

# FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

May 11, 2026

The Pittsburg State University Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2026, with David Weaver, President, presiding.

## Past Minutes

Minutes from April 27, 2026, meeting were approved.

## Announcements

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

Provost Bon shared additional information on HB 2513, reporting that the bill is divided into two phases. Phase one requirements must be met this summer 2026 and include elimination of positions, training and contracts that are specific to diversity, equity and inclusion. In addition, all faculty and staff email signature blocks must be without pronouns. Phase two requirements must be met in summer 2027 and include elimination of required program DEI/CRT curricula/courses. Exemptions are allowed if deemed appropriate. The KBOR Provosts have been meeting regularly to develop definitions that will be provided by KBOR to the state legislators for approval. Provost Bon also reminded folks that information on several task forces was shared at the last meeting and can be found in the April agenda. Lastly, she thanked everyone for a rewarding year.

PSU/KNEA – *Ananda Jayawardhana, President*

No report.

Student Senate – *Darrel McLeod, Representative*

Darrel McLeod, the new SGA President, thanked Faculty Senate for their work with students. President McLeod also reported that he was approached by student representatives from the Collegio expressing concern for the recent budget changes and the move of student publications management to an academic department which they feel could limit student interactions. It was suggested that this would be best discussed with the new Faculty Senate President who can then assign it to the appropriate Faculty Senate subcommittee if necessary.

Unclassified Support/Professional Senate – *Eva Sager & Michelle Hensley, Co-Presidents*

No report.

## Graduate College

Provost Bon reported that a graduate faculty meeting was held as part of Graduate Council. There was a robust discussion, including consideration of using scholarships to drive enrollment.

Faculty Senate President – *David Weaver, President*

President Weaver thanked everyone for a great year.

## Committee Reports

Academic Affairs – *Mandi Alonzo, Chair*

See agenda for 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 – *Philip Frank, Chair*

See agenda for report.

Online and Distance Learning – *Beth Hendrickson, Chair*  
See agenda for report.

Academic Honors – *Laurent Pretot, Chair*  
No report.

Honors College – *Rion Huffman, Chair*  
No report.

Multicultural Affairs – *Joanne Britz, Chair*  
No report.

Student-Faculty – *Serif Uran, Chair*  
See agenda for report.

All University Committee – *Tracy Stahl, Chair*  
See agenda for report.

Faculty Affairs – *James Whitney, Chair*  
See agenda for report.

Constitution Committee – *Karen Johnson, Chair*  
No report.

General Education Committee – *Michele Barnaby, Chair*  
See agenda for report.

Budget Committee – *Stephen Zornes, Chair*  
No report.

Academic Honesty – *Kristen Livingston, Chair*  
See agenda for report.

AI Committee – *Jorge Leon, Chair*  
See agenda for report.

#### Unfinished Business

The Constitution Committee presented the “Authority of the Executive Committee for Time-Sensitive Compliance” for second reading which passed. Additional By-Law changes were also up for second reading. (See attached.) There was discussion regarding the recommendation to dissolve the Honors College Subcommittee. Brian Moots, Director of Honors College, noted that the Honors College subcommittee reviews all applications and conducts selection interviews. They also shape program requirements. If this work is shifted to the new Honors Council, there could be a workload issue. It was also mentioned during the discussion that dissolving the subcommittee could potentially result in Faculty Senate no longer having a voice in Honors College. The original motion was amended to not include the Honors College subcommittee on the list of subcommittees to dissolve. The amended motion was passed. Lastly, President Weaver requested any end of year reports not already received.

New Business  
None.

Open Forum  
None.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned Monday, May 11, 2026, at 3:53 p.m.



Melinda Roelfs, Recording Secretary



## **BYLAW VIII: Authority of the Executive Committee for Time-Sensitive Compliance**

In order to ensure timely compliance with mandates issued by the Kansas Board of Regents and/or the Kansas State Legislature, the Faculty Senate hereby grants limited, conditional authority to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (see Bylaw II.F) as follows:

### **1. Emergency Convening Authority**

When legislation, policy directives, or regulatory requirements from the Kansas Board of Regents or the Kansas State Legislature necessitate prompt action affecting the Faculty Senate bylaws, the Executive Committee is authorized to convene as soon as practicable, without adherence to standard notice periods, to review such requirements.

### **2. Provisional Amendment Authority**

The Executive Committee may, by a majority vote of its members, approve provisional amendments to the Faculty Senate bylaws strictly for the purpose of ensuring compliance with such external mandates. Any changes approved under this authority must be limited in scope to what is necessary for compliance.

### **3. Reporting and Ratification Requirement**

Any provisional amendment adopted by the Executive Committee must be communicated in writing to the full Faculty Senate within five (5) business days of approval. Such amendments shall be placed on the agenda of the next regular or specially called meeting of the Faculty Senate for review and ratification.

