

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

April 28, 2025

The Pittsburg State University Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2025, with Norm Philipp, President, presiding.

Guests

Doug Ball provided a follow-up on the budget. There were several positive outcomes. The regional institution additional funding (recurring) of \$3.8 million was included in the budget along with around \$800,000-850,000 in salary pool dollars. One item not included was \$1 million in student success funding. This line item will be phased out over the next couple of years. Other items to monitor include the discussion around remote work and line items for vacant positions. Funding efforts for PSU's upcoming budget include: 1) salary increases, 2) recruiting initiatives, 3) Great Gorilla Scholarship, 4) health insurance, 5) cybersecurity, 6) strategic initiatives (new leadership), and 7) Gorilla Rising.

Past Minutes

Minutes from the March 24, 2025, meeting were approved.

Announcements

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs – Dr. Susan Bon

Provost Bon shared that a celebration to recognize excellence in teaching will be held on May 1st from 3-6pm at the Crossland House. An Associate Dean of the College of Education search is in progress. Provost Bon will serve as the acting Dean until a dean is appointed. The Associate Dean will assist in day-to-day operations. In addition, there is a Library Dean search ongoing and a search for an Assistant Provost. The Assistant Provost will oversee HLC and curriculum development in addition to other duties. See pittstate.edu for job descriptions. Provost Bon also provided follow-up on several concerns that have been raised by faculty. The mentorship committee continues to review language clarifying the role of mentors. A consultant was hired to assist in reviewing current IRB policies and procedures. In addition, President's Cabinet voted to rescind the Social Media policy included in IRB. Dr. Chris Anderson, English and Modern Languages, is working with the IE team to discuss possible improvements to Faculty Success. KNEA negotiations are continuing as concerns are being discussed.

PSU/KNEA –Khamis Siam, President

President Siam reported that the KNEA bargaining team continues to meet with PSU administrators weekly to discuss items of interest. They are also working on drafting new policy. There is a dossier workshop planned for May 9th from 2-3:30pm. In addition, a social is planned for tomorrow, April 29th, at Chatters.

Student Senate – Jonah Sandford, Representative

No report.

Unclassified Professional Senate – Greg Belcher, President

President Belcher reported that the new senate has begun prepping for next year.

University Support Staff – Michelle Hensley, President

No report.

Graduate College

Provost Bon reported that the Graduate Council is reviewing the Grad Faculty status process to address concerns that have been raised. The Graduate Council also recently submitted a proposal to the President requesting that graduate tuition remain at current levels with no increase for AY 2026.

Faculty Senate President – Norman Philipp, President

President Philipp shared numerous updates. See the agenda for details. He also thanked those who organized and participated in the KBOR visit as it went very well.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs – Mark Diacopoulos, Chair

No report.

Undergraduate Curriculum – Byron McKay, Chair

All submissions up for review were passed and recommended for approval by Faculty Senate. See the agenda for details.

All curriculum items recommended by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee were approved.

Library Services/Learning Resources – Lora Winters, Chair

It was reported that the Dean's search is ongoing. They have new staff starting soon. Faculty were encouraged to report to the Library the AI tools they are utilizing in their courses.

Online and Distance Learning – Kelly Woestman, Chair

No report.

Academic Honors – Rion Huffman, Chair

No report.

Honors College – Randy Winzer, Chair

It was reported that there is discussion concerning Honors College and the Academic Honors program as the two are not always aligned. Identifying space for the Honors College is an ongoing discussion.

Writing Across the Curriculum – Ashley Shaw, Chair

No report. Subcommittee will be sunset.

Diversity and Multicultural Affairs – Joanne Britz, Chair

No report.

Student-Faculty – Serif Uran, Chair

No report.

All University Committee – Kristen Maceli, Chair

No report.

Faculty Affairs – David Sikolia, Chair

It was shared that out-of-state funding has been reallocated to help fund denied applications. Denied applications will be reviewed and some should receive funding.

Constitution Committee – Mark Johnson, Chair

See the agenda for details. It was motioned and approved to send recommended constitutional amendments to the General Faculty for a vote at the General Faculty meeting during Professional Development Day in August. All proposed bylaw changes were motioned and approved.

