



Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes

September 10, 2026 | 3:15 PM | ACW 133

Present: Aaliyah Wilson, Angela Wartel, April Niemela, Bowie Rose, Dallas Smith, Debra Lybyer, Eric Stoffregen, Fred Chilson, Jennifer Cromer, Kim Tuschhoff, Marc Riendeau, Matt Brady, Peter Remien, Rachelle Genthôs, Ralph Barnes, Rebecca Snider, Rikki Ober, Royal Toy, Seth Bradshaw, Tom Hill

I. Call to Order @ 3:15

April Niemela initiated a brief get-to-know-you activity

II. Approval of Faculty Senate meeting minutes from April 9th, 2026

Motion to approve: Matt Brady

Seconded: Eric Stoffregen

Unanimous approval

III. Old Business

A. University Name Change – petition (optional). The petition was offered to faculty/staff.

B. SCEs Update

The comment box after every question is something some didn't like.

FSM expressed faculty dissatisfaction with the old SCE form

A new version of SCE will be active this fall, and it will include just a single comment box.

C. Faculty Senate / Association Website Review

Nothing of note related to this item.

IV. New Business

A. Guests: Provost Chilson & Assistant Provost Royal Toy

Update: Royal Toy is assistant provost

Royal Toy's duties as assistant provost were clarified

Announcement: there is some money for professional development: ~\$28k

Constraints regarding professional development money: Priority is for those doing presentations (not just attending a conference),

Question from faculty senate member (FSM): for new faculty, will there be a policy to deal with fact that new faculty might not have access to travel to conference?

Response (from Fred Chilson): New faculty have other options besides travel to conferences.

Response (from Royal Toy): Nursing is doing a symposium later this semester. People can pay for their own travel to conferences.

Response (from Fred Chilson): It is easier to approve travel if students are included.

FSM: should a person apply for preapproval before applying for the grant?

Response (from Fred Chilson): check the box that you applied for faculty development funds but indicate that they are not guaranteed. Submit the preapproval form before you learn if you win the faculty development grant for travel.

FSM: what is policy regarding the money ear-marked for faculty development?

Response (from Fred Chilson): we have some money now. There are grey areas. However, field trips with students are allowed.

Fred Chilson's question to those at the meeting: how is reorganization going?

FSM: question about timing of tuition bills.

Kim Tuschhoff: students will have to get the money on time, or they will be unenrolled from classes.

FSM: what tenure and promotion policy should a person in the newly formed division abide by?

Response (from Fred Chilson): Suggested that it may be best to keep two different standards (e.g. Business & Social Sciences) rather than merging them. Everyone going up for tenure and promotion this year should use the policy as of last year (before reorganization).

Fred: Plans to talk to each division about reorganization.

FSM: What about PIF forms? Should we continue to use the old ones?

Kim Tuschhoff: the PIF forms need to be updated/changed (because of the reorganization). The current forms should be used until the new ones are ready.

B. Faculty Senate Votes:

Motion to elect Heidi Green to Petition Committee: Rachelle Genthôs

Seconded: Rikki Ober

Heide Greene was elected unanimously

Motion to elect Tevis Lee for Petition Committee: Matt Brady

Seconded: Peter Remien

Tevis Lee was elected unanimously

Motion to elect Jennifer Anderson as an alternate for the Hearing Board:
 Rachelle Genthôs
 Seconded: Angela Wartel
 Jennifer Anderson was elected unanimously

- C. Reorganization Implications for Faculty Committees
- i Policy 1.102: Committee Membership language revision needs. Discuss & take back to divisions for feedback.

April Niemela (AN) summarized the policy on several committees

Faculty Senate

AN: Do we want to add four at-large members to Faculty Senate (to replace four lost members slots)?

One proposal: Allow for departments not housed in a division to send representatives (e.g. radiographic science and social work) to the committee

Do we still want to have a position for one senator from Coeur d'Alene?

FSM: I am not keen on having even more people invited to senate (because many faculty are not enthusiastic about joining the committee).

