

Faculty Senate Agenda
August 29, 2023: [MS Teams, 3-5 PM](#)

Call to Order and Approval of Previous Minutes

Faculty Senate was called to order

Senators Present:

Ahmed Alsharif	David Knowlton	Maria Blevins	Sayed Sajal
Alex Yuan	Donna Fairbanks	Maureen Andrade	Sean Crossland
Ashley Nadeau	Douga Czajka	Max Aeschbacher	Stephanie Dunn
Bryan Sansom	Dustin Shipp	Merilee Larsen	Tammy Parker
Christopher Goslin	Gareth Fry	Ming Yu	Terrance Orr
Colleen Hough	Jennifer Shubert	Nathan Jeppson	Tracy Sermon
Dallas Smith	Jim Price	Paul Morrey	Waseem Sheikh
Dan Perry	Joshua Fagan	Raiden Gaul	
David Frame	Laura Ricaldi	Rick McDonald	

Senators Absent/Excused:

Anthony Ciccone	Jim Pettersson	Ken Adams	Michael Hollister
Christopher Witt	John Hunt	Lisa Hall	Michaela Sawyer
Diego Alvarado Karste	Joshua Hilst	Matthew Duffin	Peter Sproul

Minutes stand approved

Faculty Senate President

👉 Faculty Senate Website ([Link to Faculty Senate website](#))

- Senate is an open public meeting and all of our meeting links are now posted on the website. Please make your faculty is aware of this.

👉 Wolverine Welcome Week

- Thank you to everyone who came to Welcome Week and Freshman Convocation. If you did not participate, I would encourage you to do it next year.

👉 Policy ([Link to Policy Pipeline](#))

- We will be working on a lot of policy over the year. If you have not looked at the agenda yet, please take note of Section 6. I would like to list all the policies being worked on so you are aware of what is coming down the line. This section will include policy that we are discussing in our Senate meeting along with Section d. which is policy moving to Stage 3 or 4. We also have policy proposals in Stage 1 listed in Section e. We discuss policies in Stage 2.
- If you are interested in being a policy drafting committee member, you can look them up in the policy pipeline and contact the stewards and see if there is a way to participate.
- You have access to Stage 3 drafts. You can get into our policy pipeline. Click on a policy, scroll to the bottom of the policy, and you can see all the comments from different entities regarding this specific policy. This is a great way to see how shared governance works.
- There is a new policy training required for all new senators. We started this a couple of years ago. It is led by Cara O'Sullivan. We will have several sessions. I will also post them in our Team chat. Current senators are also welcome to attend those as a refresher.

👉 Lunch Series (Me beyond the CV)

- Monthly small group lunch where I ask a faculty member to come and present something they are interested in, something that is not on their CV. Who are you as a person?

- We will also have a discussion about thing I need to know. What am I not hearing? What do I need to be aware of? I would like to invite at least 2 faculty members from each college/school each month.
- Introductions of New Executive Committee Members
 - VP Senate, Evelyn Porter
 - Service & Elections Committee Chair, Jennifer Shubert
 - Policy Liaison, Joshua Fagan
 - UVUSA, VP Academic Affairs, Kenzie Jones Womack
- Any questions or concerns or items we should consider as we begin this academic year?
 - **Q:** What should we tell our faculty about your lunches?
 - A:** They are monthly beginning in September. Lunch will be provided by Faculty Senate and faculty will be limited to 2-3 per college/school. Still working on details to determine who is invited to those.

