Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
October 22, 2026 | 3:15 p.m. | ACW 13

Present in person:, Angela Wartel, Dallas Smith, Rikki Ober, Eric Stoffregen, Kim Tuschhoff, Matt Brady, Ralph Barnes, Deb Lyber, Seth Bradshaw, Peter Remien, Gene Straughn, Aaliyah Wilson, Tom Hill
Present online: Jennifer Cromer, Bowie Rose, Kelly Fitzsimmons

I. **Call to Order/Approva**l of Faculty Senate meeting minutes from Oct 8, 2026

3:17 start time. Seth Bradshaw presided over meeting

Motion to approve minutes: Peter Remien
Seconded by: Angela Wartel
Unanimous approval of last meeting's minutes

II. Old Business

a. **Policy Changes for Committees:** Revised recommendations for discussion and division input.

- FSM (Faculty Senate Member): we may need to revisit STPRC in future. We may need to rethink Social Work and Radiographic Science in the future.
- FSM: BUSS is opposed to the proposed Senate change. Why keep two at large for senate and not for other committees? Why not just have three per division. Why not put Radiographic Science and Social Work under nursing? Do we want less oversight?
- FSM: More oversight is better than less. In the old days, senate used to have a lot more senators and it would be better to have more representatives on senate. Shared governance is alive and well.
- FSM: To clarify: the Curriculum Committee would actually have more representation. It is NOT one of the committees that has been proposed to have less representation.
- FSM: I like the at-large idea rather than having more representatives from each division.
- FSM: Everyone's voice is being heard (except Social Work and Radiographic Science) even if there are fewer people are members of

senate. Through the faculty senate members talking to their divisions, everyone in the each division can have their voice heard.

- FSM: one person would run for chair of STRP (eric martin)
- FSM: General Education (Gen Ed), should it be referred to as a program?
- FSM: When using the term program in regard to 'Gen Ed' we need to define what we mean by 'program'.
- FSM: the new policies should be precise not vague.
- FSM: vague policy about representation would be fine, because most people don't want to be on committees anyhow.
- FSM: This vague language led to problems at another institution.
- FSM: The Gen Ed Committee especially needs lots of representation and equal representation between divisions/programs.
- Seth: We will not have a vote on this issue today. Faculty Senate members will bring the issue back to divisions for further discussion.

III. New Business

a. **Upcoming Dates – Important for Faculty**

a. **JFAC Meeting,** Thursday, November 12: WCC

i. 3:30: Campus Tour

ii. 5:00: Travel to Schweitzer for Reception

- Reminder of the above event was announced by Seth.
- JFAC acronym stands for Joint Finance Appropriations Committee.
- FSM: this meeting is important and relates to faculty salaries

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b. **Committee Reports**

a. Budget, Planning & Assessment *(April Niemela) not present*

b. Curriculum *(Thomas Hill)*

- Tom Hill (TH): I met with a person at ISU about their three-year BAS degree. They only have 3 students in each program. Institutions in Utah are creating a BS of 90 credits.
- ISU went to industry partners and asked them to write letters to describe why they wanted these 90-hour programs.
- No one in academia wants these 90 credit degrees, the pressure is from the state government.
- Many other institutions have the same concerns that we do.
- Several institutions have turned ALL bachelor's degrees into 90-credit versions of a bachelor's degree.
- Four programs were inactivated:
  - Early Childhood Development ATC
  - Web Design in Social Media (a certificate)
  - Packaging Design AAS
  - Packaging Design ITC

c. Faculty Affairs *(Seth Bradshaw)*

- We received seven sabbatical applications. Faculty development grants are due Nov 1.

d. Student Affairs *(Peter Remien)*

- We need to brainstorm student retention.

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c. **Good of the Order**

a. Faculty Development Grants – due Nov 1 at 5pm

Motion to adjourn: Matt Brady
Seconded by: Angela Wartel
Adjourned at 3:50 PM