

**MINUTES**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Tuesday, April 14, 2026**  
**3:00pm – Microsoft Teams/Administration 106**

**Present:** **Andrew Norton**, Chair; **Zaid Abdo**, Vice Chair; **Jennifer Martin**, BOG Representative; **Lise Youngblade**, interim Provost/Executive Vice President; **Amy Barkley**, Executive Assistant; **Stephen Coleman**, Agricultural Sciences; **Gina Slejko**, Business; **Peter Jan van Leeuwen**, Engineering; **Antonio Pedros-Gascon**, Liberal Arts; **Linda Meyer**, Libraries; **Dennis Harry**, Natural Resources; **Steve Benoit**, Natural Sciences; **Zaid Abdo**, Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

**Guests:** **Melinda Smith**, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; **Brad Goetz**, Chair University Curriculum Committee; **Kimberly Miloch**, Provost Chief of Staff; **Day Halsey**, Co-Chair Committee on University Programs; **Kristy Nowak**, Co-Chair Committee on University Programs; **Jen Dawrs**, Faculty Success

Absent: Sue Doe, Immediate Past Chair (excused); Charlie Hoxmeier, Health and Human Sciences (excused)

Chair Andrew Norton called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**April 14, 2026 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS:**

**I. Minutes to be Approved**

**1. Executive Committee Minutes – March 31, 2026**

Hearing no corrections or edits, the Executive Committee minutes from March 31<sup>st</sup> were approved by unanimous consent.

**II. Items Pending/Discussion Items**

**A. *Announcements***

1. The Next Executive Committee Meeting will be held on April 21, 2026 – Microsoft Teams/Administration 106 – 3:00 p.m.
2. The Next Faculty Council meeting will be held on May 5, 2026 – Microsoft Teams/TILT 221 – 4:00 p.m.

**B. *Provost/Executive Vice President Report – Interim Provost Lise Youngblade***

Interim Provost Lise Youngblade: Asked if there were any lingering questions following the budget forum that was held yesterday.

An Executive Committee member asked whether Vice President Brendan Hanlon could address the mismatch of numbers between what was previously reported and what was reported on after. There was movement of figures that made several million dollars disappear or be accounted differently. An additional request was made to have a clearer picture of how much the move to the Pac 12 will actually cost. Provost Youngblade indicated that she would follow up on these questions and bring them back.

An Executive Committee member asked if more detail could be provided on the percentages of the budget that will be taken out. Another Executive Committee member asked whether more information could be provided around FTE reductions by unit and percentages.

Provost Youngblade: The challenge with the numbers is that sometimes they are small and can identify a specific person or position. We are committed to providing as much transparency as we can but with the process, it is hard to do. When it is finalized, we will share what details can be shared. Encouraged other questions to be submitted so that they can be responded to.

Provost Youngblade: There was a question regarding the removal of posters regarding the Principles of Community. There has been no University directive to have these removed and am not sure where they have gone. In addition to this, something to consider is a potential refresh or reconsideration of the Principles of Community to see if any updates or a refocus is needed.

Executive Committee members agreed to engage in conversation around the Principles of Community, as well as a desire to bolster them. An Executive Committee member suggested that these be paired with the newly revised Institutional Learning Objectives and how both topics could be put forward more intentionally.

Provost Youngblade: A question was asked about the Honors program and what is going on there. Honors faculty assignments and compensation does not have a strong structure or consistency. The intent is to create intentional spaces for disciplines that have historically not been represented in Honors instruction and to align with best practices, as well as standardize common course compensation.

An Executive Committee member suggested that Honors Director Shawn Bingham be invited to a future meeting for more discussion.

A Faculty Council member asked if CSU leadership is aware of legislation being considered around a 90-credit bachelor's degree.

Provost Youngblade: This has crossed our desks. Understand the reasoning behind the 90-credit degrees, which make it less expensive and faster to obtain a degree. The question is what these degrees actually represent and whether they train students appropriately. These questions have not been vetted. There may be opportunities where these degrees make sense, such as in the learning innovation space and online.

Executive Committee members were reminded of the statement put out by Executive Committee in November 2024 regarding reduced credit degrees.

Hearing no further questions or discussion, the Provost's report was concluded.

***C. Old Business***

***D. Action Items***

1. UCC Minutes – April 3, 2026

Hearing no questions or discussion, a motion was made to place the University Curriculum Committee minutes on the Faculty Council agenda. Chair Norton requested a vote.

Motion approved. Will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for May 5<sup>th</sup> as consent agenda.

