



**University Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
April 21, 2025
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Engineering East Room 106**

1. The UFS meeting was called to order by Dr. Kim Dunn at 1:01PM. The meeting was held in Engineering East Room 106.
2. Senate approved [March 24, 2025](#), UFS Minutes by unanimous consent.
3. President's Report
 - BOT update
 - [Election results](#)
4. Guest Speakers
 - A. Adam Hasner, President
 - 1. Opening Remarks**
 - The President expressed gratitude for being welcomed into the university community.
 - 2. Acknowledgment of Recent Tragedies**
 - The President addressed recent events including:
 - The tragic loss of life in Tallahassee, emphasizing its broader impact on all university communities.
 - The importance of campus safety, highlighting ongoing discussions and coordination with the university's Police Department and Emergency Management since the start of the presidency.
 - Recent personal losses within the FAU community, including the passing of the Dean of Libraries' mother and another faculty member's family member.
 - 3. Tribute to Dr. Eric Shaw**
 - The President paid tribute to Dr. Eric Shaw, a former board trustee known for his passion, support, and advocacy for FAU, affectionately referred to as "Mr. FAU."
 - 4. Emphasis on University Community**
 - The President reiterated the idea that FAU is a family, emphasizing the importance of unity, especially during challenging times.
 - 5. Reflections on the Role and Commitment**
 - Shared experiences from the initial weeks in office, including meetings with faculty and staff.
 - Emphasized a commitment to open communication, listening, and learning from the community.
 - Reiterated support for ongoing collaboration with faculty leadership.
 - 6. Commitment Moving Forward**

- The President affirmed dedication to maintaining ongoing dialogue with faculty and other university stakeholders.
- Noted participation in recent faculty engagement events, such as the Faculty Appreciation Breakfast.

B. Gregg Fields, Vice President for Research

Dr. Fields provided an update on the state of research at FAU and broader developments in the research environment:

- **Strong Performance:** FAU is having its best year in federal research funding, with a 25% increase over last year.
- **State Support:** The Florida State University System is seeing strong growth and recognition for research as an economic driver, with support from both state and federal levels.
- **Grant Losses:** FAU lost four grants totaling \$220,000 recently, but this impact is relatively minor compared to other institutions.
- **Proposed Changes:** Concerns about potential federal changes to indirect cost rates (e.g., NIH's proposed drop to 15%) are easing, as these changes were blocked in the continuing resolution supported by both parties. Negotiated rates around 40–45% are anticipated.
- **Budget Shifts:** Some research programs may shift between agencies but are not expected to disappear.
- **Proposal Activity:** Submission cycles remain active, although delays in Council meetings caused temporary slowdowns. Calls for new proposals are resuming, with standard cycles continuing.
- **Defense Funding:** RFPs in defense-related agencies have been slower to appear, but releases (e.g., DoD biomedical notices) are beginning to pick up again.

5. Open Forum with the Provost

The Provost expressed appreciation for the support received over the past two years and reported on the following:

1. Board of Trustees (BOT) Updates

- Recent BOT meeting had a full agenda with several significant approvals:
 - Collective Bargaining Agreement approved and certified.
 - Tenure approvals completed.
 - Accountability Plan was approved.

2. Post-Tenure Review (PTR) Process

- PTR cycle completed; notifications should have gone out.
- Questions about selections should be directed to Steve Engel, who manages the process.
- An internal analysis of the PTR process will be conducted ahead of the June BOT meeting to assess progress after two cycles.

3. Internal Searches

- Dean of Education (Interim):

- Search reinitiated after original effort was paused.
- 7–8 applicants received.
- A diverse search committee has been assembled with reps from each department and faculty ranks.
- Decision expected before end of term.
- **Director of QEP:**
 - Dr. Brittanney Adelman, Director of the Math Learning Center and Quality Enhancement Plan has left for Florida Gulf Coast.
 - Search closes Friday; contact Dan Meeroff for inquiries.
- **Associate Dean, Graduate College:**
 - Call for applications is open; deadline also this Friday.
 - Encouragement for qualified candidates to apply.

4. Enrollment Updates

- **Fall Enrollment:**
 - Applications up by 400 compared to last year.
 - Modeling target: 4,400–4,500 new students.
 - Goal is to avoid over-enrollment due to space limitations.
- **Housing:**
 - Priority for freshmen; juniors/seniors placed on a waitlist.
 - Financial aid is being considered for students affected by housing limitations.
- **Online Expansion:**
 - New online initiatives set to launch Fall 2026.
- **Summer Enrollment:**
 - Michael Rapaport is assisting the Provost's Office in this area.

5. Academic Program Review

- A review is underway of degree programs consistently appearing on concern lists.
- This is the 4th cycle, and more pressure is expected for departments to make meaningful changes.
- More stringent corrective action plan requirements are anticipated.

6. Recognition and Rankings

- **U.S. News & World Report Rankings:**
 - The university is currently ranked #103 among public universities.

6. Open Forum of the Senate

None.

