

MINUTES

**Commission on Faculty Affairs
February 27, 2026
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
330E Burruss and Zoom**

Present – J. Hawdon (presiding), R. Fricker (ex officio), K. Pitts (Dean), L. Learman (Dean), R. Jin (Faculty Senate), D. Agud (Faculty Senate), J. Lahne (Faculty Senate), K. Benson (Faculty Senate), V. Buechner-Maxwell (Faculty Senate), R. Miles (Faculty Senate), R. Weaver-Hightower (Faculty Senate), A. Hagan (Staff Senate), R. Emmett (AP Senate), E. Roshioru (Undergrad Senate), J. Walz

Absent with Notice: J. Allen (Faculty Senate)

Absent: M. Ryan (Graduate Senate)

Guests: S. Kalmar (Provost's Office), A. Myers (Governance), R. Gabriele (Provost's Office), J. Johnson (DHEC)

J. Hawdon called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM. A quorum was present (50%+1 of current membership = 9).

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the February 27, 2026 agenda. Motion carried without objection.

2. Approval of minutes of February 13, 2026.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February 13, 2026 minutes. Motion carried without objection.

3. Reports

- A/P Faculty Senate – R. Emmett: First reading of CAPFA resolution on senate seat allocation based on senior management areas instead of departments
- Staff Senate – A. Hagan: Most recent meeting included facilities structure talk, CSPOT, and continuation of discussion on bereavement leave for staff
- Undergraduate Student Senate – E. Roshioru: Important topics for undergrads include AI and IT governance, including data consumption limits, as well as the strategic plan and annual report. Reps recently returned from advocacy trip.
- Graduate Student Senate – M. Ryan: Not present, no updates given.
- Faculty Senate – J. Hawdon: Passed resolution 2025-26G, visit from President Sands and Provost Ross. Discussion of possibility of graduate student initiatives for increasing GTA lines across the university.

4. New Business

First Read CFA 2025-26J Resolution

J. Hawdon presented CFA 2025-26J on revising faculty handbook cap on faculty salary for first reading. This resolution would remove a dollar cap during contract periods for taking on responsibilities beyond job descriptions, new overload compensation, cap revisions for winter and summer sessions, and supervisor approval to assignments to prevent conflicts. Committee members discussed administrative stipends, “after hours” medical services, summer session compensation, sponsored grants, and CPE changes.

First Read CFA 2025-26D Resolution

J. Hawdon, and J. Walz presented CFA 2025-26D on handbook revisions for collegiate faculty series for first reading. This resolution would alter language in the handbook to summarize the different faculty series before the detailed series sections to provide more clarity for recruitment and job descriptions. Committee members discussed language around instructional quality, the importance of scholarship, ranges for responsibility outlines, and service. This resolution will continue to be discussed in CFA before moving to Faculty Senate.

Discussion CFA 2025-26M Resolution

J. Hawdon presented CFA 2025-26M on grievance process for graduate students for first reading. Due to time constraints, this resolution was not discussed.

5. Adjournment

With the session running just over time, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 PM.