



Faculty Association Meeting

Minutes

August 19, 2026 | 3:02 PM | Silverthorne Theatre

Present: Tracy Adkins, Jennifer Alexander, Kerensa Allison, S M Azam, Ralph Barnes, Charles Bell, Alexander Bezzerides, Julie Bezzerides, Lindsay Bodene, Kirby Boehm, Seth Bradshaw, Christina Brando-Subis, Kylee Britzman, Emily Carstens Namie, Fredrick Chilson, Connie Clum, Jennifer Cromer, Heather Marlowe Daly-Galeano, Kacey Diemert, Brendan Eilers, Jordan Elben, Randal Eriksen, Magen Fairley, David France, Rachelle Genthos, Martin Gibbs, Stanley Gotshall, Sarah Graham, Alan Hain, Marcy Halpin, Tiffany Harris, Thomas Hill, Leif Hoffmann, Natalie Holman, Lorinda Hughes, Burma Hutchinson, Jennifer James, Rachel Jameton, Matthew Johnston, Nancy Johnston, Ella-Mae Keatts, Andrew Kuther, Erlene Laidler, Leigh Latta, Tevis Lee, Samuel Long, Elizabeth Martin, Peggy Mata, Lloyd Mataka, Robert McDonald, Amy Minervini, Julee Moore, Trent Morgan, John Morrison, Benjamin Morton, Travis Myklebust, Jamie Newell, Robert Nickel, April Niemela, Rikki Ober, Michelle Pearson-Smith, Cynthia Pemberton, Dana Perlman, Darcy Peterson, Nina Peterson, Gary Reed, Peter Remien, Barry Richins, Alicia Robertson, Joshua Rogers, Bowie Rose, Suzanne Rousseau, Clete Ryan, Toni Sabala, Jenny Scott, Rebecca Snider, Elaine Soloniuk, Eric Stoffregen, Gene Straughan, Jennifer Uptmor, Amanda Van Lanen, Kenneth Wareham, Angela Wartel, Jerralyn Wasylyshen, Scott Wimer, Allison Roberts, Robert Terry, Kim Tuschhoff, Royal Toy, Carrie Kyser, David Cruthirds

I. Call to Order/Approval

- Call to order by April Niemela at 3:02 PM
- Motion to approve the minutes by Faculty Association Member.
- Seconded by Randy Eriksen.
- Unanimous approval of minutes.

II. Treasury Report as of August 18, 2026.

- Faculty Benevolence Fund has \$1735.80.
- Faculty Association member (FAM) spoke about purpose of the Benevolence fund, its uses, its current low level, the reasons for the level being low, and encouraged those who do not contribute to start contributing.
- Note: the deduction must be at least \$5 per pay period. Anything less, and money will NOT be deducted from the employee's paycheck. This may affect people who signed up for automatic deductions before the minimum was raised to \$5.
- The Faculty Association local account balance has \$11, 214.61.

III. Announcements and Old Business

- Chair's report
 - Announcement: The Faculty Senate and Faculty Association website contains minutes and agenda, as well as updates related to reorganization.
 - Announcement: Faculty Senate meetings are scheduled on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month (unless it is deemed that a meeting is not needed).
 - Announcement: LC State's Accreditation site visits are now on a 10-year cycle. Data and information will still be collected each year, but the site visit will now occur in the 10th year.

IV. New Business

- Faculty Association and Faculty Senate Secretary:
 - Ralph Barnes has been proposed as the new secretary of the Faculty Association and Faculty Senate
 - Motion to vote in Barnes as Secretary by Rachelle Genthos.
 - Ella-Mae Keatts seconded the move to vote.
 - Barnes was approved as secretary by acclamation.
- LC State Reorganization:
 - Moving from eight divisions to six divisions will impact committee make-up.
 - FAM: Are division committee members for Faculty Senate set in stone?
 - April Niemela (AN): we are waiting to get the finalized list of Faculty Senate committee members

V. Good of the Order

- There is an Oct 21 application deadline for Sabbatical requests.
- Curriculum deadlines & initiatives
 - Thomas Hill (TH): Oct 1 deadline at 5 PM is the deadline for new curriculum proposals
 - TH: please use the new paperwork on the Academic Affairs website for proposals (the paperwork that we used to use is no longer being used)
 - TH: Regarding ID-300 course proposals → those who propose such courses should participate in the Canvas course that provides an overview of ID-300 requirements.
 - TH: Curriculum Committee members will need to be shuffled due to the re-organization. We still plan to have at least 2 reps from every division. However, we would also like to have 2 CTE representatives on the committee as well.
 - TH: on September 1 we will have a welcome back event for curriculum committee members. Food and beverage will be provided.
 - TH: encouraged faculty to donate to the benevolence fund
- Campus Event Reminders
 - Faculty Association Member (FAM): Wednesday, August 26 is the Welcome Fair
 - FAM: Reminder to attend Welcome Fair on August 26
 - FAM: Reminder to support LC activities related to Constitution Day on Sept 17

- Library Update:
 - FAM: One librarian has left. Only two remain. So, expect that it will be more difficult for students to schedule research appointments. Faculty should have students wait until they have selected their topics before making a research appointment with a librarian.
 - FAM: are we planning to replace librarians very soon?
 - Provost Chilson: We are looking to fill the position, but we do not currently have a timeline established. It may take a month, a semester, or perhaps longer to fill the position.
- LC Reorganization Feedback:
 - FAM: Praise for Chris Riggs and Amy Bond for helping to integrate Business with Social Science.
- Dean Martin Gibbs (MG) Announcement:
 - MG: announces Oct 14 event: Dr. Emily Sydnor presentation on civics education, pedagogy. All faculty are invited to attend.
 - MG: We have money earmarked for civics, democracy and civil discourse. If faculty have an idea for an event involving civics democracy or civil discourse, then reach out to MG to see if the event can be funded.
 - FAM: Regarding the money earmarked for civics engagement...The Constitutional Studies minor was recently eliminated. Could the grant money be used to revive that minor?
 - MG: Maybe. Talk to me about it after the meeting.

VI. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Ella-Mae Keatts
- Seconded by Randy Eriksen
- Approved by acclamation.
- Time of adjournment: 3:27 PM