7. Committee Reports

- Academic Planning and Budget Committee, William Trapani
 - [Senate/Steering Dates 2025-2026](#)
 - Dr. Trapani presented the 2025-2026 Senate and Steering calendar.
 - Positive recommendation from Steering. **Approved by unanimous consent.**
 - [Honors and Awards Committee](#), Evangelos Kaisar
- Dr. Kaisar reported on the 2024-2025 committee activities:
- Excellence and Innovation in Undergraduate Teaching and Advising awards

- FAU Online Faculty Award.
- Community Engagement Presidential Awards
- Distinguished Mentor of the year Award
- Honorary degrees and Faculty Emeritus status

• [Promotion and Tenure Committee](#), Khaled Sobhan

Dr. Sobhan reported on the following:

- 32 candidates reviewed: 17 for full professor, 15 for promotion.
- Reports submitted and deliberated with Provost.
- Upcoming:
 - Open Forum on P&T: April 22, 10:30 AM (in-person & Zoom).
 - NTT (Non-Tenure Track) Open Forum: April 23, 10:30 AM.
- Discussion held on the need to notify faculty candidates of committee results in a timely manner; plans to implement communication improvements next cycle.

• Advisory Library Committee, Salvatore Lepore

- No report submitted this session.

• [Faculty Athletics Representative \(FAR\) report](#), Steve Engle

Dr. Engle reported on the following:

- Committee focuses on:
 - Academic performance
 - Institutional control
 - Student-athlete welfare
- Recent initiatives:
 - Prioritized class registration
 - Expanded Career Center services
 - Improved student-athlete surveys
 - Emphasis on mental health and development
- Performance metrics:
 - APR: 985 (NCAA = 987, Conference = 989)
 - Graduation Rate: 89% (NCAA = 91%, Conference = 90%)
- Highlights:
 - Successful women's sports year.
 - Women's tennis went undefeated and nearly reached championship final.
 - Recognition: Eric Shaw Academic Excellence Award presented to Ashley Adams (4.0 GPA, Elementary Ed major).

8. [UPC Consent Agenda](#)

- Positive recommendation from Steering. **Approved by unanimous consent.**

9. [UPC Action Agenda](#)

- Motion to consider by college. Motion carries.
- Positive recommendation from Steering. **Motion to approve carries.**

10. [UGC Consent Agenda](#)

- Request to move Business Communication item to action agenda.

- Motion to approve all other with the exception of Business Communication. Positive recommendation from Steering. **Approved by unanimous consent.**

11. [UGC Action Agenda](#)

- Positive recommendation from Steering. **Motion to approve carries** with the exception of Business Communication which was tabled to fall 2025.

12. Old Business

- Curriculum Process
 - [New Course Draft](#)
 - [Terminate Course Draft](#)
 - [Course Change Draft](#)
- Steering Committee recommended developing an "automated" system over the summer to manage these changes more efficiently.
- The content of the documents was approved as the basis for building the system, which will return in the fall for formal adoption.
- One correction was noted: the word "principle" was misspelled on multiple forms and will be corrected.
- Motion to approve content only. **Motion carries.**

13. New Business

- [Senate Attendance](#)
 - A link to Senate attendance was provided.
 - Members were asked to verify accuracy and report any discrepancies.
- [ACFS Letter to Chancellor of VISA Revocations](#)
 - The Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) drafted a letter in response to recent visa revocations.
 - The letter called for:
 - Institutional transparency on visa revocations.
 - Clear guidance on student rights and due process.
 - Empowerment of institutions to support affected students.
 - Consistency across the state university system.
 - Motion was made to endorse the letter. **Motion carries.**
- [ACFS Resolution on 287\(g\) MOAs](#)
 - The ACFS passed a resolution urging universities to withdraw from agreements between campus police and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement under the 287(g) program.
 - Key Concerns Noted in Resolution:
 - Erosion of campus safety and trust.
 - Negative impacts on access to health and educational services.
 - Fear of ICE-aligned actions by campus police.
 - Lack of necessity for university participation.
 - Motion was made to adopt the resolution. **Motion carries.**

14. Good of the Senate

- [Recognizing Kim Dunn](#)
- Dr. Trapani presented a formal resolution to Dr. Kim Dunn in recognition of her distinguished service as Faculty Senate President, honoring her leadership, advocacy, and lasting impact on the university.

15. **Meeting adjourned at 3:00PM.**

UFS Senator Attendance Roster
Spring 2025

Senators include College representatives, faculty assembly heads, steering committee, standing committee chairs, elect/past president, and non-voting members President and Provost.

