



**ACADEMIC SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025**

11:30 AM - 12:50 PM

MH-141

Present: Bono, Childers, Gradilla, Graewingholt, Jarvis, Kanel, Kleinjans, Swarat, Wood, Valdez (for Milligan)

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Chair Jarvis called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

II. URGENT BUSINESS

Q: A faculty member reached out that their students have a Civil Rights training on their Canvas page. Is this new? Who did this come from?

A: I reached out and Vincent Vigil responded, it is required training. There are two required trainings for students: one for returning students and one for new transfers or new freshman students.

Q: Is this not the first year they have gotten it?

Q: I thought it used to be Title IX Training; does it now have a different name?

A: I don't know if they have combined it now into one training, but I do know there are two required trainings. They may have changed the name of the training.

- (Bono): It would be helpful if faculty, Deans, and chairs could know what training students have to do, especially when a change like that happens. My Dean didn't know about it, I didn't know about it, and faculty didn't know about it.
- I am on the Mental Health Task Force, and I brought it up to keep faculty informed because we are first line and students come to us, and they agreed. I told them you have to keep communication better with faculty about anything new you are doing.

Suggestion:

- For Chair Jarvis to reach out to Sarah Bauer to get a small description and more detail on the two trainings and put something in the Chair's report.
- The Executive Committee went into Executive Session.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- No announcements.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 EC Minutes 9-9-25 (draft) - *forthcoming*

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

- The Executive Committee went into Executive Session.

VI. STAFF REPORT

- No Staff Report.

VII. COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

7.1 ASI Board [Jarvis], T, 9-9-25, 1:15 – 3:45 PM, TSU Legislative Chambers

- Provost presentation: facts on enrollment. Mentioned creation of an AI advising agent; said it would kick "hard problems" to human advisors. Students expressed mostly environmental concerns.
- Library presentation: some minor moves.
- Arboretum presentation: nothing of note.

7.2 University Advancement Board [Gradilla], W, 9-10-25, 9:00 - 10:00 AM, CP-810

- The new board met today with one voting member absent.
- VP Shiner gave an update on some of the fundraising work that her office has done thus far. They have raised \$7.7 million thus far this quarter. The most raised in a quarter in the division's history. They were helped by a donation from the Samueli family.
- The board selected Christine Scher as the chair. She accepted.
- The committee will meet on Zoom for the rest of the year.
- Christine will contact Cierra about which scheduled meetings are needed. They will not be meeting monthly.
- Both Kim Shiner and Christine Scher (a returning faculty member from the prior committee) thought they had completed UPS 100.300 Policy and Procedures for Naming of Facilities, Properties, Colleges, Schools, and Academic Entities last year and that the President had signed off on it. They will reach out to Matt.

7.3 Academic Advising Committee [Bono], F, 9-12-25, 9:00 - 10:00 AM, PLS-299

- Meeting took place in PLS 299 at 9am; Quorum met
- Committee voted to meet in-person with a Zoom option if someone needs it
- Jessie Peissig was nominated and elected to serve as chair
- Committee started working on edits to UPS 300.02 and will continue that work at the next meeting. They only got through about the first third of the document. There was good discussion about what responsibilities of the University to support advising. It's possible they will finish these edits at the next meeting, but probably unlikely.
- The committee did not have time to review UPS 300.018

7.4 Academic Standards Committee [Swarat], F, 9-12-25, 12:30 - 2:00 PM, MH-141

- Meeting took place in MH 141; Quorum met.
- Committee voted to meet via zoom for AY 25-26.
- Julie Brice agreed to be chair after the meeting concluded — Could we ask members to vote via email so she can be in place before the next meeting?
- Emily Bonny and Sean Walker explain the context of UPS 300.030 and will circulate revised language to the committee for discussion.
- Committee worked through UPS 300.016 and drafted all edits. Swarat asked the committee to review before the next meeting in order to finalize in that meeting.

7.5 Planning, Resource & Budget Committee [Jarvis], F, 9-12-25, 1:00 - 2:30 PM, PLS-299

- PRBC met (hybrid, quorum).
- Priorities from members were shared. They included hearing about backup plans for cancelled grants, pressure points in the university budget, unfunded mandates.
- Discussion was had about whether to elect a vice-chair (next year's chair) at this meeting or later. Voted to have that vote on 10/3.

7.6 General Education Review Committee [Childers], F, 9-12-25, 2:00 - 4:00 PM, Zoom

- The committee met on Zoom with a quorum.
- Brenda Bowser was elected chair of the committee.
- The committee ultimately decided to meet hybrid. Need to reserve a room for future meetings.
- Brenda would like a Canvas page for the committee to better organize committee materials.
- Brenda and Greg gave an overview of GE recertification and the charge of the committee.
- The committee discussed possible models and processes for recertification. The committee set a rough timeline of development of a model and process this fall and running a pilot in the spring with full deployment starting in Fall 2026.

