



Faculty Association Meeting

Minutes

April 16th, 2026 | 3:15 p.m. | MLH 100

Present: Jennifer Alexander, Faqruddin Azam, Ralph Barnes, Charles Bell, Seth Bradshaw, Kylee Britzman, Amy Canfield, Jenna Chambers, Jennifer Cromer, Harold Crook, Kacey Diemert, Stanley Gotshall, Marcy Halpin, Thomas Hill, Leif Hoffman, Lorinda Hughes, Jennifer James, Rachel Jameton, Billy Lemus, Eric Martin, April Niemela, Rikki Ober, Michael Owen, Dana Perlman, Darcy Peterson, Peter Remien, Alicia Robertson, LaChelle Rosenbaum, Suzanne Rousseau, Teri Rust, Clete Ryan, Jenny Scott, Jennifer Uptmor Amanda Van Lanen, Angela Wartel, Christopher Webb, Kim Tuschhoff, Debra Lybyer

I. **Call to Order/Approval** of Faculty Association minutes from February 26th, 2026

Call to order by Faculty Association Chair Charles Bell at 3:18 pm.

Motion to approve February 26, 2026, meeting minutes as written by Harold Crook. Motion seconded by Eric Martin. Call for vote. Unanimous approval. No abstentions. Motion carries.

II. **Treasury Report** as of April 16th, 2026

A. Faculty Benevolence Fund Balance= \$ 1279.61

B. Faculty Association local account balance = \$ 10,582.20

Please consider donating to these efforts through payroll deduction—forms are available from HRS. Contact Benevolence Committee members if you know of someone in need.

Faculty contribute in equal amounts via payroll deduction for both accounts, but we utilize Faculty Benevolence Funds for faculty in need. Please make sure to consider donating to these funds.

III. **Announcements & Old Business**

A. Chair's Report

Reported on a change to the agenda as administration will not be present at the meeting today due to conflicts in attending the SBOE meeting in Moscow. Administration will not be present to answer questions regarding recent changes regarding legislation, reorganization, etc. Plan will be to hold a virtual Faculty Association meeting to allow the President and Provost to present on the budget situation and reorganization prior to summer.

IV. **New Business**

A. Graduation List Approval ([graduate list](#))

A link to the graduation applicant and commencement participant list was distributed to all faculty via the provided Power BI link, which is updated daily.

Regarding student honors, the Registrar's office handles all updates manually. Faculty should direct any honors-related questions to the Registrar's office, who can confirm student eligibility.

Motion to approve the graduation list as presented by Harold Crook. Seconded by Leif Hoffman. Call for vote. No further discussion. All in favor. No opposition. No abstentions. Motion passes.

B. Policy on Disruptive Students

Disruptive student policy was distributed to faculty and attached to the Faculty Association meeting calendar invite. It has undergone extensive review this year, including multiple discussions with VP Hanson's office, two full Faculty Senate meetings, and division-level feedback.

The policy was presented to the Faculty Association for approval. Motion to approve the policy as presented made by Harold Crook. Seconded by April Niemela. Call for vote. All in favor. No opposition. No abstentions. Motion passes.

C. Emeritus Nomination – presented at end of the meeting

Emeritus nomination for Mike Owen was presented to the Faculty Association. Faculty expressed heartfelt appreciation for his years of dedicated service to the college, his unwavering support of faculty and students, and the positive spirit he brought to the campus community each day. Motion to nominate Mike Owen for Emeritus status by Harold Crook. Seconded by April Niemela. Motion approved by faculty acclamation.

D. Faculty Senate Chair elect (election)

Nomination for Seth Bradshaw for Faculty Association/ Senate Chair Elect presented by Faculty Association Chair Charles Bell. Seth, attending virtually, presented his statement regarding his nomination for Faculty Association/ Senate Chair Elect. Seth expressed excitement at the opportunity to be elected and looking forward to working with faculty leadership.

Motion and vote to elect Seth Bradshaw for Faculty Senate Chair Elect approved by faculty acclamation. Congratulations to Seth!

E. Faculty Senate Secretary (election)

The Faculty Senate Secretary election will be postponed until the final Faculty Association meeting of the year, as no nominations have been received. Faculty are encouraged to identify and submit a nominee for this position.

Special recognition was given to Jenna Chambers for her two years of dedicated service as Faculty Senate Secretary.

F. Committee Positions

1. Hearing Board (1 position)

One nominee – Angela Wartel. Motion to approve Angela Wartel to the Hearing Board by acclamation.

2. STPRC (1 BUCS position nomination, 1 Humanities Position, 1 Chair Position)

Nomination put forward for Jenny Scott (BUCS) for the BUCs position on STRPC. Humanities and Chair positions are still open. Motion to approve Jenny Scott for

BUCS position approved by faculty vote of acclamation.