2. Proposed Revisions to Section B.2.6.1 of the Academic Faculty and Administrative Professional Manual – Committee on University Programs – Day Halsey & Kristy Nowak, Co-Chairs

Day Halsey: This is a slight revision to Manual language. The language that currently exists creates some ambiguity in how the Committee on University Programs assess CIOUSUs in the biennial process regarding CIOUSUs that are housed in a single academic unit. If going by the language currently in the Manual, those CIOUSUs should be terminated because they do not necessarily extend beyond a single academic unit. The proposed revisions ask that CIOUSUs provide evidence of extension beyond a single academic unit in new applications and biennial reports, which would allow our process to better provide feedback and rubrics that enforce this requirement.

An Executive Committee member asked about CIOUSUs that may be impactful but do not extend beyond a single department.

Halsey: The new language provides a more open interpretation to what we think of as interdisciplinary work. The hope is that the definition can be implemented at the process level. Currently, we are restricted by the very limited definition that leaves much to interpretation.

Kristy Nowak: Indicated that the code states that CIOUSUs within a single academic department can still function as long as it indicates its departmental affiliation, it just would not have CIOUSU status. This is not adding a new requirement. This is clarifying the language and providing additional options.

An Executive Committee guest asked whether the Office of the Vice President for Research had been consulted on this change. Halsey indicated that Dinaida Egan from that office was present during these meetings and was supportive of the language change.

Hearing no further questions or discussion, a motion was made to place the proposed revisions on the Faculty Council agenda. Chair Norton requested a vote.

Motion passed. Will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for May 5<sup>th</sup>.

## *E. Reports*

### 1. Faculty Council Chair Report – Andrew Norton

Chair Norton: Provided a few updates:

- Met with the standing committee chairs last Thursday to discuss activities and any issues being discussed among the committees.
- There are at least six (6) action items coming for the May Faculty Council meeting, as well as three (3) task force reports.
- We have reached out to Chief of Staff Matt Tillman to confirm whether President Amy Parsons is available to provide a report at the May Faculty Council meeting.
- We have a request that Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Affairs Michael Galchiinsky provide a report about CSU Online and its transition. He will be attending Executive Committee on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Provided an overview of topics discussed at the Colorado Faculty Advisory Council (CFAC) meeting, which included the 90-credit hour degrees and concurrent enrollment.
- Have received a formal invitation to be a part of the compensation task force out of the President's Office.
- With commencement, there will only be twenty-one (21) recognition ceremonies on the Friday of commencement and the big ceremony will be on Saturday.

Executive Committee members discussed the Provost search. An Executive Committee member expressed frustration at the budget forum being scheduled at the same time as the session between Executive Committee and the Provost candidate.

### 2. Board of Governors Report – Jennifer Martin

No formal report. It was noted that the Audit and Finance Committee met to discuss the budget of CSU Global and CSU Pueblo and the Long Bill has moved from the State House to the State Senate, with a deadline of mid-May for an approval signature.

## *F. Discussion Items*

### 1. Promotion and Tenure Outside Committee Member Pilot – Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Melinda Smith & Jen Dawrs, Faculty Success

Vice Provost Melinda Smith: Last year, there was a pilot for an outside committee member for tenure and promotion committees, which took place in six (6) departments. These members went through some training and there was also engagement and discussion with both the chair of the department and the outside committee member. Given the current budget constraints and demands on faculty's time, this year we are focusing on providing more hands-on engagement and training for tenure and promotion committee chairs. We are not giving up on the outside committee members but are being more intentional on how we train our tenure and promotion committee chairs and members.

Jen Dawrs: Across these initiatives, we are working to advance a culture of bridge building instead of gatekeeping in promotion and tenure. We are doing an audit of some of the different strategies that are in place or on the horizon around how we improve the culture and process around tenure and promotion. Some of the feedback we have received is that chairs of these committees are important figures. We are looking to build out a broader strategy that help the tenure and promotion committee chair role to be more well-defined, well-supported, accountable, and being able to talk to each other within a community of practice. There is also work being done to help units define this role and how to select, support, and recognize this role.

Executive Committee members discussed the tenure and promotion process, as well as recurring issues that they have seen throughout the process. There were requests for a process of accountability and emphasizing the value of service. Additional conversation centered around how to create accountability and change some of the culture around tenure and promotion.

### *G. Executive Session*

Executive Committee adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Executive Session concluded at 5:30 p.m.

Andrew Norton, Chair  
Zaid Abdo, Vice Chair  
Jennifer Martin, BOG Representative  
Amy Barkley, Executive Assistant