Sent for Senate Approval: 4/30/2026

Senate Approved: Click or tap to enter a date.

Official Minutes
Faculty Senate Meeting
04/20/2026

Pre-Approval

Call To Order and Approval of Minutes

Call to Order: Senate President Erika McPhee-Shaw called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

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

- March 3, 2026 ACC Minutes
- April 2, 2026 ATC Minutes
- April 6, 2026 Faculty Senate Minutes

Reports and Announcements

Erika McPhee-Shaw, Senate President

- A report was provided to the Board of Trustees at their April meeting.
- On April 14, ACC passed a motion to approve the President's Strategic Enrollment Growth Initiative as a temporary pilot program and ensure that shared governance procedures would be followed with respect to changes in admissions standards and policies. The ACC motion is a follow up to the November letter from Senate Exec to the Provost that expressed serious concerns about shared governance with respect to the initiative and recommended pathways for moving forward. This letter was shared with the full Senate and with the Board of Trustees in Fall. The ACC motion will come before the Senate as a consent item on May 4, as part of the vote to approve the April 14 ACC minutes.

Sabah Randhawa, University President

- There were no reports or announcements.

Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President

- There were no reports or announcements.

Ginny Dawson, UFWW Vice President

- UFWW members will receive an email this week with information about elections and events.

Tesla Monson, Faculty Senate Budget Representative

- The University Budget Committee met on April 13 and discussed issues related to the state budget for the next biennium, which likely will include higher education cuts. The draft WWU request includes $133 million, the majority of which is for Poulsbo. Other issues discussed at UBC included the Washington Roundtable funding model, a proposed property purchase from PeaceHealth, and enrollment. On the latter, 200 students used automatic admissions and 1,200 students used the Common App. Future UBC discussion items include fundraising, the fund split, enrollment, and a possible transition from the quarter to the semester system.

Gabe Gossett, Senate Appointments and Elections Officer

- The AAUP Task Force has the following vacancies for Spring Quarter: CBE, CENV, and Fairhaven. Meetings are held every other Tuesday from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Interested individuals may reach out to him or to Task Force Chair Cathy Wineinger.

John Hardgrove, ASWWU Senate

- There are 48 candidates who have filed for ASWWU student offices, with filing closes today. There are not expected to be vacancies next year.

Information Items

- **Senate Executive Council Motion on Faculty Oversight of University Funds for Consultant Services**: Senate President McPhee-Shaw reported that the Senate Executive Council approved a motion to add a discussion item to the Senate agenda regarding faculty oversight on the use of University funds for consultant services.

- **Washington Roundtable New Budget Model:** Senate President McPhee-Shaw framed the issue in terms of future financial sustainability and how the model could be used as a starting point for faculty discussion and input.

  President Randhawa presented an overview of the higher education funding model developed by the Washington Roundtable, which represents major employers in the state. He and United Faculty of Washington State (UFWS) President Bill Lyne have been part of the task force that has developed the model.

For Approval

President Randhawa described the lack of a funding model beyond historical funding levels, which has continued to disadvantage WWU in terms of per-student funding.

The proposed model has three components for universities: enrollment, outcomes, and core costs. Funding is split by percentage across these categories. Enrollment and outcomes are converted to points, aggregated over three years and weighted by student pathway and population. Funding is split based on their share of these points. He described the positive funding effects to WWU of the redistributed funds, with WWU being the biggest beneficiary under runs of the model.

Roundtable staff are meeting with higher education institutions regarding what will need to happen to move the proposal forward. There is a question about how this relates to the fund split issue. This summer will involve advocacy, which faculty may decide to participate in. UFWS President Lyne described the current political environment, including the higher education funding landscape, which includes a temporary funding solution enacted during this year's last Legislative session that postponed cuts to higher education. He reported that the proposed funding model has been presented to faculty unions and to the Council of Faculty.

The Task Force will meet next month to continue to discuss details that will be in the final proposed model.

Senate President McPhee-Shaw urged senators to contact her with comments and feedback. A meeting between the statewide Faculty Senate presidents and the Roundtable was proposed by UFWS President Lyne.

Action Item

- **Draft AI Tools Workgroup Charge:** A motion by Tarek Algeddawy (and seconded) to approve the draft AI Tools Workgroup charge was approved by a vote of 26 yes, zero no, one abstain.