Provost Wayne Vaught

- **Wolverine Welcome Week**
 - Many thanks to everyone who helped with Wolverine Welcome Week. This is the first year we modified the schedule and started school on Wednesday. This gave students opportunities to meet with their academic units, engage with faculty, get their ID, and to get them familiar with the campus. We had 2,5000 attend this event. The design and purpose of this event was to help our student be successful and help with retention rates.
- **Enrollments**
 - We are looking up for enrollments this fall. Retention of students continues to climb. Compared to this same day last year, our budgeted related full-time equivalent enrollment is up by 1,000 students. Our continuing students are up by almost 300 or 1.5%. That number has oftentimes been negative so the fact that it is turned around is something we should be proud of.
- **Utah Board of Higher Education (UBHE)**
 - The Governor disbanded the entire Board of Higher Education and reassembled a new board. The board used to have 18 members and we now have 9 members and a student representative. They will be meeting quarterly vs every other month.
- **Faculty Compensation**
 - The legislature approved up to 8.5% for state employees. The legislature funds 100% of state employees. They only fund 75% for university employees and the school have to come up with the remaining amount. Due to the governor's freeze of tuition, we did not have those funds available to help cover the cost of the salary increase.
 - The average increase for faculty this year was 7.4% percent. We used all the funds available for salary increases. One-time funding cannot be used for salary increases.
 - The \$600 bonus was available due to performance funding which is a one-time funding.
- **General Education**
 - Not a lot to update at this time. We did have a GE task force last year that worked on this. The state is now involved, and they are making suggestions. Many thanks to Evelyn Porter for heading up that task force for UVU.
 - A recommendation will be taken to the board in December. That recommendation is most likely to be approved for 27-30 credits for general education credit. But nothing has been finalized or decided at this time.

➤ EID

- There have been ongoing conversations regarding equity, inclusion, and diversity initiatives. It is still not clear what is going to happen with the legislative session. We are watching that closely. We want to be able to offer our students the services they need. That will remain a priority at UVU.

➤ Accreditation

- We will be submitting our Year 6 report to our accrediting body, Northwest. Next year we will submit our report on 1st criteria which has 18 different variables. Many of your deans will be helping with that. That report is due next fall.
- Site visit is scheduled for Spring 2025.
- You will be getting a letter with a link to a website so you can view the Year 6 report.

➤ Town Hall: AI and ChatGPT

- September 25, 12pm-2pm, Grand Ballroom
- AI is changing the outlook of the world and higher education. We are scheduling a town hall to discuss concerns, policy, and how to support faculty with AI. This isn't something that can be stopped. It is here and is going to change the way we interact. We will discuss how we use AI effectively. The purpose of the town hall is to come together as an academic community and think about this new world.

➤ Q&A

- **Q:** Why did the governor dissolve UBHE?
A: There was a report that was initiated by the legislature, and they came up with some recommendations and that report and audit impacted how the governor addresses some issues with USHE. How does USHE position this board to be best able to respond to questions that were raised in that report? I suspect that he chose to start with a clean slate.
- **Q:** With Wed start, we have one less Mon/Tue with instruction. How do we adjust for this so we don't trim class time?
A: We do have to follow state law regarding an appropriate number of teaching days. You can submit questions to the Academic Calendar Committee. Reach out to Jennifer Shubert to find out who your representative is on that committee. We are planning on keeping the Mon/Tue orientation for future years.
- **Q:** Is UVU eventually going to come up with a policy regarding AI and if so, does each faculty member have to abide by the policy?
A: What we want to do is help you as instructors come up with some reflection and thought about it. Faculty should have the discretion to run their classes and integrate technology and tools as they feel appropriate in the class. We are not coming up with a policy banning, regulating, or restricting its use in the classroom. That largely is a matter of academic freedom. If there are things we can do as a university to help you navigate how AI can benefit students and be more beneficial to you as faculty.
A: A link to OTL's faculty senate generative AI Sample syllabi examples
The big goal for the town hall is to see how faculty want to move forward and how we collaborate to make sure we are talking about AI in the classroom.
A: Woodbury School of Business has come up with 3 statements. They may have gotten them from OTL. One statement encourages the use of AI, one of them is in the middle, and the other asks students not to use AI at all.

- **Q:** There is a light-hearted comment in the chat regarding the use of AI to grade papers. AI does allow you to use it to grade papers. As we encourage our students to use AI in academia, we are also going to have to question our role and how the grading papers feature may be helpful or detrimental. What happens if a faculty member relies on AI for heavy grading?

A: If there is a tool that can help you access a student's work and then give the faculty member an opportunity to interact with the student in a different way. This could be a beneficial use of AI. It may be a fundamental change in the role of the faculty member. We would like to be innovative in our use of AI to the benefit of the faculty members and the students.

