

University Senate –September 8, 2025



University Senate Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2025
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Rosenkrans

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ball, Margaret; Barbosa, Miguel; Boyce, Greg; Brannigan, Kyle; Brooks, Christopher; Bulzoni, Donna; Cavauiolo, Domenico; Carver, Marguerite; Casebolt, Kevin; Chelladurai, Jeyaprekash; Cole-Malott, Donna-Maria; Dailey, Deena; Dillmuth-Miller, Susan; DiPipi-Hoy, Caroline; Dong, Stella; Drummond, Darla; Eliasson, Johan; Gruniero-Roadcap, Nieves; Hoffman, Jan; Hunter, Lorna; Jones-Wilson, Michelle; Ju, Youngwook; Kavanau, Chris; Kelley, Veronica; Kim, Heon; Kish, Tommy; Knickerbocker, Heather; Langan, Brooke; Long, Kenneth; Matis, Margaret; Montalvo, Emilie; Nickens, Rabin; Postupack, Mary Francis; Rodriguez, Elaine; Rosen, Melinda; Ross, Jerry; Scott, Elizabeth; Smith, Rob; Snyder, Brandon; Solis, Santiago; Street, Brian; Vanic, Keith; Varcoe, Kelly; Watson, Bethanie; Williams, Rosemary ; Williams, Sylvester; Zhang, Shiqi; Zhang, Xuemao

ABSENT:

Bing, John; Broun, Bill; Cox, Amaya; Ellis, Damaj; Fredette, Mary; Fuenta, Rene; Galdieri, James; Geiger, Melissa; Green, Ainslee; Gutierrez, Hazel; Harris, Jamar; Miller, Aianna; Mullen, Margaret; Sachs, Michael; Smith, Jennie; Turay, Ansu; Watkins, Shawn

- 1) Roll Call
- 2) Review of April 2025 Minutes
 - a. Minutes approved by general consent
- 3) University President's Report
 - a. Board of Governors approved the \$139 tuition increase, first increase in seven years. If the budget increase is approved, the state system may roll back the tuition increase.
 - b. Current enrollment is 6,000 undergraduate students. This includes a 5.2% increase (290 students) from last year.
 - c. Donna Bulzoni will prepare a presentation for the campus community on budgetary issues. This will be a collaborative effort for the campus as a whole to help understand the structural deficit.
 - d. Continuing to monitor the delayed passage of the state budget and how it will continue to impact every institution of higher education in the Commonwealth. This is a particularly difficult situation for many of our students who are receiving grants and funding. It is critical that something is passed sooner rather than later.

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- e. Encourage the campus community to participate in as many events as possible on campus. All of working together and giving back to the students and community are significant components of the campus.
 - f. Preparing for the Middle States visit, a site visit will take place in October with an official visit occurring in the spring. This is critical for the university, we must have Middle States accreditation.
- 4) Fix the Agenda
- a. Proposed additions to the agenda
 - Under New Business, add Parliamentary appointment as letter B
 - Add President Long's response to the proposals from the last meeting in the spring
- 5) Committee reports
- a. Executive Committee
 - Met one week prior to the Senate meeting to set the agenda. Some items discussed were referred to Rules and Bylaws and other were added to the agenda.
 - b. Academic Affairs
 - Provost Ball: Discussion from last semester about all of the campuses coming onto the same schedule, including the same add/drop dates, etc. We will all have the same dates for things once we are all on the same course schedule. This will be much easier for course sharing.
 - c. Rules and By-Laws
 - No report
 - d. Budget, Finance, and Planning
 - No report
 - e. Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence Committee
 - No report
 - f. Research
 - No report
- 6) Student Government Association Report
- a. Students had a great time during the Walk of the Warrior and during Academic Convocation.
 - b. There are currently 28 seats available in student government, please have interested students fill out a petition. Senate seats will be solidified by tomorrow and an update will be sent to Senate.
- 7) Old Business
- a. No old business
- 8) New Business
- a. University Senate orientation