  During discussion, President/President-Elect James Ray reviewed the draft charge, which was developed by Senate Executive Council at the direction of the Faculty Senate. There was feedback regarding the lack of direction from the University on AI. The broader efforts by the Provost to examine institutional policies and processes was described. There was clarification regarding the scope of tools that would be covered under the Workgroup charge. Constituent concerns that faculty should disclose use of AI to students was discussed, including the current

For Approval

language in the Faculty Code of Ethics.[1] A concern was raised regarding administrator and staff use of AI and how that impacts faculty work, including intellectual property.

Discussion Items

- **Degree Plans Presentation:** Meagan Bryson, Director of the Academic Advising and Student Achievement Center, gave a presentation on a Degree Plans/Plan of Study Pilot Initiative that is slated for Fall 2027 implementation across interested departments. Participation by departments would be optional. Vice Provost of Outreach and Continuing Education Robert Squires reported that CTC partners consistently state that degree plans are valuable to potential transfer students.

- **Faculty Oversight of University Funds for Consultant Services:** Faculty Senate Past President Slouber raised this issue in the context of the recent survey by Transportation Services. He stated that there should be a mechanism for faculty to have input in making decisions about spending funds on consultants as a shared governance issue. One suggestion is that a committee could be formed to consider requests for consultants and to determine if there would be capacity to perform the services internally.

  The Faculty Senate Budget Representative will request current consultant funding levels for the University and for colleges.

  A motion by Senate Secretary Jim Cooper (and seconded) to table the discussion until the May 4, 2026 Senate meeting passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The Senate adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

[1] The Code of Faculty Ethics, Section IV (Integrity, Responsibility, and Accountability in All Our Work) states, "Faculty are expected to use technology responsibly. Faculty are expected to adhere to stringent ethical standards and not misrepresent machine-generated content as their own. Faculty are expected to ensure that research results are accurate, unbiased, and based on the highest standards of evidence."

For Approval

Faculty Senate Attendance Senate
04/20/2026

Voting Members			Non-Voting Members		
Brianna Delker	CHSS-SBS-Psychology	x	John Hardgrove	ASWWU Senate	x
Camilo Ponton	CSE-Geology	x	Sabah Randhawa	President	x
Catherine Clark	CSE-Chemistry	x	Brad Johnson	Provost	x
Dawna Drum	CBE-Accounting	x	Christopher Bianco	Council of Deans	x
Dennis Whitcomb	CHSS-HUM-Philosophy	--	Ginny Dawson	UFWW Vice President	x
Erika McPhee-Shaw	President (At-Large)	x			
Ernest Hartwell	CHSS-HUM-LLC/Linguistics	x			
Gabe Gossett	Libraries	x	**Committee Chairs and Senate Representatives**		
Greg Youmans	CHSS-HUM-English	x	Bidisha Biswas	Legislative Rep	--
Heather Moore	CHSS-SBS-SLHS/HHD	x	Tesla Monson	Budget Rep	NA
James Ray	CFPA-Music	x	Michael Slouber	Past President	x
Jane Wong	CHSS-HUM-Ethnic Studies	x	Melissa D'Eloia	ACC	x
Jason Query	CBE-Economics	--	George Zhao	ATC	--
Jim Cooper	CSE-Biology	x	Kendra Dupuy	SLC	--
Johann Neem	CHSS-HUM-History	x	Shawn Knabb	SOCEC	--
John Gialanella	CFPA-Design	x			
Junaid Khan	EECE, Physics & Astronomy	x			
Kameron Harris	CSE-Computer Science	x	**Recorder**		
Lindsay Foreman-Murray	WCE-ELIT	x	Becky Johnston	Faculty Senate	x
Margarita Ruiz Guerrero	WCE-ECE	x			
Maura O'Leary	CHSS-SBS-Linguistics	x			
Patrick Buckley	CENV	x	**Guests**		
Ramadha Piyadi Gamage	CSE-Math	x	Robert Squires	Vice Provost , OCE	x
Melissa Osborne	CHSS-SBS-Sociology	x	Meagan Bryson	Director, Academic Advising & Student Achievement Center	x
Sondra Cuban	WCE-HCS	x	Bill Lyne	President, United Faculty WA State	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	28	**Non-Voting Attendees**	11	**Total Attendees**	**39**

FOR REPORT