

MINUTES

Executive Committee

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

3:00pm – Microsoft Teams/Administration 106

Present: **Melinda Smith**, Chair; **Andrew Norton**, Vice Chair; **Jennifer Martin**, BOG Representative; **Marion Underwood**, Provost/Executive Vice President; **Sue Doe**, Immediate Past Chair; **Amy Barkley**, Executive Assistant; **Stephen Coleman**, Agricultural Sciences; **Gina Slejko**, Business; **Peter Jan van Leeuwen**, Engineering; **Svetlana Olbina**, Health and Human Sciences; **Linda Meyer**, Libraries; **Steve Benoit**, Natural Sciences; **Zaid Abdo**, Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

Guests: **Susan James**, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; **Brad Goetz**, Chair University Curriculum Committee; **Kimberly Miloch**, Provost Chief of Staff; **Michael Galchinsky**, Vice Provost & Dean for Undergraduate Affairs; **Mark Shelstad**, Chair Committee on Responsibilities and Standing of Academic Faculty; **Jennifer Aberle**, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs in College of Health and Human Sciences; **Rebecca Atadero**, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering; **Laurel Halsey**, Executive Director of the Health Network

Absent: Antonio Pedros-Gascon, Liberal Arts (excused); David Koons, Natural Resources (excused)

Chair Melinda Smith called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

December 9, 2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Minutes to be Approved

1. Executive Committee Minutes – November 18, 2025

Hearing no edits or corrections, the Executive Committee minutes from November 18th were approved by unanimous consent.

2. Faculty Council Minutes – December 2, 2025

Hearing no edits or corrections, the Faculty Council minutes from December 2nd were approved by unanimous consent. Will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for February 3rd.

II. Items Pending/Discussion Items

A. *Announcements*

1. The Next Executive Committee Meeting will be held on January 20, 2026 – Microsoft Teams/Administration 106 – 3:00 p.m.

2. The Next Faculty Council meeting will be held on February 3, 2026 – Microsoft Teams/Administration 106 – 4:00 p.m.

Executive Committee members were reminded that the Employee Council Q&A session will be on Thursday, December 11th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. It will be held in a hybrid format.

B. Provost/Executive Vice President Report – Provost Marion Underwood

Provost Underwood: Provided an update on the leadership changes in Warner College of Natural Resources. Dean Alonso Aguirre has accepted a new position within the Office of the President and will serve as a Presidential Advisor for Global Impact and Strategic Alliances, starting in January, for one (1) year. Indicated that the search for the new dean will not commence until next fall to allow a proper timeline.

C. Update from the Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Affairs – Vice Provost & Dean Michael Galchinsky

Vice Provost Michael Galchinsky: The task force on the All-University Core Curriculum (AUCC) had their kick-off meeting this morning. The charge of the task force was discussed, which is to develop and review criteria and procedures for the review of these courses.

Vice Provost Galchinsky: Discussed the Guaranteed Transfer Pathways out of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. The guidance over the years was that any time a new AUCC course was placed in our core curriculum, it has to also be a checked box for guaranteed transfer pathways. This guidance was either mistaken or is changing now. There is no necessary correspondence between the core at a particular institution and the guaranteed transfer pathways. We must accept courses that are guaranteed transferred pathways for transfer, and other institutions must accept ours for transfer.

Vice Provost Galchinsky: Discussed the plan for communicating the new Institutional Learning Objectives (ILOs) that were approved by Faculty Council. A SOURCE article will be co-authored with Chair Smith. The co-chairs of the task force, Lisa Dysleski and Shawn Bingham, will go to colleges and units on campus to introduce the ILOs to everyone, as well as to get questions about how they will be used and compile a list of resources. We are also working on a website for the campus community that will call attention to how the ILOs are being used around campus. As we talk through the AUCC, the ILOs may inform how we structure courses and determine what courses should be in the core curriculum.

Vice Provost Galchinsky: Lieutenant Colonel Brandon Weiss is the new Army ROTC Lieutenant Colonel. There are sixteen (16) Army ROTC cadets ready to graduate and have applied for the branches of the Army they want, and fifteen (15) of the sixteen (16) got their first choice. Indicated there were also two (2) women who applied for aviation, the hardest branch to get into, and were accepted.

Executive Committee members discussed the confusion around the guaranteed transfer pathways, as well as next steps for the core curriculum. Suggestions were made regarding

communication about the core curriculum and how to engage students with the courses. Additional discussion was held around how to assist students with their majors, including partnerships with vocational partners and how the core curriculum can help within majors. Vice Provost Galchinsky: Something else departments should consider is the occupations flow from the majors being taught. We can do more to help students understand what career-readiness competencies they are gaining through their majors.

