



**University Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
October 6, 2025
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Engineering East Room 106**

1. The UFS meeting was called to order at 1:02PM by Dr. Kim Dunn, past- UFS President, on behalf of Dr. William Trapani, UFS President, who was attending the Board of Trustees' retreat. The meeting was held in Engineering East Room 106.
2. Senate approved [September 8, 2025](#), UFS Minutes by unanimous consent.
3. President's Report
 - There was no President's Report, as UFS President Dr. William Trapani was attending the Board of Trustees' retreat.
 - The opening remarks were delivered by Dr. Kim Dunn, Past President, on behalf of Dr. Trapani.
 - The Provost and other administrators were also absent due to concurrent trustee and Board of Governors meetings.
 - The Board of Governors will meet in Tampa during the first week of November. The Board of Trustees is meeting today.
 - FAU has been recognized in the top 100 institutions nationwide.
4. Guest Speakers
 - A. Sandra Marin Ruiz, Regional Director of the Florida Apex Accelerator and Florida SBDC: [APLU Innovation and Economic Prosperity survey](#)
 - a. Discussed ongoing initiatives to pursue the "Innovation and Economic Prosperity" designation for FAU.
 - b. The initiative aligns with the university's strategic vision to expand economic impact and strengthen connections with the community through innovation, entrepreneurship, and workforce development.
 - c. The designation process involves multiple sources of data, primarily an anonymous survey targeting faculty, staff, students, and community members, designed to assess perceptions of FAU's innovation and engagement efforts.
 - d. The survey supports both institutional prestige and practical benefits, such as enhancing grant opportunities and shaping the university's narrative within the community.
 - e. Currently, three Florida universities hold this designation: University of Central Florida, University of South Florida, and one other. FAU

anticipates the November announcement of newly designated institutions.

- f. Emphasized the three main research areas for the designation: economic engagement, enterprise development, and community-industry partnerships. Senators were encouraged to review the survey and provide input to help tailor it to support ongoing research needs.

B. Valery Forbes, Dean and Provost Search Committee Chair: Provost Search Update

- Dean Forbes provided an update on the Provost search process, which is being assisted by Buffkin/Baker, the same consulting firm that managed the most recent presidential search.
- Search Timeline and Process:
 - The Provost position was posted in July on higher education job boards and the university website.
 - Over the summer, the consulting firm collected nominations and encouraged qualified candidates to apply.
 - The fact-finding committee reviewed applications on September 10, summarizing candidate qualifications in alignment with the position profile for President Hasner. The committee serves an information gathering role rather than an advisory role.
 - President Hasner selected candidates for virtual interviews. Ten candidates were interviewed via Teams between September 24–26, with each interview lasting approximately 75 minutes.
 - In parallel with virtual interviews with the committee, President Hasner conducted individual 30-minute conversations with each candidate.
 - The committee chair met with President Hasner on September 29 to review notes and observations from the virtual interviews and calls.
- Next Steps – On-Campus Final Interviews:
 - President Hasner selected three finalists for on-campus interviews, tentatively scheduled between October 13–24; exact dates will be shared once confirmed.
 - Agendas are being developed for the visits, including faculty/staff town halls, which will also be streamed to other campuses.
 - Individual schedules for the finalists will be shared internally via FAU email.
 - Feedback forms will be provided, and participants are encouraged to share their input with President Hasner.

5. Open Forum with the Provost

- There was no Provost open forum, as Provost Russ Ivy was attending the Board of Trustees' retreat.

6. Open Forum of the Senate

None.

7. Committee Reports

- Kim Dunn, APB Chair, [Academic Planning and Budget Report](#)

Dr. Dunn reported on the following:

- The committee is considering a bylaws revision to clarify responsibilities (informational only).
- Curricular submissions reviewed by APB:
 - New academic degree programs requiring additional resources.
 - Proposals needing coordination between colleges.
 - Items referred by the University Steering Committees.
- Submissions are shared with the Registrar, curriculum committees, and colleges; sent to APB at the same time as the relevant curriculum committee.
- Scope clarifications:
 - APB reviews new or terminated academic degree programs, not minors or certificates using existing resources, unless referred.
 - APB summarizes impact and provides opinions; final decisions remain with the Senate.
 - Forms are being revised with the Registrar to clearly indicate which proposals require APB review.
- **Motion:** A motion was made to amend APB's review scope to include both new and terminated academic degree programs. **Motion carries.**

8. [UPC Consent Agenda](#)

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

9. UPC Action Agenda

- Positive recommendation from Steering. **Motion to approve carries.**

10. [UGC Consent Agenda](#)

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

11. UGC Action Agenda

- Positive recommendation from Steering. **Motion to approve carries.**

12. Old Business

[M.Ed. Counselor Education proposal](#)

- No recommendation from Steering. **Motion to approve carries.**

13. New Business

- Resolution: [ACFS Resolution on Safeguarding Free Expression in the State University System of Florida](#)
 - Positive recommendation from Steering. **Approved by unanimous consent.**
- Resolution: [Joint Resolution of the UFS/UFF-FAU Reaffirming the Commitment to Free Expression and Civil Discourse](#)
 - Positive recommendation from Steering. **Approved by unanimous consent.**

14. Good of the Senate

- Personal device apps and privacy concerns
 - Faculty raised concerns about using required apps on personal phones and potential exposure of personal information.
- Compliance with new laws for instructional materials
 - Questions arose regarding legacy PowerPoints and whether they must be updated or removed to comply with the new law effective April 1.
- Both items will be passed along by Dr. Trapani to the appropriate authority for clarification and guidance.

15. **Meeting adjourned at 2:25PM.**