7.7 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee [Kanel], T, 9-16-25, 1:00 - 2:00 PM, PLS-256

- Met with quorum hybrid 9/16/25
- Announcements by Cecil Chik.
- Talked about President convocation and focus on caring and belonging Reduction of funding from feds for HSI institution will impact students here Dirk is doing welcome events this week Funding is increasing for Black colleges and tribal colleges.
- Business:
 - UPS 100.015 – Review and Revision of University Policy Statements
 - Didn't pass last year because senate didn't get to it
 - Asked Chair Jarvis what would be sticking points to revise He is concerned about shall language and workload Shortening guidelines:
 - In normal reporting committees report how they included guidelines?
 - Size of guidelines should be shortened?
 - Maybe every committee reads it the first meeting of semester?
 - Why have the revisions?
 - Increase transparency
 - Ensure DEI work happens without direct involvement of D and I committee Help senate committees focus
 - Should guidelines be sent to chairs/deans?
 - Recommendations
 - do we want to send out guidelines?
 - a. Motion to send them out asap as they are written to senate committee chairs Approved
 - Should we share guidelines with others?
 - a. First send to senate committees
 - b. Then deans
 - c. Then council of chairs
 - Approved
 - UPS 100.050
 - Shall language?
 - Maybe pull back mentioning D and I throughout document Will review for next meeting Perhaps create a specific duty for this committee
 - changing Bylaws as well

7.8 University Writing Proficiency Committee [Kleinjans], F, 9-19-25, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Zoom

- Quorum, will meet online. One member plus student absent, one came after an hour. Courses to be re- or certified this AY: POSC, PHIL. Next AY: Ethnic Studies, Psych, Criminal Justice. Discussion of why President Rochon rejected the revised UPS 320.020; it seems that the goal is to a) not complicate things for those with catalog years before 25/26; and b) allow ECS to have complimentary courses (that is, more than one) to fulfill the Writing Requirement even though it seems to violate CO policy. It seems that Brent Foster from CO ok'd this. Will invite Sean Walker to the next meeting to clarify.
- Discussed the UPS Review Guidelines sent by the DIE Committee. There was quite some discussion addressing the first point, Policy Origins and Purpose. Not a good use of time, if I may say it that way.
 - The guidelines for UPS revisions do not state that they come from the DIE Committee – it looks like it is coming from AS, which is at best misleading. I tried to clarify this, but people seemed to believe they somehow need to address this document.
 - The question came up whether Academic Programs as a unit still exist (relevant for the UPS revision); one member was told that it does not. The website is still up but not up-to-date.
 - The chair brought up that her students told her yesterday that a Training on Civil Rights showed up on their Canvas site and asked me if I knew anything about it. (I do not but told her I'd try to find out.)

7.9 Faculty Affairs Committee [Jarvis], F, 9-19-25, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, MH-141

- FAC met in person. Quorum (eventually) reached.
- FAC passed UPS 210.001. This UPS will require Senate Exec to consult with Admin over whether it will survive review after the EEOC letter/general federal regulatory environment.
- FAC began discussion of UPS 210.070. They made a number of cosmetic changes to clarify some terms. The bulk of the discussion was over the UPS having three possible scores for DPRC/Chair (Satisfactory, Needs Improvement, Unsatisfactory) but only two for Deans (Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory). The latter is forced by the CBA. While the committee values having more points on the scale, the question arises of how to line up the two scales. While the committee favors the current approach (Needs Improvement should be read by Deans to suggest they give an Unsatisfactory rating), the committee felt the issue was very complicated.

7.10 General Education Committee [Childers], F, 9-19-25, 2:00 - 4:00 PM, Zoom

- The committee started with welcome and introductions for student members.
- Greg Childers presented GE assessment results from last year. The committee chose to focus on the Critical Thinking goal with a focus on quantitative reasoning for this year's assessment.
- Kevin gave a brief overview of the GE Review committee meeting; they are working on developing a recertification process.
- Review of GE courses: HONR 302T, HONR 303T, AFAM/ASAM/ENGL/CHIC 250, and READ 290B were all approved.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 UPS Documents for Review AY 2025-26

- Exec continued reviewing the UPS documents to identify which committee to assign them to.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Annual Reports for Review from AY 2024-25

9.2 New UPS XXX.XXX - Tenure-Track and Tenured Faculty Workload

9.3 Revisions to UPS 108.000 - Visiting Scholars and Other Formal Delegations of Visitors: Procedures and Expectations

- (Jarvis): This was drafted by the old committee that no longer exists. They did not produce a memo or use track changes. I was thinking for the memo, we will say these edits were created by a committee that no longer exists, this is Exec's interpretation.
- Exec agreed for this document to be added to the next AS agenda as a Consent Calendar item for Senate approval.

9.4 UPS 210.070 - Evaluation of Lecturers - (Discussion item)

9.5 Revisions to UPS 210.000 - Tenure and Promotion Personnel Procedures

9.6 Search Committees

- Dean of Communications
- Dean of Engineering and Computer Science

Q: (Jarvis): Our practice has been the Senate office sends out a Google Form to solicit volunteers for search committees? Is everyone okay with us doing the same thing we have been doing for the Dean searches?

- Exec agreed. Senate staff to send out emails to solicit volunteers for the two dean searches and give a deadline of one week.

9.7 SmartAccess+ Program Presentation - (Discussion item)

Q: (Jarvis): The bookstore wants to do a presentation on this program. Should we let them do a 15 minute presentation to Senate?

- Exec agreed to have a presentation on this program. It will be scheduled for the October 9th Senate meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 12:52 pm.