

Faculty Senate Minutes

October 6, 2025

ATTENDING

PRESIDENT: Michael Federici

PRESIDENT ELECT: Patrick McCarthy

PARLIMENTARIAN: Larry Burriss

RECORDING SECRETARY: Shannon Randol

MEMBERS: Jeremy Aber, Lando Carter, Kelsey Duncan, Tricia Farwell, Joyce Finch, Robert Fowler, Aaron Gamino, Grant Gardner, Lisa Green, Kim Honaker, Kristi Julian, Ron Kates, DeAnna Kempf, Sylvester Lamin, William Langston, Sungyoon Lee, Will Leggett, Rick Lewis, Alfred Lutz, John Maynor, Tim Moake, Pamela Morris, Tim Nelson, Suman Neupane, Soraya Nogueira, Keely O'Brien, John Ouellette, Sharon Parente, Patrick Richey, James Robertson, Arpan Sainju, Sonya Sanderson, Lauren Shouse, Everett Singleton, Gregory Slack, Carter Smith, Ashley Valanzola, William Yelverton, Kevin Zhao

ABSENT: Jacob Avila, Beverly Geckle, Preston MacDougall, Lei Miao, Suzanne Sutherland (excused), Sam Zaza (excused)

Quorum was established

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm by Michael Federici.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 8, 2025

(Kates/Aber) Motion to approve

(Lutz/Richey) Call to question

38 yea / 0 nea / 1 abstention. Motion passes.

News from President's Cabinet and other Meetings

Incentive Pay

AY 25-26 will be used to train department chairs and to collect data that will be used by Drew Harpool to run simulations

Financial Aid Appeals Committee

Committee must meet before an AY begins to make decisions. This means that faculty representative must attend a meeting during the summer months. Other options are to remove faculty representation on the committee or excuse faculty representative from attending summer meeting. Former committee member stated that previously any decision making and/or voting was done by forms, not in person.

Canvas Transition

Faculty can request to be added to list of first adopters, contact Brian Hinote. Links to training videos are available at mtsu.edu/canvas

TUFS (TN University Faculty Senates)

Enrollments are up across the state. TN state universities evaluating social media policies related to free speech and due process concerns.

Incentive programs are rare at state institutions.

Behavioral and Health Sciences - Steering Committee Election

Carter Smith self-nominated

Summer Salary Cap Elimination Proposal (Patrick and Academic Affairs Committee)

Grants need to be accounted for

Winter & Summer terms are currently counted together, in principle, they should be separate.

Board of Trustees Reception (Suzanne, Will, and Suman, Governance Committee)

Call for nominations go out this week

Themes: Research/Creative Activity, Community Engagement, Career Readiness (tied to QEP)

Contact Deans and Chairs

Provost's Research Fund Proposal and NIA Info Meetings (Sam, Research Committee)

Meeting date(s) are being determined

Committee Reports

Governance Committee

Graduate 1000 new nurse for the next 10 years

Hotel and airport plans are still in progress

Lighting Corner proposed to facilitate communication with community

Academic Affairs

Working on proposal to clarify Associate to Full Professor promotion details

Scholarship Committee

Encourage competitive applications for NIAs.

Handbook Committee

Adding/Updating links to handbook

Human Resources is working on hiring process handout

NTT Committee

Working on proposal which outlines NTT engagement with shared governance

Old Business

ITD representative to discuss pressing matters such as two-factor authentication, permissions on computers. Micheal Federici is working on getting feedback from ITD

New Business

Concerns about H1-B application fee increasing to \$100,000.

(Aber/Julian) Motion to adjourn

Unanimous approval. Motion passes.

Adjourned at 4:12pm

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 3rd at 3pm in JUB 100