Policy ([process overview](#))

Stage 2 Policies- Debate Calendar

- **Policy 157:** Alcoholic Beverages, Unlawful Drugs, and Other Illegal Substances (Deletion)
 - Steward Wioleta Fedeczko - Policy 155 was approved on May 9, 2023. Policy 157 repeats what has been approved in Policy 155. This was a huge debate. Policy 155 doesn't prohibit alcohol in the culinary arts, chemical alcohol used in some departments, or the consumption of alcohol while attending conferences. Those are all addressed in Policy 155. I would suggest comparing the 2 policies and see if there are any concerns.
 - Dan Perry motions to vote on approving the deletion of Policy 157
Jim Price seconds the motion
Wioleta Fedeczko calls the question
Results: 32 approve, 0 disagree
- **Policy 211:** Employee Appreciation and Recognition (Gifts and Awards) (DELETION)
Steward Kedrick Black -This policy states some IRS guidelines that have since been changed. There is a lot of information on several UVU websites that address employee appreciation and recognition. We will take several of the topics in the policy and create a procedure that will be linked through P&C and the Business and Financial website.

Policies Moving to Stages 3 or 4

No time allocated, update only.

Faculty can provide public comments via steward, but comments via senate have concluded.

- Policy 141: Cost Transfers for Students
- Policy 201: General Fiscal Policies and Processes
- Policy 202: Payroll
- Policy 205: Investments
- **Policy 607:** Course-based Fees
[[Policy Draft](#)] [Policy Steward: [Laurie Sharp](#)]

Policy 607 - There was some language added after it was approved by this body and comments were made. The steward Laurie Sharp just wanted it brought back to this body so we could review

the changes. Please review those and contact the Policy Steward Laurie Sharp if you have concerns.

Policy Proposals, Stage 1 Policies, or Other Policy Related

No time allocated, update only.

Stage 1

Policy 113: University Awards
Policy 116: Student Communication
Policy 136: Intellectual Property
Policy 203: Employee Fringe Benefits
Policy 329: Telephone and Cellular Phone Usage
Policy 336: Children in the Workplace
Policy 367: Employee Affinity Groups
Policy 445: Institutional Data Management and Access
Policy 450: Processing and Control
Policy 510: Graduate Admissions
Policy 522: Undergraduate Credit
Policy 524: Graduate Program Credit and Graduation
Policy 541: Student Code
Policy 601: Classroom Instruction and Management
Policy 632: Assignment and Advancement in Rank
Policy 644: Department Chairs
Policy 649: Faculty Remediation, Sanction, and Dismissal for Cause
Policy 704: Minors on Campus

Proposed, Pre-Development, or Other

- Policy 637: Faculty Tenure
- Policy 654: Faculty Merit Pay

2. Non-policy Related Action Calendar ([process overview](#))

- GE Requirements (Evelyn Porter)
 - The recommendation from the state GE task force to the board is to give universities a range of 27-30 GE credits. That is likely what the board will decide but we we won't know until December.
 - R470 requires what is dictated by the state. The current minimum is 30 and the maximum is 39.
 - If one school has a requirement of 27 credits and another school has 30 transfers, if the student completes the full 27 credits at the first school, then the GE requirements transfer as complete. If the student is in a program that requires 120 credits, the 3 missing credits will need to be satisfied.
 - Communicate this information to your faculty and ask them if they have a preference of "27" or "other". We will bring it back to Senate and vote. If the vote is "27", then there is no need for discussion. If the vote is not for 27, then we will revive the GE task force, and we will have discussions about how the "other"

looks. We will make some proposals and it will come back to Senate for vote. We will also work with AAC and UVUSA.

- If we wait until November for a decision, then we will be behind the curveball. Whatever the board decides, it is likely to be implemented in Fall 2025.
- We will vote on this in Faculty Senate in 1 month. Evelyn is willing to go to department meetings and answer questions.