A suggestion was made to have Faculty Council connect with University Advancement and CSU Alumni Association to think constructively about how to engage with them so that money is being raised for priorities, as well as helping funnel students into internship pipelines and placements that we may need.

D. Old Business

E. Action Items

1. UCC Minutes – November 21, 2025

An Executive Committee member asked about the large list of courses that are listed as being discontinued. Brad Goetz indicated that there is a review being conducted of the catalog and many courses that have not been taught in five (5) years are being discontinued.

Hearing no further discussion or questions, Chair Smith requested a vote.

Motion passed. Will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for February 3rd as consent agenda.

2. Proposed Revisions to Section E.2.1.4 of the Academic Faculty and Administrative Professional Manual – Committee on Responsibilities and Standing of Academic Faculty – Mark Shelstad, Chair

Mark Shelstad: The revisions are related to the policies of early termination of at-will employees. Indicated that the revisions were clarifying edits and not changes.

Executive Committee members discussed the revisions and the relation between these revisions and Section D.5.6 of the Manual, which is specific to administrative professionals. Concerns were expressed around the rationale and revisions. It was noted that discussions regarding the revisions had been held with Ryan Brooks, chair of the Committee on Non-Tenure Track Faculty.

Following discussion, the revisions were tabled for further discussion at the next Executive Committee meeting on January 20th.

3. Proposed Revisions to Section E.2.1.5 of the Academic Faculty and Administrative Professional Manual – Committee on

Responsibilities and Standing of Academic Faculty – Mark Shelstad, Chair

Following discussion, the revisions were tabled for further discussion at the next Executive Committee meeting on January 20th.

4. Proposed Revisions to Section E.12.1 of the Academic Faculty and Administrative Professional Manual – Committee on Responsibilities and Standing of Academic Faculty – Mark Shelstad, Chair

An Executive Committee member requested clarification on the use of the word “seminar” in the second section that was being added. An additional suggestion was added to potentially look at the structure of the section in the future to break it up a little bit.

Hearing no further questions or discussion, Chair Smith requested a vote.

Motion passed. Will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for February 3rd.

5. University Distinguished Teaching Scholar (UDTS) Revised Nomination Criteria for Faculty Council Procedures Handbook

A motion was made and seconded to table the item for the next Executive Committee meeting. Chair Smith requested a vote.

Item was tabled for the January 20th Executive Committee meeting.

F. Reports

1. Faculty Council Chair Report – Melinda Smith

Ceded report time due to time constraints.

2. Board of Governors Report – Jennifer Martin

Jennifer Martin: Provided update on the recent Board of Governors meeting. Rhonda Epper was selected to be the new President at CSU Pueblo, and Rico Munn will return to CSU Spur in Denver. There were also reports from the Budget and Finance Committee, where we saw the second version of the budget that was presented to Faculty Council. The major item of note was a change to the Canvas Stadium reserve policy, where the reserve is no longer restricted to the payment of the bond debt for the stadium but can be used for other purposes.

G. Discussion Items

1. JED Foundation Task Force Discussion – Jennifer Aberle, Rebecca Atadero, & Laurel Halsey

An overview was provided on the JED Foundation and its purpose. The work of the task force was shared, and Executive Committee members were asked to consider endorsement of the strategic plan and recommendation from the task force.

The task force members indicated that the plan is to submit a final report with detailed implementation timelines, plans, and recommendations, which includes a five-year plan. The recommendation is that the Provost's Office and the Division of Student Affairs have primary oversight of implementation, as well as the endorsement from the employee councils on campus. There is also a request to create a University-wide committee.

A task force member indicated that while this is focused on students, we know that faculty and staff well-being is critical for student well-being. It has been requested that the Okanagan Charter be adopted, which will uplift the efforts to include everyone at the University from a systematic perspective, whether its revising policies or writing new ones, and how that impacts the well-being and health of the campus community.

Executive Committee members discussed the report from the task force and how to disseminate this information among colleges and departments. Members additionally discussed the structure of the suggested University-wide committee.

Clarification was provided on the potential timeline for submission of the final report and when Faculty Council may see the report. The task force wraps up its duties on February 1st, so this will likely occur at the March Faculty Council meeting.

H. Executive Session – Faculty Council Chair Evaluation

Members were reminded to submit feedback via the Qualtrics survey for the Faculty Council Chair evaluation by the end of the week.

Executive Committee adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Executive Session concluded at 5:52 p.m.

Melinda Smith, Chair
Andrew Norton, Vice Chair
Jennifer Martin, BOG Representative
Amy Barkley, Executive Assistant