MINUTES

Commission on Faculty Affairs
April 24, 2026
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
330E Burruss and Zoom

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

Absent with Notice:

Absent: K. Pitts (Dean), M. Ryan (Grad Senate), E. Roshioru (Undergrad Senate)

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

J. Lahne called the meeting to order at 10:33 AM. A quorum was present (50%+1 of current membership = 9).

1. **Adoption of Agenda**

   A motion was made and seconded to adopt the April 24, 2026 agenda. Motion carried without objection.

2. **Approval of minutes of April 10, 2026.**

   A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 10, 2026 minutes. Motion carried without objection.

3. **Senate Reports**

   - A/P Faculty Senate – R. Emmett: Senate structure resolution passed, completed elections for officers executive board next year, though no announcements on those officers yet.

   - Staff Senate – A. Hagan: Auxiliary and Business services discussion including the future of parking. Senator elections were conducted, missing only 2 spots bringing the gap down significantly from previous years.

   - Undergraduate Student Senate – E. Roshioru: Not present to provide report.

   - Graduate Student Senate – M. Ryan: Not present to provide report.

   - Faculty Senate – J. Lahne: Presentation of officer and commission chair candidates to vote on next week. Bylaw revision discussions focused on statement topics for faculty senate, revisions to continue. Presidential search statement session today, to be published publicly once approved.

4. Unfinished Business

External Reviewer and P&T Committee Guidance

K. Benson continued the discussion on guidance for external reviewers and promotion and tenure committees under changes scholarly circumstances. Commission members continued discussion on the guidance for external review requests, particularly tenure clock extensions and pauses, faculty as reviewers, and the nature of the guidance in application. With potential adjustment of P&T requirements being a longer-term process, this guidance is being drafted in the hopes of a more immediate solution and to gauge campus impact of large-scale disruptive events.

5. New Business

2025-26 Faculty Handbook Changes

R. Gabriele presented an overview of changes for the Faculty Handbook accomplished during the 2025-26 year. Commission members discussed the administrative changes, faculty chapter adjustments, and governance actions that have led to ten resolutions being brough to the BOV across April and June of this year. Repair and optimization of the search function for the faculty handbook was also discussed to maximize accessibility and ease of use for faculty.

Minor Sanctions Guidelines

R. Fricker presented the newly released minor sanctions guidelines for review. Commission members discussed the current draft and gathering additional feedback from faculty to incorporate into the guidelines, as well as service and confidentiality concerns for faculty on the college-based committees. The goal of these guidelines is to be prescriptive enough to implement with minimal modification, while also preventing restriction of different colleges. These guidelines will continue to be modified with the hope that colleges will start creating their needed committees in the fall.

2026-2027 CFA Workplan

J. Hawdon presented the 2026-27 CFA Workplan for review. Topics that were prioritized in the discussion were the continuation of collegiate faculty sections, Chapter 4 revisions, grievance policy consistency, non-reappointment policy consistency, creating policy on program discontinuation, exam scheduling and instructive content administration, movement between NTT ranks and misclassifications, and a placeholder was set for impact policy as at least a discussion item. In recent years, CFA has taken up a faculty series to review and revise in each workplan, with collegiate faculty being the priority for 2025-26, this will transition to either professors of practice or instructors for the 2026-27 workplan as the collegiate series is finalized.

6. Adjournment

Motion made to extend by 5 minutes. Motion was seconded with an end time of 12:05 PM.

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 PM.