



Official Minutes
Senate Outreach & Continuing Education Committee Meeting
10/15/2025

Call To Order and Approval of Minutes

Call to Order: SOCEC Chair Shawn Knabb called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The May 21, 2025 meeting minutes were approved electronically on May 27, 2025.

Reports and Announcements

Shawn Knabb, SOCEC Chair

- The Chair welcomed members to the Committee and led introductions.

Discussion Items

- **OCE Updates:** Robert Squires, Vice Provost for Outreach and Continuing Education, provided an update on OCE reorganizational changes. He highlighted the increased focus on outreach, which includes [Compass 2 Campus](#), [College in the High School \(CiHS\)](#), and community college partnerships. He discussed the [President's Strategic Growth Initiative](#), including guaranteed transfer admission and direct admit to major for community college students. There are three community college agreements in place, with additional partnerships in process.

The Vice Provost also discussed the [Western Guaranteed Admissions program for high school students](#). WWU has worked with OSPI to identify students who qualify (2.75 gpa and meeting graduation requirements), and those students will receive letters in December telling them they have been admitted to WWU. This initiative is being led by President's Office and Admissions Office, with follow-up from the Vice Provost because of his existing relationships with high schools due to CiHS outreach.

A question was raised about community colleges offering four-year degrees. It was reported that most of the four-year degrees in community colleges are applied degrees, and there was a discussion about talking to students about the difference between applied and other four-year degrees.

Committee members discussed the direct admit to major program for first-year and transfer students, including student readiness and curriculum alignment.

There was a question about the number of CiHS senior students from last year who have enrolled at WWU. The Vice Provost will provide a report at the November meeting.

- **Revision to Committee Schedule for Winter-Spring:** Chair Knabb reported that he has a teaching conflict during Winter-Spring 2026. Becky Johnston, Faculty Senate staff, will send out a scheduling poll to SOCEC members. If no scheduling change is available, the Vice Chair will assume the role of Chair for Winter-Spring.
- **Current Membership Roster/Charge:** Committee members reviewed the current [committee roster and charge in the Senate bylaws](#) to ensure that it reflects the current organizational structure of the University. In addition to necessary roster changes, the Vice Provost will review the reporting requirements to suggest updates for Committee discussion and consideration at the November meeting. Following SOCEC approval, the Faculty Senate will consider the recommendations at a future meeting.

Items from the Floor

- **NW Innovation Resource Center Partnership** - Robert Squires talked about the partnership with the [NW Innovation Resource Center](#) on business analytics and AI for business. He reported that Stella Hua, Chair of Decision Sciences (CBE) has approved the business analytics partnership. The Vice Provost will be meeting with Kameron Harris, CSE- to discuss the AI partnership.
- **OCE website** – The OCE website has been taken down, and each program has standalone site. There was a short discussion about whether there should be a centralized location for OCE program links, and the Chair indicated that the Committee would discuss this issue further at the November meeting.

Adjournment

Committee members adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

SOCEC Attendance 10/15/2025

Voting Members			Non-Voting Members		
Shawn Knabb	CBE (Chair)	x	Robert Squires	Vice Provost, OCE	x
Vacant	CHSS	NA	Ryan Larsen	Global Education Office	--
Tim Kowalczyk	CSE	x			
Vacant	Fairhaven	NA	Recorder		
Elizabeth Stephan	Libraries	--	Becky Johnston	Faculty Senate	x
Michael Medler	CENV	x			
Jennifer Green	WCE	x	Guests		
Susan Haines	CFPA	x	Andrew Blick	OCE	x
Lindsay Foreman-Murray (on leave Fall - Vacant)	Faculty Senate	x			
Emerson Tucker	ASWWU Senate	x			
Vacant	UFWW	NA			
Vacant	IEP/Language & Culture Programs	NA			

Voting Attendees	7
Non-Voting Attendees	3
Total Attendees	10