

MINUTES

AP Faculty Senate
Wednesday, January 21, 2026
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Zoom

Present – Nikki Connors (presiding), Janice Austin, Amanda Covey, Ashley Carter, Brent Kremer, Brock Burroughs, Caitlin Fanning, Eric Bowen, Erica Cooper, Ginny Wagg, JC Whidden, Jes Davis, Judy Alford, Julie McClafferty, Juliet Dedras, Kristi Moose-McConkey, Monica Crouse, Nick Woods, Nicole Akers, Ruth Wallace, Shelley Sackers, Shelton Norwood, Susan Gill, Sarah Armstrong, Lynn Byrd, Molly Wilson

Absent with Notice: Marlena McGlothlin Lester, Jennifer Jones, Chad Proudfoot, Terri Pecora, Elissa Waybright

Absent: Alix Guynn, Julie Carlson, Erin Poff, Jessica Crawford, Rob Emmett, Ariana DiFillippo

Guests: Ben Jewell Plocher, Kyle Jonshon, April Meyers, Dee-Dee Somervell, Holli Gardner Drewry, Casey Polk, Lauren Thomas, M.L. Logan, Melanie Fox, Michelle Hall, Monica Hunter, Monte Hager, Nasim Schwab, Iris Jenkins, Trevor Hughes, Truitt Elliott, Aaron Bond, Andrew Bolling, Ashley Offutt, Brianna Saville-Reynolds, Bryan Mitchell, Catherine Cotrupi, Chris Allen, Christie Dalton, Dave Andrews, Kayla Ryan, Kelsey Huffman, Patty Cardenas

Nikki Connors called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Jes Davis and seconded by Ruth Wallace to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of December 17, 2025.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Treasurer's Report

Nikki Connors: No report.

CAPFA

Jennifer Jones: CAPFA met this month but no report.

Communications

Susan Gill: The committee is working on the spring newsletter draft.

Elections and Nominations

Jes Davis and Brent Kremer: No report

Policy and Issues

Rob Emmett and Kristi Moose-McConkey: The committee is working on the resolution to update the senate representation.

Professional Development

Eric Bowen: The committee is working with the Virginia/Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine to schedule the spring tour and talk at their facility.

5. Reports

- Holli reported the Academic Support Committee will meet this semester to discuss a recommendation for a 2-day fall break

6. Presentation

Kyle Johnson, AVP for IT Governance, Planning, and Strategy, presented on IT Governance. The task for us now is to identify an A/P Faculty Senate representative on the governance council. A copy of Kyle's presentation will be available in SharePoint.

Brent Kremer Co-Chair Elections and Nominations Committee, and Jes Davis, Co-Chair Elections and Nominations Committee, presented on the 2026 Nomination Process. The committee decided to use rank choice voting this year to help eliminate runoff elections and streamline the process. Tentative timeline:

- February 16, 2026 – “Call for Nominations - 2026-2027 Senators”
- March 10, 2025 – Will confirm nominees and finalize ballots.
- March 23, 2026 – Open voting. The election form will close on April 3, 2026.
- April 17, 2026 – Elections results shared.

7. Other Items

- No other discussion items.

8. Announcements

- **[University Strategic Plan Feedback:** The Office for Strategic Affairs hosted a session with Faculty, A/P Faculty, Staff, and Student Senate Representatives to hear thoughts and feedback regarding the next university strategic plan. I have included below a brief survey consistent with the questions asked during the session. We have been asked to share the below survey link with A/P Faculty Senate to ensure we capture feedback and perspectives: Please complete the survey by March 1, 2026.
- Annual employee awards call for nominations is now open; deadline is 2/15/2026. The announcement is in the VT news today.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 AM.