- Q&A

- Q: Are we getting rid of Ethics & Values?
A: The idea that Ethics & Values goes away is not the complete truth because Ethics & Values could 100% be a humanities distribution. If it goes to 27, then we would not require it, but it would still be available for students to take. This also applies to the Health and Wellness and the third Science. There will be another committee that will involve the registrar and curriculum. They will provide guidance on how that looks the transition looks. We have a lot of programs that will have to be modified.
- Q: Is the 27-30 a minimum?
A: It is not. Once the board decides, it is the maximum.
- Q: Is the new personal wellness option out?
A: If the state goes with 30, then we have to determine what that looks like.
- Q: What I'm hearing is that no matter what, we are not going to require that every student take Ethics & values.
A: I would say that this is undecided at this point.
- Q: Will all faculty be voting on the 27 or other?
A: No-only faculty senate will be voting. That is why I am stressing that you take the time to educate your faculty and ask them what they prefer.

- SRI Revision (Hilary Hungerford and Steven Clark)

- Document has been shared in the chat and is available in Teams
- Senate voted in Spring 2022 to open up the SRI process and see if we could make changes. We created a task force and they have been working on that for the last year. According to policies, SRI can only change if we get approval from Faculty Senate, UVUSA, and Academic Affairs.
- We like that our current SRI is created in-house by Faculty administration and students as a partnership. Our current SRI is good but there is no standard use of SRI across campus – in terms of data analysis, how much they count for annual review or tenure. There is no clear guidance on how they are used.
- We are proposing training, modifying some of the questions, and, removing some of the sections. Those are detailed in the document. There are some questions that are not used in the SRI in any way so we thought it was best to remove those and save time for students taking the survey. We hope that by shortening the survey, we will increase the amount of surveys that are submitted.
- We outlined the urgent need for technology updates such as embedding in Canvas and direct linking to faculty portfolios.
- This will be an ongoing process with consistent revisions.
- Q: Is there talk about differentiating between face to face and online courses?
A: They talked about it but it will probably need to be a future reiteration. At this time, we are addressing some of the urgent issues.

A: Research shows that students will complete and provide written answers on a shorter survey versus a long one so that is being taken into consideration.

- Q: How do we get students to answer the SRI?

A: One of the recommendations is to identify and implement best practices for improving student response rates.

A: We are working with UVUSA to educate students what the purpose of the SRI is.

- Q: We have separated several of our classes into Labs or a lectur class and the differentiating the questions between those two could help with better feedback?

A: Agreed. Put those on the comment document.

- Q: What does “the validity of the survey” mean?

A: Reliability is a measure of the consistency or reliability of an instrument. Validity is if it measures what is supposed to measure.

A: We want to change the mentality from a rating perspective to feedback regarding our course.

b. Incoming Proposals and Proposal Next Steps

Note: Senators must vote to entertain further discussion or action on incoming proposals. With a majority vote to further entertain the proposal, Senators must then propose and vote on how to pursue the proposal.

3. Administrative Updates

No time allocated; written updates.

- a. Fulton Library: Rich Paustenbaugh
- b. Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL): Sam Gedeberg
- c. PACE: Daniel Delgadillo
- d. EID: Ezgi Sertler

4. Standing Committee Reports

No time allocated; written updates.

- a. Special Assignments & Investigations: Laura Ricaldi
- b. Service & Elections: Jennifer Shubert
- c. Curriculum: Ben Moulton
- d. Retention, Tenure, Promotions & Appeals: John Hunt
- e. Advancement of Teaching: Jonathan Allred

5. Other Committee Reports

No time allocated; written updates.

6. Announcements

No time allocated. Please review and send to your departments, as applicable.

- a. **UVU Communications:** Faculty will receive an email from University Communications via the uvuneedtoknow@uvu.edu email address asking for their communications preferences and opinions about communication at UVU.
- b. **Early Alert:** Departments and colleges should reach out to [Jamie Muhlestein](#) to request presentations about Early Alert procedures.
- c. **Lunch with the Provost:** The provost is implementing lunch events throughout the fall to ensure transparency and good communication (check out the [details](#)).

7. Good of the Order

- 8. Motion to Adjourn: Josh Fagan**
The Senate adjourned at 4:57pm.