3. SPRC (2 Positions, 1 chair position, confirmation)

The updated policy has been submitted to administration. Both this item and the Gen Ed committee nominations are on hold pending further information regarding the potential institutional reorganization. Specifically, there is uncertainty around divisional representation, as individuals nominated to represent a division may not remain part of that division in the fall. No action will be taken in these two areas until reorganization details are clarified. Look for an email from Faculty Association Chair Charles Bell with more clarification on open positions.

4. Gen Ed (2 positions)

Faculty question: What divisions are absent on the Gen Ed committee?

Faculty Association Chair-Elect response: BUCS and TEAM

Faculty question: Did you receive our nominations from those divisions?

Faculty Association Chair response: Yes. They will stay nominated at this time unless there are changes in the divisions with the new re-organization. A finalized reorganization proposal was presented to the President this week. With the SBOE meeting also occurring this week, an announcement is anticipated before the end of the semester. Clear communication regarding the changes will be provided to faculty at the final virtual Faculty Association meeting.

Faculty question: Will the reorganization require changes to the Gen Ed policy before open committee spots can be filled?

Faculty Association Chair response: The Gen Ed committee policy requires elections to be held in the spring. The only scenario requiring a change would be if a nominated individual is reshuffled to a different division as a result of reorganization.

Faculty question: Regarding composition of the gen ed committee – was the understanding that Gen Ed committee composition is not based on divisional representation?

Faculty Association Chair response: That is correct — the policy does not require representation from each division. Faculty are encouraged to review the policy for clarification (Policy 1.102 D).

Faculty response/ discussion: The non-divisional composition stems from past concerns about equitable representation. The priority is ensuring representatives come from the three divisions that teach the majority of Gen Ed courses, though open spots remain. Nominees should be informed that a resolution regarding their nominations may not occur today and should be updated on the timeline. Faculty are also encouraged to cross-reference the approved policy with the posted version to confirm nominated individuals meet eligibility requirements.

Faculty Association Chair response: The Provost clarified at the last Faculty Senate meeting that multiple policy changes had been queued for review; however, all updates were approved in a single day without proper review by the appropriate parties. The Faculty Emeritus policy was cited as one example.

Faculty question: Will the Faculty Emeritus policy be discussed today, or does the process need to be consulted first?

Faculty Association Chair response: Any edits to the policy must go through the Faculty Association for approval before taking effect. The concern is that the currently posted policy was approved without moving through the appropriate channels. The Chair noted there is insufficient information to have a thorough

discussion today on the Faculty Emeritus policy, but meetings with the Provost, IR&E, and IT are scheduled to review the policy

No further discussion.

G. Faculty Senate Past Chair Elect Stipend Discussion

Background: Stipends are currently associated with the Faculty Senate Chair-Elect and Faculty Senate Chair positions; no stipend exists for the Past Chair role. The Past Chair, however, carries a significant workload — particularly in matters related to holding position of Chair of the Student Affairs Committee which includes working on such topics such as Student Course Evaluations (SCEs) and Disruptive Student policies.

Discussion: Last year, we made a recommendation from our Faculty Association General Account to provide a one-time stipend of \$500 to our current past chair. Faculty Association / Senate Chair motion/recommendation is to approve a one-time stipend of \$500 to be awarded to Peter Remien for his work as past chair and current Student Affairs committee chair. By voice vote of the Faculty Association, there is unanimous vote of the faculty for a one-time stipend of \$500 to Peter Remien. The Faculty Association extended its formal appreciation to Peter Remien for his countless hours of dedication and service

Faculty question: Is it possible to make a motion moving forward to ensure that all past chairs receive a \$500 stipend moving forward for their service.

Faculty Association Chair response: This is a great idea. We would need to change the operational guidelines to identify that the Faculty Association/ Faculty Senate past chair will be given a stipend but not designate the total amount. We currently have a relatively stable amount in the account. Recommendation is to put this addition to Policy 1.102 Operational Guidelines for the first Faculty Association meeting in the fall to ensure appropriate process. Faculty Association needs to be informed a certain number of days in advance of the change proposal or allow for the proposed change to occur at the first Faculty Association meeting to allow for review and full vote during the second meeting. Historically we haven't been able to designate a stipend in the operational guidelines due to concerns of conflict of interest and to avoid being seen as self-serving.

No further discussion.

V. **Good of the Order**

- A. Commencement – reminder for faculty to attend commencement on Friday, May 16th.
- B. Faculty/Staff Dodgeball: Occurring on Friday during Homecoming Week. Please volunteer to join the team!
- C. Gratitude extended to our Faculty Association/Faculty Senate cabinet - Charles Bell, Jenna Chambers, Peter Remien, and April Niemela - and our senators for their hard work and dedication!
- D. Watch for emails for the last Faculty Association meeting for the semester from Faculty Association Chair Charles Bell.

VI. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Harold Crook. Motion seconded by Eric Martin. Meeting adjourned at 3:51 pm.