FSM: Let the departments not in a division send at-large members but do not REQUIRE them to do so

FSM: some departments would be overwhelmed by sending people to all the different committees (including Faculty Senate). They may not want to send a member to all of the committees.

Faculty Affairs Committee:

FSM: We might want equal/fair representation on the Faculty Affairs Committee (more so than other committees).

FSM: Does social work not have to serve on any committees now?

Response: No they do not.

Student affairs committee:

AN: One vote per division is old language. Do we want to change the language for this committee?

Standing Tenure and Promotion Committee (STPRC)

AN: Tenured faculty and a chair from each division is the status quo.

AN: Should we ask current members of that committee if they want to change the policy for composition of the committee?

Do we want to allow Casey and Eric to leave at the end of their terms (which would mean no formal step downs)?

FSM: The majority like that idea

Standing Promotion Review Committee (SPRC)

AN: The status quo is four faculty members from at least three CTE divisions plus a chair. At least 50% must be full professors. The committee chair must hold the rank of full professor.

FSM: We are having some difficulty getting enough full professors on this committee.

FSM: Suggested that we remove language with 50% full professor requirement for SPRC composition.

AN: This topic should be taken back to divisions for further discussion.

General Education Committee

AN: The current requirement is five people from five different divisions.

We are currently out of compliance (we currently have two members from the math/science division and T&I is currently not represented)

FSM: I suggest that three out of the five members should come from divisions that teach general education courses

FSM: For now, let's just leave the committee as is.

Royal Toy: The *composition* of committees does not have to change this year. The point of this discussion is to decide if we should change *policy* on committee membership

Curriculum Committee

AN: the current policy is one faculty member per division.

Tom Hill: lets get a new CTE member on the committee

AN: Please take this issue back to your divisions: should we add another CTE voice to make it two CTE voices?

Budget planning & assessment committee

FSM: No division should have more than one vote on this committee.

Hearing board

AN: The current policy is that the board should comprise seven members and the majority should be tenured. The board should also include two alternates.

Student Petitions Committee

Little discussion on this (except that the composition needs to reflect the addition of Heidi and Tevis and the departure of Leanne).

- D. Faculty Association Votes: proposed virtual vote (virtual or in person vote?) Email is virtual is fine (according to multiple FSMs).

- i STPRCC – Renee Harris
- ii SPRC
 - 1 Becky Snider – Chair
 - 2 J.R. Kok
 - 3 Julee Moore

V. Committee Reports

A. Budget, Planning & Assessment (April Niemela)

This committee hasn't met yet and has nothing to report.

B. Curriculum (Thomas Hill)

Tom Hill: Oct 1 at 5pm is the deadline for new courses. Please use new forms from the Academic Affairs website

C. Faculty Affairs (Seth Bradshaw)

This committee hasn't met yet and has nothing to report.

D. Student Affairs (Peter Remien)

This committee hasn't met yet and has nothing to report.

VI. Good of the Order

Seth Bradshaw & April Niemela plan to go to the Pan-Idaho senate.

UI is down 10% in terms of enrollment. Graduate student enrollment at UI has dropped and freshmen undergrad enrollment has also decreased. Idaho's community colleges have had big increases in enrollment.

April: is there interest in IT director speak to technology issues?

FSM: I would like to hear from Matthew Burrell

FSM: why does a division pay for equipment and then have to give it up? Why can't divisions keep computers (that they paid for from their budget) after IT deems the computers to be outdated?

Jennifer Cromer: The library is currently short staffed. Student research meetings can happen, but there is less opportunity than in the past. Online tutorials and workshops are available to students. The ILL form is currently broken. Captcha gives an error when ILL is used. However, if you submit your ILL twice the ILL form will work. We are working on a permanent fix for the problem.

FSM: on Monday, September 14 at noon, Tyler Blande UI will give talk/presentation on AI.

Motion to adjourn: Rachelle Genthôs

Seconded: Marc Riendeau

Meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM