Faculty Senate Executive Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 12, 2026, 12:00 Noon

MSC 2W16b/Microsoft Teams

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Phillip Vallejo

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

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

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Andrew Morelock

FACULTY SENATE STAFF: Hailey Bibbee

GUESTS: Carl Mummert, Allison Carey, April Fugett, Richard Jones, Damien Arthur, Fatiha Nassir (V), Anna Mummert (v), Scott Davis (v), Deepak Subedi (v), Lacie Bittinger (v), Huaqing Liang (v), Sonja Cantrell-Johnson (v), Gautam Pillay (v), Stephen Deterding (v)

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

1. Approval of Proposed Agenda – approved
2. Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2026 – approved
3. Announcements – Chair
    a. Commencement Speaker / Honorary Degree Process
        i. Nominations for our Spring 2027 commencement speaker and honorary degree recipients closed on October 1.
        ii. The Selection Committee will hold its first meeting this afternoon.
        iii. We have also begun coordinating with the Registrar's Office so that the necessary logistical planning can occur at the appropriate stages of the process. The Chair will keep EC informed as that work progresses, but the hope is to have recommendations ready for consideration at the November meeting.
    b. Marshall Educational Experience (General Education proposal)
        i. The proposed Marshall Educational Experience is on today's agenda for a more substantive discussion. EC members should have received both the official proposal and an earlier annotated version provided anonymously, with permission, by one task force member.
        ii. For today, the Chair expressed that he would like us to focus initially on whether the proposal is ready to move forward and, if not, what additional review, clarification, or consultation would be most appropriate. He also met with the

task force Chair so that she would understand how he intended to frame our discussion.

c. MUBOG-AA-6 Implementation
   i. The COS Faculty Advancement Committee has identified several concerns while working to align its policies with the new MUBOG-AA-6. Those concerns involve more than the college's own P&T policy and may point to issues within AA-6 itself.
   ii. The committee is preparing a written summary, and the FS Chair will be meeting with representatives to discuss the concerns. Once we understand them more fully, we can determine whether they should be routed through FPC, EC, Academic Affairs, or some combination of those groups.

d. Standing Committee Review
   i. One of the Chair's priorities this year is to take a closer look at the roles and responsibilities of our standing committees. He expressed plans to meet with the chair and Senate liaison from each committee to discuss what the committee currently does, what it could be doing, and whether its mission, responsibilities, or operating procedures still reflect the university's current needs. Some committees are already very active, while others may have responsibilities that are outdated, unclear, or no longer consistently carried out. He mentioned not approaching this with predetermined changes in mind. The goal is to learn from the people doing the work, identify opportunities to strengthen the committees' contributions to shared governance, and determine whether any language in the Faculty Constitution should be clarified or revised.
   ii. Making committee activity more visible will be one part of that effort. Allison Carey recently raised a concern about the difficulty of locating meeting dates, times, locations, and modalities for several standing committees. The Chair and Faculty Senate Staff (Hailey Bibbee) are looking at what information is currently available and what we can realistically maintain. Longer term, committees would preferably establish tentative recurring meeting schedules each semester and make basic meeting information more accessible to the university community.

e. Upcoming Dates
   i. Faculty Senate - Items considered today will be reviewed at the Faculty Senate meeting on October 22.
   ii. Recommendations & Resolutions - Any recommendations or resolutions for the November cycle are due to senate@marshall.edu by October 30.
   iii. Next Executive Committee Meeting: November 9
   iv. Next Faculty Senate Meeting: November 19

Questions/Comments for the Chair: None

4. Recommendations and Resolutions

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a. **SR-26-27-01 CC** – Recommends Approval of the Listed UG Program Additions, Deletions, and Changes: Changes - BFA, Visual Art; Graphic Design; Studio Art BFA, Visual Art Emphasis. – motion carries
b. **SR 26-27-02 CC** – Recommends Approval of the Listed UG Course Additions, Deletions, and Changes: Additions – ART 388; ART 495; Changes – CHM 365; Deletions – DFIA 445; DFIA 454; DFIA 461; DFIA 470. – motion carries
c. **SR 26-27-03 AHC** – Recommends Adoption of the Marshall Education Experience (MEE)
    i. An amendment was approved requiring written procedures for course approval and faculty training to be established and communicated during the semester before departmental course scheduling begins. A secondary amendment added "and staff" to those who must receive the information. Amended language reads "written procedures for course approval and faculty and staff training must be put into place and advertised to the faculty during the semester before course scheduling begins at the department level for the semester in which Marshall Mindset (HERD) Degree Requirements take effect."
    ii. An amendment was approved revising the Holistic Communication outcome to state "Students will communicate ideas clearly, correctly and precisely through written and oral, aural, and/or visual elements…" This language requires written communication rather than allowing it to be optional.
    iii. An amendment was approved requiring the six credit hours of Responsible Citizenship and that the combination of courses must include global and ethical awareness, cultural and ethical awareness, civic and ethical awareness, and aesthetic, artistic, and ethical awareness.
    iv. A motion was approved to postpone further action on SR-26-27-03 and request a presentation from the Marshall Educational Experience task force at the next EC meeting.

5. Set Agenda for the Faculty Senate Meeting, October 22, 2026 - approved
    a. Approval of Proposed Agenda
    b. Approval of Minutes
    c. Announcements – Chair
    d. Recommendations/Resolutions
    e. 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)
    f. Standing Liaison Reports

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i. Academic Planning Committee – Tim Melvin (4 minutes)
ii. Athletics Committee – Chair/Liaison (4 minutes)
iii. Budget and Academic Policy Committee – Philippe Georgel (4 minutes)
iv. Library Committee – Heather Lauer (4 minutes)
v. Faculty Development Committee – Jerica Wesley (4 minutes)
vi. Physical Facilities & Planning Committee – Chair/Liaison (4 minutes)

g. Other Requests to Speak

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

/s/ Melinda Varney

Melinda Varney, Recording Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

_____ _____

Rick Gage, Chair
Faculty Senate

Date Signed

MINUTES READ:

_____ _____

Brad Smith, President
Marshall University

Date Signed

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