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- 70 members, 39 faculty. Quorum requires at least 36 people.
- Make recommendations to President Long on almost all areas.
- Agenda is set a week prior to the meeting, all agenda items are brought to the Executive Board. Anyone can set an agenda item. If 5 Senators come together collectively, it has to be on the agenda.
- Senate was last evaluated in 2023
- Follows Robert's Rules of Order
- b. Parliamentary appointment
 - Deena Dailey is recommended for appointment
 - No objections to appointment
- c. University Senate committee appointment
 - 6 committee on the Senate
 - Shiqi Zhang added to Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence Committee
 - Jerry Ross and Kyle Brannigan added to Budget and Finance, Need someone from the College of Education.
 - Xuemao Zhang and Kyle Branningan added to Research Committee
 - Jan Hoffman added to Nominations and Elections
 - Academic Affairs needs someone from the College of Business as well as from Arts and Sciences, and a student member of Senate
- d. Proposal: Installation of additional signage on Centre Street to clearly indicate one way traffic direction
 - Passed; no objection to additional signage on Centre Street
- e. Proposal: Installation of enhance signage in the lot near Zimbar to designate entrance and exit points
 - No need to vote on this issue
- f. Frank Gay, Parking Director, presentation
 - Shuttle tracking: tracked the issue and found some problems. Spoke to the service provider and the issue have been resolved. Now have earlier shuttle services starting at 6AM Monday-Friday.
 - Parking issues: suggested to look at parking by seniority, this will need to be reviewed as part of the parking assessment that will be occurring this fall. Once the assessment is complete, this will be reevaluated.
 - Centre Street: there will be an increase in the amount of signage, evaluating the best ways to do this.
 - Zimbar lot: the island in the entrance will be removed to open the space so it is more accessible, there will also be improved signage. There will be a project to repave Centre Street and the lots, will have indicator arrows in the pavement to help with directions.

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- President Long: The parking committee is critical for sharing information, it is a very effective way to get information out there and to improve things. The Parking Committee can help resolve things without having to have them come to Senate. Please use the parking committee as much as possible.
- Looking to set up meetings for the parking committee next month, please contact Frank Gay if you want to be on the committee.
- Question about social media and the parent chatter about parking and the lack of parking.
 - This is why the parking assessment is so important, it gives us data and recommendations to improve parking. The improvements with the shuttle should help with parking as well. Social media is monitored and what is being said is looked into.
- No objections to the additional signage on Centre street
- No need for a vote on taking out the island in the parking lot near Zimbar.

9) Open Discussion

- a. Open hours for ESU outdoor running track
 - Michael Sachs: Entrance is now across from Matioli. The gate will be open when the track is available for walking. Athletic teams take precedent. It will be open during daylight hours. It may be closed for other circumstances, in those cases, communications will go out to the campus community.
- b. President Long's response to proposals
 - Waiting Lists
 - Supports keeping the waitlists open until the add/drop period is over.
 - Electric vehicles
 - A universal transition to electric vehicles is not advisable at this time. The university will begin to incorporate elective vehicles into its standard vehicle procurement process starting in Fall 2025.
 - Grand Marshal selection
 - Proposed guidelines for the selection of retiring or retired employees.
 - Michelle Jones Wilson: How do you verify participation in commencement? Many do not RSVP and may just show up. There needs to be a way to verify that people attend the commencements.
 - APSCUF Executive Council proposes that the Grand Marshal should be a faculty member and not a staff. Seconded by Christopher Brooks.
 - President Long: Cabinet also brought up ways to identify who attends. Looking at ways to identify how to verify that attendance at commencement is confirmed. Concerning it being a faculty member, if a Senate President does not have to be a faculty member, the Grand Marshal

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should not have to be either. We should be able to look outside faculty and staff and not exclude other options.

- Michelle Jones Wilson: Andrea McClanahan suggested that we find an additional way to honor staff and administrators who have had amazing contributions and recognize them in a different way. Grand Marshal should be reserved for faculty.
- Brought to a vote: The Grand Marshal should be reserved for faculty. Yes: 16, No: majority.
- Question on the 5 year range for selection. President Long: After 5 years, students do not know the person and it takes away student engagement. 23 approve the 5 year range (majority).
- Participation in more than half of the commencement ceremonies in the last five years. More clarification needed. President Long: 15 commencement ceremonies in 5 years, should attend the majority of those.
- Objection: If you only attend the spring large commencement, you are automatically out of it, that is not entirely fair.
- President Long: will clarify the number of graduations attended. Will go through the selection process information and review it to present more clarifying language. 36 approve the changes with clarification.

10) Announcements:

- a. Susan Dillmuth-Miller: University Senate has a website with ton of important information including meeting dates, minutes, and a digital suggestion box.
- b. Provost Ball: Would like to recognize faculty and staff who completed ACUE trainings and thank all faculty who came out and volunteered during move in weekend for the academic college hours.
- c. Food and beverages are available, please take advantage.

11) Adjournment @ 4:06 pm

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