General Education Committee – Mark Johnson, Chair

It was reported that the committee completed its review of syllabi from Gen Ed buckets 1, 2 and 4. The collective recommendation is that mapping be included that directly aligns objectives with assessment activities/strategies. The committee is prepared to work directly with units that have questions.

Budget Committee – Kent Runyan, Chair

See the agenda for details.

Academic Honesty – David Weaver, Chair
No report.

AI Committee – Jorge Leon and Grant Moss, Co-Chairs
See the agenda for details. Attached to the minutes is also a draft of the committee charge.

Unfinished Business

See the agenda for details. Items A & B were motioned and passed.

New Business

See Faculty Affairs above for details.

Open Forum

See the agenda for details. Presidential search is ongoing. Currently 33 completed applications and 10 pending. The AI Symposium had around 100 attendees.

Meeting Adjourned Meeting adjourned Monday, April 28, 2025, at 4:19 p.m.


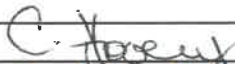




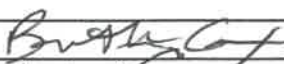





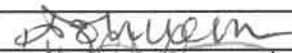
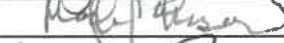

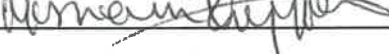
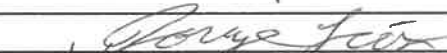
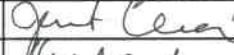

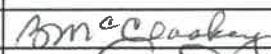




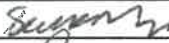

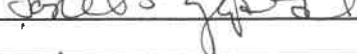
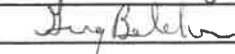

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Melinda Roelfs', is written over a horizontal line.

Melinda Roelfs, Recording Secretary

The Faculty Senate AI Ad Hoc Committee charge:

1. Develop a unified definition of AI tools for PSU.
2. Conduct campus/environment scans, as needed, regarding AI tools and their uses across campus.
3. Review academic and higher education literature on AI best practices and ethical considerations to inform final recommendations.
4. Develop and submit a final report with actionable recommendations to the Faculty Senate.
 - a. Adjust timeline if any recommended actions need to be added to course catalog and have earlier deadlines.
 - b. Submit to Faculty Senate recommendations for any other AI policies that are outside of Faculty Senate purview but require faculty input.
 - c. Address ongoing or emerging AI-related issues as directed by the Faculty Senate, committee members, faculty, or academic administrators.

FACULTY SENATE MEMEBERSHIP (24-25) April 28, 2025

Faculty Senators	Signature	Substitute (Print)
Norm Philipp, (President)		
David Weaver, (President Elect)		
Dennis Audo, At-Large		
Jordan Backs, TWL		
Tim Bailey, HPSS		
Michele Barnaby, At-Large		
Denise Bertoncino, At-Large		
David Boffey, HHPR		
Rebeca Book, At-Large		
Paige Boydston, PSYCH		
Christine Brodsky, At-Large		
Heather Carter, TCHL		
Chad Crain, CMCET		
Barth Cox, COMM		
Marcus Daczewitz, TCHL		
Jonathan Dresner, HPSS		
David Ferguson, AUTO		
Kristi Frisbee, At-Large		
Andrew George, BIOL		
Beth Hendrickson, Library		
Ashleigh Heter, NURS		
Karen Johnson, NURS		
Mark Johnson, At-Large		
Erin Jordan, At-Large		
Myriam Krepps, ENGML		
Joseph Labuda, MIL		
Jorge Leon, At-Large		
Janet Lewis, ART		
Kristen Maceli, KUSB		
Dan Maxwell, ETECH		
Barbara McClaskey, At-Large		
Grant Moss, At-Large		
David Pearson, PHYS		
Jason Reid, TWL		
John Ross, MUSIC		
Ashley Shaw, TCHL		
Khamis Siam, At-Large		
Kyle Thompson, WGS		
Scott Thuong, MATH		
Irene Zegar, CHEM		
Janet Zepernick, ENGML		
USS Senate Representative		
UPS Senate Representative		
Student Government Representative		
Student		