty Handbook resolution submitted for approval to the Board of Trustees on May 21, 2024.
- Chapter Seven: I.D.2.: Change the not affiliated designee to specify Honors College or Torreyson Library (pg. 65)

The recommendations of the Faculty Handbook Committee have been considered and endorsed by the Faculty Senate, and other appropriate administrators.

Therefore, the President recommends the following resolution to the Board of Trustees. “BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees hereby approves the above revisions to the UCA Faculty Handbook.”

**The FS will vote on these changes at the next meeting.**

After the presentation, a senator raised a question regarding the definition of the word “Temporary” in regard to the Faculty Handbook’s assertion that Visiting Faculty should be hired to meet temporary programmatic needs. This senator noted that some departments are keeping Visiting Faculty for many years, and this does not seem to be “temporary.”

Dr. Shires said that the Handbook could look into this as a future charge if next year’s Faculty Senate wished.

Provost Hargis clarified that “temporary” in the context of visiting faculty refers to the nature of the appointment rather than a fixed number of years. Visiting faculty are classified as non-continuing, non-tenure-track appointments. Each appointment must be requested and authorized and does not carry an expectation of renewal.

A visiting appointment may therefore continue across multiple years when programmatic needs persist; however, each appointment remains temporary because it is separately reviewed, authorized, and funded each year with one-time funds that do not become part of a unit's ongoing base allocation. Department Chairs and Deans are responsible for identifying and prioritizing these needs as part of the ongoing academic planning and budget process before submitting requests to the Provost’s Office.

## **V. Constituent Concerns**

None submitted.

## **VI. Senate Committee Reports**

## **Committee on Committees**

University Committee Appointments are slowly rolling in from the Deans of each College. We will send another round of reminder emails soon.

## **Faculty Affairs Committee**

We are submitting By-Law changes for a formal vote. These changes have been reviewed by the Faculty Senate several meetings ago and undergone multiple revisions. **See the proposed By-Law changes at the bottom of the minutes.**

- a. There was a question regarding whether the proposed By-Law changes would allow for Constituent Concerns to be summarized (instead of posted verbatim) if the concern threatened to breach State or Human Resource guidelines regarding privacy.
  
- b. After discussing the text, the consensus was that the proposed changes **would** provide for this issue while still requiring the Faculty Senate to summarize Constituent Concerns to the best of its ability.

Sen. Mayhew then moved to pass all 3 resolutions. Sen. Mukherjee seconded.

**Vote: Ayes 15      Abstentions: 2      The motion passed.**

### **Academic Affairs Committee:**

Nothing to report. The Election Signs are out.

VP Thomas thanked the committee for their work, but suggested that the appearance of the signage should be improved. To this end, he passed around some upgraded sign inserts with larger QR-Codes and asked senators to insert these more colorful images in the existing signage.

He further proposed a competition for an upgraded sign design to take place during the next academic year. Dr. Thomas already has a \$50 gift card to use as a reward for the best design. The intent would be for the Faculty Senate to devise the scope of the project and then to allow the contestants' creativity to develop a more professional design.

### **Faculty Advocacy and Engagement Committee:**

We have a meeting with Jimmy Fetterly (Chair of the Teaching Excellence Committee) to discuss the criteria for the Teaching Excellence Award.

We are also partnering with CETAL to develop a Mid/Late-Career appreciation ceremony, tentatively on April 23, 2026 3-5pm. We are currently searching for an appropriate location.

## **VII. New Business**

**None**

## **VIII. For the Good of the Faculty**

- 1) VP Thomas issued a formal appreciation to Dr. Stephanie Rose, who is currently the FS Parliamentarian and is rolling off the Senate this year. Her involvement on the FS Exec Committee has been crucial to this year's success.
- 2) Dr. Burley bragged on Senator Lebeau-Ford for being able to gather and deliver her a "pile of research materials" from Torreyson Library in a single day.
- 3) Senator Rose wished to promote a partnership with the Arkansas Attorney General's Office for the program "One Pill Can Kill" that will be on campus April 9. See info below.

## **IX. Reminders and Announcements:**

- A. Faculty Senate meetings are now held on the second and last Tuesday of each month.
- B. Next regular meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 12:45pm

**Sen. McClellan moved to adjourn. Senator Couture seconded. Meeting ended at 2:04 pm.**

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Appendix A: Faculty Affairs Proposed (Approved) By-Law Changes:

**Resolution 1: Amending Bylaw Article III, Section 1 relating to election of Faculty Senate Officers.**

Whereas, Article IV, Section 1 of the Faculty Senate Constitution includes a webmaster/archivist as an officer of the Senate, and

Whereas, Article III, Section 1 of the Faculty Senate Bylaws does not mention a Webmaster/Archivist as an elected officer of the Senate,

Be it therefore resolved that Article III, Section 1 of the Faculty Senate Bylaws be amended to read:

Section 1: Officers are elected in the following order: Vice President/President Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, ~~and~~ Parliamentarian, and Webmaster/Archivist.

**Resolution 2: Amending Bylaw Article IV, Section 1 relating to election of Faculty Senate Executive Committee.**

Whereas, Article IV, Section 1 of the Faculty Senate Constitution includes a webmaster/archivist as an officer of the Senate, and

Whereas, Article IV, Section 1 of the Faculty Senate Bylaws does not mention a Webmaster/Archivist as a member of the Executive Committee,

Be it therefore resolved that Article IV, Section 1 of the Faculty Senate Bylaws be amended to read:

Section 1: The Faculty Senate Committees and their responsibilities are as follows:

The **Executive Committee** consists of the Faculty Senate President, Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, ~~and~~ Parliamentarian, and Webmaster/Archivist. This committee populates and charges the other Faculty Senate Committees, advises the Faculty Senate President, makes recommendations for the consideration of the full Senate, proposes amendments to the Faculty Senate Constitution, makes recommendations to the bylaws of the Faculty Senate, and creates ad hoc committees as necessary to conduct the business of the Faculty Senate.

**Resolution 3: Amending Bylaw Article V, Section 2 relating to the release of constituent concerns to the Faculty Association.**

Whereas, Article V discusses the procedures for submission of faculty concerns to senate, and

Whereas, Section 2 indicates that submitted questions and concerns will be recorded in the Faculty Senate minutes, and

Whereas, some concerns identify the person submitting the concern or the person the concern was submitted about, and

Whereas, identifying individuals could be seen as a breach of ethics,

Be it therefore resolved that Article V, Section 2 of the Faculty Senate Bylaws be amended to read:

Section 2: Summaries of Submitted questions and concerns will be recorded in the Faculty Senate minutes.

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Appendix B: One Pill Can Kill Flier



UNIVERSITY OF  
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Please join us for:  
**ONE PILL  
CAN KILL**  
Drug Overdose Training

Hosted by the Office of the Attorney General of  
Arkansas and the University of Central Arkansas  
Addiction Studies Program



**DATE:** APRIL 9, 2026 **TIME:** 5 PM - 6 PM  
**LOCATION:** INTEGRATED HEALTH SCIENCES  
BUILDING FRONT LOBBY

GET TRAINED ON HOW TO USE NALOXONE AND RESPOND TO  
AN OVERDOSE EMERGENCY. YOU'LL GET A FREE T-SHIRT,  
NALOXONE, TEST STRIPS, CHICK-FIL-A, AND MORE!



SCAN QR CODE TO  
REGISTER

