

Faculty Senate Executive Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 24, 2026, 12:00 Noon

MSC 2W16b/Microsoft Teams

MEMBERS PRESENT: Phillip Vallejo, Ross Salary, Boniface Yemba, Mike Huesmann, Zach Garrett, Marybeth Beller, Rick Gage, Jessica Buerk (v), Mindy Varney, Eryn Roles, Richard Eggleton, Amine Oudghiri-Otmani

MEMBERS ABSENT:

EX-OFFICIO, NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Pam Holland (v), Alissa Davis

EX-OFFICIO, NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Robin Riner

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Andrew Morelock

FACULTY SENATE STAFF: Hailey Bibbee

GUESTS: Carl Mummert, Karen McComas, Diane Petrella, Guatam Pillay

The meeting was convened at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Rick Gage.

1. Approval of Proposed Agenda
 - a. Motion to include discussion item of concern to number 5 on the agenda -seconded and approved
 - b. Approved as amended
2. Approval of Minutes of April 13, 2026 - approved
3. Announcements - Chair
 - a. Welcome and Acknowledgments – The Chair welcomed new members of the Executive Committee and expressed appreciation for their willingness to serve. The Chair also thanked representatives from campus organizations for their participation, including: Alyssa (Student Government Association Representative), Pam Holland (Council of Chairs), Richard Eggleton (Graduate Council). Appreciation was expressed to the committee for electing the Chair to serve in this role.
 - b. Chair's Priorities for the Academic Year – The Chair outlined four guiding priorities for the Executive Committee and Faculty Senate: Communication, Transparency, Collaboration, and Follow-Through.
 - c. Chair's Vision for Faculty Senate – Senators should be informed about university activities and decisions, feel that their concerns are heard and addressed meaningfully, be connected to shared governance processes, and work collaboratively across colleges and units to advance the university's success.
 - d. Emerging Topics and Issues –
 - i. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is expected to be a major topic during the academic year. Anticipated topics for discussion include: AI use by students and faculty, AI-enabled technologies, new university AI tools and implementations, surveillance and privacy concerns associated with emerging technologies, university AI policy development
 - ii. AA-17 Faculty Conduct Policy was approved by the Board of Governors following Faculty Senate approval. Subsequent public comments

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resulted in proposed language revisions primarily related to clarifying the Title IX routing process. Following consultation with legal counsel, the Title IX Office, and other stakeholders, it was determined that the revisions did not substantively alter the sections previously reviewed by Faculty Senate. The revisions were forwarded to legal counsel without returning the policy to the full Senate. The policy is expected to become effective soon following final legal review and publication. Additional revisions may be considered in the future if needed.

4. Set Agenda for the Faculty Senate Meeting, September 3, 2026 - approved
 - a. Approval of Proposed Agenda
 - b. Approval of Minutes
 - c. Announcements – Rick Gage
 - d. Parliamentary Procedures Primer – Chair/Parliamentarian
 - e. Recommendations/Resolutions
 - f. Regular Reports
 - i. University President – Brad Smith (15 minutes)
 - ii. Provost – Diane Petrella (15 minutes)
 - iii. Board of Governors – Robin Riner (5 minutes)
 - iv. Advisory Council of Faculty – Amine Oudghiri-Otmani (5 minutes)
 - v. Graduate Council – Richard Egleton (5 minutes)
 - vi. Student Government Association – Alissa Davis (5 minutes)
 - g. Other Requests to Speak
5. Request to ask President Smith to address concerns over limited number of IT staff - motion passed
6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

/s/ Melinda Varney

Melinda Varney, Recording Secretary

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MINUTES APPROVED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Rick Gage, Chair
Faculty Senate

Date Signed

MINUTES READ:

Brad Smith, President
Marshall University

Date Signed