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Official Minutes
Faculty Senate Meeting
10/27/2025

For Approval

Call To Order and Approval of Minutes

Call to Order: Senate President Erika McPhee-Shaw called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The following minutes were approved by consent:

- October 7, 2025 ACC Minutes
- October 13, 2025 Faculty Senate Minutes (Information Item: University Service Committee appointments approved by Senate Executive Council)
- October 15, 2025 SOCEC Minutes

Reports and Announcements

Erika McPhee-Shaw, Senate President

- The President and Provost are unable to attend today's Senate meeting due to a Board of Trustees retreat.
- The Senate President's October report to the Board of Trustees included information about the Senate's work to get the interim Recording in Classrooms Policy approved on an emergency basis. This is an example of successful shared governance.
- The Senate President and Vice President attended last week's Council of Deans meeting, which included a presentation on making Canvas course materials accessible due to the final DOJ rule on web accessibility. (ATUS Resources are linked here.) The President would like to talk about such changes with respect to academic freedom. Other concerns raised include workload issues. This is an issue facing higher education nationwide. This issue will be a discussion item at a future Senate meeting, and feedback can be sent to the Senate President.

- A letter was received from the Neurodiversity Inclusion Collaborative (NIC) regarding academic accommodations issues that were raised during the May 19 Faculty Senate meeting. The President has participated in several meetings to discuss this matter, including with Vice Provost for Student Affairs Sislena Ledbetter, the Disability Access Center, and Counseling and Wellness Center Director CJ Swunlund. The NIC letter will be shared with all Senators.

Theresa Warburton, UFWW President

- The UFWW's first big meeting of the academic year is Thursday, October 30, from 4:30 – 5:30.

John Hardgrove, ASWWU Senate

- All vacant ASWWU Senate positions have been filled, and ASWWU will appoint senators to the final two Faculty Senate vacancies this week (AAUP Task Force and second CUE seat).
- The ASWWU Senate passed a resolution in support of tenants' rights.
- He has received a few constituent concerns about the Recording in Classrooms policy. He stated that students would like more clarity on the policy from the Faculty Senate or University Administration, including how the policy will be enforced.

Discussion Items

- **University Budget Update and Discussion:** Tesla Monson, Senate University Budget Representative, described her role as working to gather information for faculty and to bring faculty concerns to administration. She participates in meetings such as the University Budget Committee and smaller quarterly meetings with University Administration. She provided an update from the October 22 University Budget Committee meeting. Senators discussed questions and concerns regarding the enrollment initiative, including other universities' use of MOUs for faculty to conduct outreach, the lack of consultation with Faculty Senate in developing new admissions policies, and student retention.

- **Faculty Legislative Representative Update and Discussion:** Bidisha Biswas, Faculty Legislative Representative, described the role of faculty legislative representatives who represent Washington's public universities through the Council of Faculty (CoF). The CoF develops mutually-agreed priorities to push for in Olympia. This year, the three priorities are: protecting the fund split, increasing FAFSA completion rate (also a Governor Ferguson priority), and creating guardrails for public records requests. She stated that, with respect to the fund split, the grim budget outlook has created a defensive position.

  Senators discussed the 3-year reduced credit baccalaureate degree programs that are moving forward at Central and WSU for next year. All of the public universities

Proposal

except U-WA are facing enrollment issues. She expects that this issue will come up at WWU at some point and that WWU leadership has been involved in discussing it through the Council of Presidents.

Items from the Floor

- **Immigration and Deportation** – Ernest Hartwell (CHSS-LLC and Linguistics) reported that a student has notified him that he and his mother are facing deportation in January and requested that any senators who know of resources to assist the student reach out to him. He also requested that the Senate explore ways to support students facing deportation.

- **AI/LLMs** - Heather Moore (CHSS-SLHS and HHD) reported that constituents have provided feedback in support of a policy restricting the use of AI/LLMs being used to evaluate professional leave applications and Tenure and Promotion materials. This issue was raised during Items from the Floor at the October 13 Faculty Senate meeting.

Adjournment

The Senate adjourned at 5:22 pm.

For Approval

Faculty Senate Attendance Senate
10/27/2025

Voting Members			Non-Voting Members		
Brianna Delker	CHSS-SBS-Psychology	x	John Hardgrove	ASWWU Senate	x
Camilo Ponton	CSE-Geology	x	Sabah Randhawa	President	--
Catherine Clark	CSE-Chemistry	x	Brad Johnson	Provost	--
David Yang	WCE-ELIT	x	Christopher Bianco	Council of Deans	x
Dawna Drum	CBE-Accounting	x	Theresa Warburton	UFWW President	x
Dennis Whitcomb	CHSS-HUM-Philosophy	x			
Erika McPhee-Shaw	President (At-Large)	x			
Ernest Hartwell	CHSS-HUM-LLC/Linguistics	x	**Committee Chairs and Senate Representatives**		
Gabe Gossett	Libraries	x	Bidisha Biswas	Legislative Rep	x
Greg Youmans	CHSS-HUM-English	x	Tesla Monson	Budget Rep	NA
Heather Moore	CHSS-SBS-SLHS/HHD	x	Michael Slouber	Past President	x
James Ray	CFPA-Music	x	Melissa D'Eloia	ACC	x
Jane Wong	CHSS-HUM-Ethnic Studies	x	George Zhao	ATC	--
Jason Query	CBE-Economics	--	Kendra Dupuy	SLC	--
Jim Cooper	CSE-Biology	x	Shawn Knabb	SOCEC	--
Johann Neem	CHSS-HUM-History	x	Kendra Dupuy	SLC	--
John Gialanella	CFPA-Design	x			
Junaid Khan	EECE, Physics & Astronomy	x	**Recorder**		
Kameron Harris	CSE-Computer Science	x	Becky Johnston	Faculty Senate	x
Maria Timmons Flores	WCE-ECE	x			
Maura O'Leary	CHSS-SBS-At Large	x	**Guests**		
Patrick Buckley	CENV	x			
Ramadha Piyadi Gamage	CSE-Math	x			
Ron Helms	CHSS-SBS-Sociology	x			
Sondra Cuban	WCE-HCS	x			
Stephanie Gomez	CHSS-HUM-Jou/Com	x			
Tarek Algeddawy	CSE-Engineering & Design	x			
Tesla Monson	CHSS-SBS-Anthro	x			
Tim Bruce	Graduate School	x			
Yanara Friedland	Fairhaven	x			

Voting Attendees	29	**Non-Voting Attendees**	7	**Total Attendees**	**36**