

Faculty Senate Minutes

August 25th, 2026: KB 306 & Teams, 2:30-4:30 PM

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

[session start time 2:30]

PRESENT (51): Alfredo Medrano-Fernandez, David Connelly, Erin Peeples, Evelyn Porter, Howard Fullmer, Jennifer Shubert, Karen Arteaga, Noelle Taylor, Paul Morrey, Raiden Gaul, Rich Paustenbaugh, Roxanne Brinkerhoff, Shelton Weech, Wayne Vaught, Aaron Stewart, Abdennour Seibi, Alma Laney, Amin Zollanvari, Brett Breton, Chris Lindquist, Colleen Hough, Craig Thulin, Darin Eckton, Diego Alvarado-Karste, Doug Czajka, Elaine Tuft, Elizabeth Golden, Erin Jones, Eunmi Joung, Frank Jones, Gordon MacKay, Howard Fullmer, Isaac Hurtado, James Cox, Jerell Rosales, Jeremy Boden, Jim Oldham, John Cornell, Kevin Smith, Laura Ricaldi, Maria Blevins, Matti Smith, Michaela Giesenkirchen Sawyer, Nicolas Clark, Nyree-Dawn Nichols, Paul Morrey, Richard Cho, Ryan Baker, Ryan Rushton, Shelton Weech, Tyler Schnese, Vince Rossi

EXCUSED (1): Tom Smith

ABSENT (7): Sally Rocks, Carolyn Howard, Jeff Packer, Machiel Van Frankenhuijsen, Matt Flint, Ronald Miller

PROXY (0): none

Welcome & Updates, Evelyn Porter, *Faculty Senate President*

[2:30-2:35]

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

- Minutes stand approved

Presidential Updates, President Jon Anderson, *UVU President*

[2:35-2:45]

- **UVU's institutional outlook, shared-governance priorities, upcoming leadership coordination & campus safety planning**
 - University is financially healthy, experiencing market growth & supported by strong leadership
 - New podcast series will launch, with first episode focused on shared governance & faculty participation
 - University-wide review of councils, committees & governance structures will take place September 3rd to evaluate roles, reduce duplication & improve decision-making processes
 - Three Institutional Outcomes were highlighted as priorities:
 - Student recruitment & enrollment
 - Student experiences while enrolled
 - Student outcomes after graduation

Academic Affairs, Wayne Vaught, *Provost*

[2:45-3:00]

- **September 10th – Campus operations will be suspended**
 - Except for essential personnel
 - No university-sponsored classes, test, assignments or activities may occur that day
 - Third-party organizations renting university facilities are separate from university operations
 - Community service opportunities will be available through a partnership with local volunteer initiatives
 - Please hold finals during your scheduled time and make sure classes don't continue past the end of the semester
- **Enrollment projections indicate a decline in budgetary full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment**
 - Current estimates suggest a 2-3% decrease compared with the previous year
 - First-time freshman enrollment has experienced the most significant decline
- **Faculty engagement, communication & shared governance were emphasized as critical factors in student success & institutional improvement**

Presentation

- **Kaltura: Recordings Standard Retention Schedule** (*John Walser*) [3:00-3:05]
 - Proposed extending retention timelines for automated classroom recordings
 - Recording variations will be automatically removed 210 days after creation
 - Original source recordings will be retained for 18 months before permanent deletion
 - Changes were recommended to balance storage costs, legal requirements & compliance considerations
 - Faculty may retain selected recordings for instructional or research purposes through existing processes
 - Motion to Vote: *Craig Thulin*
 - Seconded: *Colleen Hough*

VOTING RESULTS

26 agree, 6 disagree

Policy

- **Introductions**
 - [101: Policy Governing Policies](#) (*Cara O'Sullivan*) [3:05-3:10]
 - Removes a policy review step that has become redundant in practice
 - Intended to align policy language with current governance procedures
 - Reflects expanded participation & review at higher levels of governance
 - [133: GRAMA](#) (*Kedric Black*) [3:10-3:15]
 - Updates procedures governing records requests
 - Clarifies responsibilities, submission methods, appeals processes & fees
 - Incorporates current legal requirements & practices
 - [637: Faculty Tenure](#) (*Kat Brown/Nizhone Meza*) [3:15-3:25]
 - Clarifies eligibility requirements for faculty seeking early tenure review
 - Establishes guidance based on prior tenure-track & tenured experience at other institutions
 - Corrects previously inconsistent language regarding peer assessments
 - [611: Credit for Prior Learning](#) (*Kat Brown/Colleen Sorensen*) [3:25-3:45]
 - Ownership of the policy will move into Academic Affairs
 - Graduate programs become eligible for participation
 - Credit limits move to a percentage-based model tied to credential completion
 - Prior learning assessments may count toward institutional residency requirements in specific cases
 - Students may begin the process once admitted rather than waiting for completed coursework
 - New appeal & due process provisions added
 - Departments will have greater authority over assessment fees
 - [659: Endowed Chairs & Professorships](#) (*Kat Brown/Melanie Lafranca*) [3:45-3:50]
 - Establishes requirements for funding levels, appointment terms & stewardship expectations
 - Defines qualifications & expectations for recipients
 - Outlines renewal processes & administrative oversight
 - Invites feedback regarding appointment lengths & implementation procedures

Faculty Work Session [3:50-4:15]

- **Introduced Revised Service Letter Practices**
 - Annual service letters will be issued instead of waiting until the end of a senator's term
 - Letters will document attendance, participation, voting activity & policy engagement
 - The goal is to provide clearer documentation for annual reviews & promotion processes
- **Policy Process Orientation**
 - Policies are introduced, reviewed by departments, discussed at a later meeting & subsequently voted on
 - Homework documents & comment forms are available through the Faculty Senate Teams site
 - Faculty participation on drafting committees was encouraged as an effective way to influence policy development
 - Shared governance & faculty engagement were identified as major priorities moving forward
- **Research Institute**

- Shared information about upcoming research support opportunities, communities or practice & faculty development activities

Good of the Order

[4:15-4:30]

- Senators discussed best practices for communicating with departments, including department meeting updates, Teams channels & regular policy summaries
- Information was shared regarding retirement & financial planning resources available to participating employees
- The Physician Assistant program announced successful continuation of its accreditation following a multi-year review effort

Adjourn

[session end time 4:30]

- Meeting ended at 4:30pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 8th, KB 306 & Teams @ 2:30-4:30pm

Announcements

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

Faculty Senate Email: Faculty Senate has a generic Faculty Senate email address: facultysenate@uvu.edu.

Leadership Questions: If you would like to submit questions for the President or Provost to address at the next Senate meeting, please email facultysenate@uvu.edu.

Office of Teaching & Learning: [See what's new here](#)



RESEARCH STARTS HERE: *Helping Students Navigate the Fulton Library*

Fulton Library is excited to introduce the Library Tour—a self-guided activity for students to discover research resources and learn their way around the library. With stops throughout the building, the Library Tour equips students with the tools they need to thrive academically, including:

- Learning about library service points, like the Circulation Desk and Research Help Desk.
- Mastering the process of finding articles, books, and other sources for assignments.
- Discovering how to hone writing and research skills through librarian research help and the Fugal Writing Center.

Prizes await each participant! The tour starts at the Research Help Desk, and students can finish at their own pace. This semester, consider boosting your students' research expertise by offering extra credit for completing the Library Tour at Fulton Library.