### **4. Sunset Provision/Unlawful Provisions**

Any provisional amendment temporarily approved and enacted by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee via Provisional Amendment Authority ~~under this section~~ shall remain in effect only until ratified, modified, or rejected by the full Faculty Senate. If the Faculty Senate does not ratify the amendment at its next meeting, the amendment shall expire immediately following that meeting unless continued compliance with external mandates requires temporary continuation to remove any unlawful provisions.

### **5. Consistency with Governing Authority**

All actions taken under this section must be consistent with the governing documents of Pittsburg State University and applicable state law.

### **Effective Date:**

This amendment shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Faculty Senate.



## **Suggested By-Law Changes in The Constitution**

### BYLAW IV. A. Academic Affairs Committee.

8. Honors College Subcommittee ***(Removed Date)***
9. Writing Across the Curriculum Subcommittee ***(Removed Date)***
10. Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Subcommittee ***(Removed Date)***

### BYLAW IV. D. Faculty Affairs Committee.

This committee shall be concerned with all educational matters which may affect the welfare of the faculty and the general development of the University as an institution of higher education. The faculty affairs committee upon request of the Senate shall serve in a liaison capacity, from and to the faculty, with respect to those matters which by law, contract, or other agreement have become the primary responsibility of some other group, agency, or organization on the campus. The committee shall accept primary responsibility to function on behalf of the Senate as to all other matters within its jurisdiction. The Committee shall investigate and make policy recommendations to the Senate concerning means of facilitating the professional development of the members of the faculty. If a committee member (or their spouse/significant other) chooses to apply for sabbatical leave, leave without pay or a summer teaching grant, that member must not participate in the relevant reviewing/voting process for anyone applying for the same award, but should continue to participate in the committee for determining other awards. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will appoint another faculty of the same College to temporarily fill the vacancy. (Amended 11/18/85, 05/12/86, 08/20/09). ***Additionally, the committee shall explore the influences of multiculturalism in instruction, in the curriculum, and in the academic content of various disciplines, including developing curriculum resources which deal with such issues. This committee will now serve as liaison among the organized multicultural groups on campus, including such as the Tilford Group and/or International Student Programs. ~~the Campus and Community Resource Center, etc.~~***



## FACULTY SENATE MEMBERSHIP (2025-2026)

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
David Weaver, (President)	X	X	X	X	**	X	X	X	X
Kristen Livingston, (President Elect)	X	X		X		X	X	X	X
Bakke, Chris (HPASS)	X			X		X		X	
Barnaby, Michele (At-Large)	X	X	X			X			
Benson, Christel (At-Large)									
Bertoncino, Denise (At-Large)									
Bird, Natalie (HHPR)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Book, Rebeca (At-Large)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Botello-Sampson, Darren (At-Large)		X	X	X		X	X		X
Chung, Peter (BIOL)	X	X		X		X	X	X	X
Cook, Sheila (FCS)		X	X						
Coomes, Gena (NURS)	X	X	X	X		X	*	X	X
Crain, Chad (CMCET)	X	X	X	X		X			X
Daley, John (At-Large)	X	X				X	X	X	X
DeCaro, Sara (Library Svcs)	X	X		X			X	X	X
Elliott, Kevin (At-Large)	X	X	X			X	X	X	
Ferguson, David (AUTO)	X	X	X					X	X
Fincher, Bridgette (TCHL)	X	X	X			X	X	X	
Frisbee, Kristi (At-Large)	X	X		X		X	X	X	*
Jason, Malcolm (WGS)									
Johnson, Mark (At-Large)	X	X	X	X			X	X	X
Jordan, Erin (At-Large)		X	X	X		X	X		X
Krepps, Myriam (ENGML)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Lawson, Kris (HPASS)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Leon, Jorge (At-Large)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
McClaskey, Barbara (At-Large)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Phillips, Charlie (TWL)	X			X				X	X
Richardson, Jennifer (TCHL)									
Ross, John (MUSIC)		X	X	X		X			
Shay, Josh (MIL)	X		X	X		*	X	X	*
Sikola, David (KUSB)	X	X		X		X			X
Spera, Chris (PSYCH)	X	X		X		X	X	X	
Spielbusch, Dan (ENG)	X	X		X				X	
Stahl, Tracy (NURS)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Thuong, Scott (MATH)	X	X	X	X		X			
Timmons, Olivia (ART)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Uran, Serif (PHYS)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Younger, Doug (GC)	X	X	X	X		X	X		X
Zegar, Irene (CHEM)							X		X
Zepernick, Janet (ENGML)	X	X		X		X		X	X
Zornes, Stephen (KUSB)	X	X		X		X	X		X
Univ Staff Senate Rep	X	X							
Student Rep									
Student Government Rep						X			

\*Substitutions: 2/23/26 Callie Becraft for Josh Shay; 3/30/26 Anna Beth Gilmore for Gena Coomes; 5/11/26 Anna Beth Gilmore for Gena Coomes; 5/11/26 Calli Becraft for Josh Shay.

\*\*January meeting canceled due to inclement weather.

