

Faculty Senate Minutes

August 26th, 2025: SB 139, 3-5 PM

Call to Order; Silent Roll Call (0 min.)

[session start time 3:00]

Present:

Senator (S), ExCo (E), Other Non-Voting Member (O), Designee (D)

Abbie Fisher (E)	Doug Czajka (S)	Kevin Smith (S)	Nizhone Meza (E)
Abdennour Seibi (S)	Douglas Gardner (E)	Laura Ricaldi (S)	Noelle Taylor (E)
Ahmed Alsharif (S)	Erin Peeples (O)	Laurie Toro (E)	Paul Morrey (S)
Allan Wong (D)	Evelyn Porter (E)	Machiel Van Frankenhuijsen (S)	Richard Cho (S)
Alma Laney (S)	Frank Jones (S)	Maria Blevins (S)	Rick McDonald (S)
Amin Zollanvari (S)	Howard Fullmer (S)	Matt Flint (S)	Ron Miller (S)
Chris Lindquist (S)	Jeff Packer (S)	Matthew Duffin (S)	Sean Crossland (S)
Colleen Hough (S)	Jennifer Shubert (E)	Matti Smith (S)	Shelton Weech (S)
Craig Thulin (S)	Jim Oldham (S)	Mel Gurr (S)	Stephanie Dunn (S)
Dan Perry (S)	John Newman (S)	Michael Hollister (S)	Summer Karafiath (S)
Darin Eckton (S)	Jordan Allen (E)	Michaela Giesenkirchen Sawyer (S)	Tracy Sermon (S)
David Connelly (E)	Joshua Fagan (S)	Nate Jeppson (S)	Tyler Schnese (S)
Deb Dowd (S)	Karen Arteaga (E)	Nicolas Clark (S)	Wayne Vaught (E)

Absent/Excused:

Carolyn Howard (S)	James Cox (S)	Max Aeschbacher (S) - Sabbatical	Peter Sproul (S)
Dan Sutliff (S)	Joseph McRae (S)	Merilee Lasen (S)	Qudrat E Alahy Ratul (S)
David Frame (S)	Kat Brown (E)	Nicole Gearing (E)	Rich Paustenbaugh (E)

Welcome & Updates, Evelyn Porter, Faculty Senate President

[3:00-3:10]

- Discussion on the need to update the bylaws to address the process for filling officer vacancies, with a motion passed to formalize the interim process and a commitment to incorporate these changes into the bylaws for future clarity.

Approval of Previous Minutes (available in Faculty Senate teams/[website](#))

- 4/29/2025 Minutes stand approved

Academic Affairs, Wayne Vaught, Provost

[3:10-3:25]

- Administrative Restructuring**
- Ongoing Dean searches for CHPS and SCET**
 - Search firm utilization (Myers McRae)
 - Committee composition

Administrative Items, Evelyn Porter, Faculty Senate President

[3:25-3:40]

- Presentation of Name for Senate Vice President**
 - Ratification of Sean Tolman for the remainder of the term

Yes: 28, No: 0; Abstain: 0

- Bylaw Revisions & Process Clarification**
 - Bylaws need updating to address process for filling officer vacancies

- Motion to formalize the interim process

Yes: 37; No: 1; Abstain: 1

- **Website Update**
 - Faculty Senate website needs current Senator & Committees updated
- **Special Investigations Chair**
 - Currently accepting nominations

Policy

[3:40-4:25]

- **Introduce**
 - [106](#) Special Purpose Organizational Units (*Kat Brown/Nizhone Meza*)
 - Clarified the definition and oversight of special purpose organizational units
 - [637](#) Faculty Tenure (*Kat Brown/Nizhone Meza*)
 - Now includes detailed procedures for tenure clock stoppage, administrative appointments, and appeals, aligning with related policies and increasing transparency
 - [136](#) Intellectual Property (*Bradley Baugh*)
 - Technical and substantive changes, including explicit inclusion of syllabi as scholarly works
 - Clarification of rights regarding pre-existing and third-party IP
 - Introduction of a required written agreement to transfer copyrights back to faculty while granting the university a perpetual license for institutional use
 - [232](#) Honorary Names & Names Gifts (*Melanie Lafranca*)
 - Requirements added for space naming agreements, ensuring Foundation representation
 - Terminology updated and clarified administrative processes
 - [444](#) Academic Freedom & Information Access (*Brett McKeachnie*)
 - Proposed deletion of policy; provisions are covered by other academic freedom and IT policies
 - Confirmed with relevant offices that no protections will be lost

Non-Policy Items

[4:25-4:59]

- **International Travel** (*Baldomero Lago*)
 - Overview of updated travel policy, including 13-step approval process, insurance requirements, timelines and procedures for faculty, staff, students, and non-UVU participants
- **Ask Wilson AI Tool** (formerly TA in a Box) (*Chel Huriavi*)
 - Integration with Canvas, privacy safeguards, and pilot implementation
 - Discussion about forming a Senate committee for oversight and communication

Good of the Order

Adjourn

[session end time 5:00]

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 9th, 2025, SB 139, Time TBD

Upcoming Agenda Items (Exact dates TBD)

- **Faculty Senate Resolution FSR-2025-1** (*Craig Thulin*)
- **Course Syllabi and Legislative Mandates** (*Laurie Sharp*): Concerns raised about requirement to submit course syllabi by legislative deadlines, even when not under contract, as well as seriousness of compliance, the role of the legislature, and the need for further clarification

Announcements

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

- **Faculty Senate Email:** Faculty Senate now has a generic email address: facultysenate@uvu.edu. Please direct any questions here.
- **Fulton Library:** As the fall semester begins, the Fulton Library is here to support faculty with a wide range of services tailored to your teaching and research needs. Whether you're preparing course materials, guiding students through research, or pursuing your own scholarly work, the library is a valuable resource.

Fall Semester Operating Hours:

- Monday–Thursday: 7:00 am – 10:00 pm
- Friday: 7:00 am – 7:00 pm
- Saturday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Sunday: 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Find daily and holiday hours by visiting uvu.edu/library/about/hours

Key Services for Faculty:

- **Library Instruction Support**
Collaborate with librarians to provide tailored instruction sessions to teach students how to build their research and information literacy skills.
 - **Book Delivery Service**
Request delivery and pickup of materials directly to your office.
 - **Subject Librarians**
Get personalized support from a librarian who specializes in your discipline- ideal for research assistance, course planning, and resource recommendations.
 - Explore more faculty resources by visiting uvu.libguides.com/faculty-guide
- **Office of Teaching & Learning: OTL's New Web Presence-** You can now find the majority of OTL's pages on myUVU Workplace! [OTL'S NEW MYUVU WORKPLACE SITE](#)