Present =x

Last Name	First Name	Role	College	27-Jan	24-Feb	24-Mar	21-Apr
Johnson	Geoffrey	Guest	Academic Affairs	x			
Almonte	Mauricio	Senator	Arts and Letters				
Balkan	Stacey	Senator	Arts and Letters				
Berlatsky	Eric	UGC Co-Chair	Arts and Letters				
Branaman	Ann	Senator	Arts and Letters	x		x	x
Calargé	Carla	Senator	Arts and Letters				
Eason	Shane	FA Chair	Arts and Letters				x
Ellis	Meredith	Senator	Arts and Letters	x	x	x	x
Hanne	Eric	Guest	Arts and Letters	x			
Harris	Mike	Senator	Arts and Letters	x	x	x	x
Kharlamov	Viktor	Senator	Arts and Letters	x	x	x	x
Larson	Robin	Guest	Arts and Letters				x
MacDonald	Ian	Senator	Arts and Letters	x	x		x
McConnell	Will	Senator	Arts and Letters	x			x
Nichols	Angela	Senator	Arts and Letters	x	x	x	x
Robé	Chris	Senator	Arts and Letters				
Rossow	Stacie	Senator	Arts and Letters	x	x	x	x
Sementelli	Art	UGC Co-Chair	Arts and Letters				
Trapani	Bill	Steering, APBC Chair, President-	Arts and Letters	x	x	x	x
Wagner	Kevin	Senator	Arts and Letters	x	x	x	
Salise	Nancy	Guest	Arts and Letters				x
Agapova	Anna	Senator	Business	x	x		x
Baghersad	Milad	Senator	Business				
Banerjee	Kuntal	FA Chair	Business				
Bilgihan	Anil	Senator	Business				x
Castrogiovanni	Gary	Senator	Business	x	x	x	x
Dunn	Kim	President	Business	x	x		x
Gendler	Richard	Senator	Business				
Kohlbeck	Mark	Senator	Business	x	x		x
Sacks	Emily	Senator	Business	x			
Fuentes	Dominique	Guest	Business				x
Williams	Ethlyn	Guest	COB.	x			
Ramirez Agudelo	Andres	Guest	College of Education		x		

Bloetscher	Fred	Guest	college of engineering and computer science	x			
Ferguson	Michelle	Guest	College of Nursing		x	x	x
DeGiorgio	Michael	Senator	ECS	x	x	x	x
Kaisar	Evangelos	Senator, Honors and	ECS	x			x
Moslemian	Davood	Senator	ECS	x	x	x	x
Sobhan	Khaled	Senator, Steering, Promotion and	ECS		x		x
Brown	Vicki	Policy and Procedures Chair	Education				
Darling	Sharon M.	Senator	Education	x	x	x	x
Dukes	Charles	Senator,	Education	x	x	x	x
Finnegan	Lisa	Senator	Education	x	x	x	x
Miller	Katie	Senator	Education		x		x
Mountford	Meredith	Steering, FA	Education	x	x	x	x
Ramirez Agudelo	Andres	Senator	Education	x	x	x	
Schoorman	Dilys	Senator	Education	x	x		x
Persin	Ronald	Guest	Education				x
Bernot	Kelsie	FA Chair	Honors				
Ferrara	Zachary	Senator	Honors	x	x	x	x
Harrawood	Michael	Senator	Honors				
O'Brien	William	Senator	Honors	x			
Follin	Tiffany	FA Chair	Library				
Mello	Lawrence	Senator	Library	x	x	x	x
Buteau	Stephan	Senator	Medicine				x
Lu	Michael	Senator	Medicine				
Luck	George	FA Chair	Medicine			x	x
Sacca	Lea	Senator	Medicine		x	x	
Shen	Wen	Senator	Medicine		x		x
Butcher	Howard	Senator	Nursing	x	x	x	x
Newman	David	Senator	Nursing	x	x	x	x
Quidley-Rodriguez	Narciso	Senator	Nursing				x
Wiese	Lisa	FA Chair	Nursing				
Datta	Debarshi	Guest	Nursing				x
Volnick	Stacy	President	Office of the President				
Ivy	Russ	Provost	Office of the	x			
Ball	Jason	Guest	OIT	x			
Beetle	Chris	Senator,	Science	x	x	x	

Dumbaugh	Eric	Senator	Science				
Hoffman	Fred	Senator	Science	x			x
Leventouri	Theodora	Senator	Science		x	x	x
Lin	Yuandan	Senator	Science	x	x	x	x
Locke	Stephen	Senator	Science		x	x	x
Nikolova	Daniela	Senator	Science	x	x	x	x
Penhollow	Tina	Research	Science				
Sarajedini	Vicki	FA Chair	Science	x		x	
Schmidmeier	Markus	Senator	Science	x			
Sorge	Korey	Undergraduate Programs	Science	x	x	x	x
Yin	Zhijun	Senator	Science		x	x	x
Crespo	Emilio	Guest	Science				x
Arneklev	Bruce	Senator,	SWCJ		x	x	x
Atkin-Plunk	Cassandra	FA Chair	SWCJ		x	x	x
DeRigne	LeaAnne	Senator,	SWCJ	x	x		x
McClellan	Joy	Guest	SWCJ				
Rothe	Dawn	Academic Freedom and Due Process Chair	SWCJ				x
	TBD	Library Advisory Chair	TBD				
Chamely-Wiik	Donna	Guest	Undergraduate Studies and Chemistry				
Gosser	Mary Ann	Guest	University Honors	x	x	x	x