



**Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2026
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
ZOOM**

Members Present: William Trapani, Bruce Arneklev, David Newman, Chris Beetle, Meredith Mountford, Carla Calargé, LeaAnne DeRigne and Kim Dunn.

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Chair, Dr. William Trapani.
2. UFS Steering minutes
The UFS Steering minutes from [March 19, 2026](#), were **approved by the committee**.
3. President's Report
Dr. Trapani provided updates on the following:
 - **Election Results**
 - Congratulations were extended to committee members who were successfully re-elected.
 - Appreciation was expressed for their continued service and contributions to Steering and Faculty Senate governance.
 - **Strategic Plan Update**
 - The strategic planning process is nearing completion.
 - The faculty committee involved in development of the strategic plan is expected to review the draft document and provide additional recommendations.
 - Timeline updates indicated:
 - Board of Trustees review anticipated in early June
 - Board of Governors approval expected by the end of June
 - **Academic Affairs Leadership Updates**
 - Discussion included upcoming searches and organizational changes within Academic Affairs.
 - The search process for replacement of Dr. Russ Ivy was noted.
 - Appreciation was expressed to Dr. Dan Meeroff for his service and contributions to the university, particularly in support of faculty involvement and implementation of major initiatives.
 - **Artificial Intelligence Committee**
 - Updates were provided regarding the development of an Artificial Intelligence committee.
 - The committee is intended to address ongoing questions related to AI curriculum, governance, and program development and provide guidance moving forward

4. Guest Speakers

None.

5. Open Forum with the Provost

The Provost provided updates on the following:

- **University Events and Recognition**

- Recognition was given to recent university events, including:
 - Honors Convocation
 - Alumni Hall of Fame activities
- Appreciation was expressed for faculty and student accomplishments and participation.

- **Artificial Intelligence Committee Initiative**

- Additional details regarding the proposed AI committee were discussed.
- The committee will serve jointly through collaboration between the Provost's Office and Faculty Senate.
- Membership is expected to include:
 - Faculty representation from colleges
- Administrative representatives involved with curriculum processes
- The committee's purpose is to:
 - Establish institutional guidance regarding AI curriculum development
 - Improve consistency in expectations and terminology
 - Support governance processes for future proposals
- It was noted that the committee would provide guidance rather than formal rules.

- **Associate Provost Search**

- Information was provided regarding the search process for the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs position.
- Search committee membership and process details were reviewed.
- Internal candidates were encouraged to apply.

- **Student Success and Graduate Studies**

- Discussion included plans for expanded emphasis on graduate studies and university metrics beyond undergraduate measures.
- A national search for a Dean of Student Success will be conducted.

- **Admissions Update**

- Approximately 59,800 applications had been received.
- Enrollment projections indicated approximately 4,500 incoming freshmen.
- Incoming students continue to demonstrate strong academic profiles.

6. Committee Reports

A. Academic Planning and Budget Committee (APBC)

Dr. Dunn, chair of the committee, presented the following items:

SPOT Dates

- Recommendation to continue use of the existing model utilized during prior years while continuing assessment of response rates and associated impacts.

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation.
Motion carries.

B. Steering and Senate Calendar

- Proposed Steering and Senate meeting schedules for the upcoming academic year were reviewed.
- Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, one Steering meeting would move to Monday and occur virtually.

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation.
Motion carries.

7. [UPC Consent Agenda](#)

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendation by steering.
Motion carries.

8. [UPC Action Agenda](#)

(Items Postponed by Steering on March 19, 2026)

1-3. AI + X Program Proposals (Bundled Items)

Motion: A motion was made to bundle the first three AI interdisciplinary degree proposals.

Motion carries.

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation pending incorporation of revised MOU language by steering. **Motion carries.**

4. Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence with Cybersecurity

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation pending title revision, Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity Systems, by steering. **Motion carries.**

(UUPC Meeting of March 30, 2026)

1. Arts and Letters

History Program Changes (4 Bundled)

Motion: A motion was made to bundle the four history program changes. **Motion carries.**

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation by steering.

Motion carries.

Bachelor of Arts in AI, Technology and Society

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation by steering.

Motion carries.

2. Business

Health Administration Minor

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation by steering.

Motion carries.

3. Education

Undergraduate Research Honors Programs (EIEIO-ELEM Honors and EIEIO Secondary Honors)

Motion: A motion was made to move the item to the consent agenda by steering. **Motion carries.**

4. Engineering and Computer Science

Security Engineering with Generative AI

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation by steering. **Motion carries.**

Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence with Criminal Justice

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation pending MOU revisions by steering. **Motion carries.**

5. Honors College

Interdisciplinary Ethics Minor

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendations by steering. **Motion carries.**

Philosophy Concentration and Minor

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendations by steering. **Motion carries.**

Political Science Concentration

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendations by steering. **Motion carries.**

6. Science

Bachelor of Urban Design

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendations by steering. **Motion carries.**

Criminal Justice Minor

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation pending catalog revisions by steering. **Motion carries.**

9. [UGC Consent Agenda](#)

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendation by steering. **Motion carries.**

10. [UGC Action Agenda](#)

1. **Engineering and Computer Science**

Combined Degree Program

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation by steering. **Motion carries.**

Graduate Certificate in Quantum Computing

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with a positive recommendation by steering.
Motion carries.

2. Medicine

PhD in Health Science Innovation and Technology

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with no recommendation by steering.
Motion carries.

3. Education

Education Program Changes (Bundled)

Motion: A motion was made to bundle the program changes. **Motion carries.**

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendations. **Motion carries.**

11. Old Business

None.

12. New Business

Discussion addressed opportunities to improve visibility and tracking of curriculum proposals throughout the approval process.

Suggestions included:

- Providing more comprehensive reporting from UPC and UGC
- Tracking delayed proposals and committee actions
- Improving transparency in proposal progression through governance structures

13. Good of the Steering Committee

An update was provided regarding upcoming ADA accessibility compliance requirements for theses and dissertations. Beginning with summer submissions, materials will be required to meet accessibility standards. Graduate College processes and forms are being updated, and faculty and students will share responsibility for ensuring compliance. Discussion also included potential challenges related to document formatting and accessibility review processes.

14. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.