

MINUTES

Executive Committee

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

3:00pm – Microsoft Teams/Administration 106

Present: Andrew Norton, Chair; Zaid Abdo, Vice Chair; Jennifer Martin, BOG Representative; Sue Doe, Immediate Past Chair; Amy Barkley, Executive Assistant; Stephen Coleman, Agricultural Sciences; Gina Slejko, Business; Charlie Hoxmeier, Health and Human Sciences; Antonio Pedros-Gascon, Liberal Arts; Linda Meyer, Libraries; 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

Absent: Lise Youngblade, interim Provost/Executive Vice President (excused); Peter Jan van Leeuwen, Engineering (excused); Dennis Harry, Natural Resources

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

March 24, 2026 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Minutes to be Approved

1. Faculty Council Minutes – March 3, 2026

Hearing no suggested edits or corrections, the Faculty Council minutes were approved by unanimous consent. Will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for April 7th.

2. Executive Committee Minutes – March 10, 2026

Hearing no suggested edits or corrections, the Executive Committee minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

II. Items Pending/Discussion Items

A. Announcements

1. The Next Executive Committee Meeting will be held on March 31, 2026 – Microsoft Teams/Administration 106 – 3:00 p.m.
2. The Next Faculty Council meeting will be held on April 7, 2026 – Microsoft Teams/Location TBD – 4:00 p.m.

B. Provost/Executive Vice President Report – Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Melinda Smith

Vice Provost Melinda Smith: Provided a few updates:

- The Provost is continuing with office hours. Encouraged members to attend if they are able. Details can be found on the Provost's website.
- We held a meeting prior to Spring Break to re-engage with the Academic Calendar Task Force. We are trying to move forward with the recommendations from the task force.
- Work is still being done on the budget process and integrating all the proposal packages. They are hoping to get engagement with the employee councils soon regarding those discussions.
- Notifications have gone out to many of the award winners. Announcements will come out in SOURCE in early April and the Provost's award luncheon will be on April 22nd.
- The University Distinguished Professors put out their call for nominations and have selected six (6) new University Distinguished Professors (UDPs).
- Tenure and promotion letters have gone out to people. We are working on reviews right now and those notifications will go out.
- Negotiations are proceeding with the finalists for the Dean of the College of Business and Dean for the College of Natural Sciences. We will hear more about those soon.

An Executive Committee member reiterated the concerns expressed previously regarding the dean searches and whether there was an update to address the concerns. Vice Provost Smith indicated that there was no update but will bring this back to the Provost.

C. Old Business

D. Action Items

1. UCC Minutes – March 6, 2026

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

Motion passed. Will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for April 7th as consent agenda.

An Executive Committee member asked whether the University Curriculum Committee weighs in on faculty workload in the approval of courses. The question was asked based on recent experiences of department curriculum committees approving or not approving courses based off perceptions of faculty workload.

Brad Goetz: The simple answer to this is no. The University Curriculum Committee does not consider faculty qualifications or the name at the top of the proposal, as there are people who are not faculty prepare the proposals.

It was noted that the University Curriculum Committee does not approve courses. The minutes are simply recommendations. Understanding is that deans and departments heads or chairs make staffing decisions.

Goetz: It is important to note that the department or unit owns the course, not the faculty member. Faculty members own intellectual content that may be different inside the same course for different faculty.

2. Faculty Representatives to Faculty Council Standing Committees –
Committee on Faculty Governance – Steve Reising, Chair

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

Motion passed. Will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for April 7th.

E. Reports

1. Faculty Council Chair Report – Andrew Norton

Chair Norton: Provided a few updates:

- Nominations for the Harry Rosenberg Award are due at the end of this week, on March 27th. We currently have one (1) nomination.
- A meeting has been set up between the employee council leadership, Vice President Eric Ray, Vice President Brendan Hanlon, Provost Lise Youngblade, and Chief of Staff Matt Tillman for next week to discuss the budget and budget decisions.
- The Free Speech Task Force will have their final report prepared for the May Faculty Council meeting, and the AUCC Task Force is still potentially on track for the April Faculty Council meeting.
- Suggested a potential forum regarding the Human Resources and Finance realignment, since faculty have not been as involved in those discussions as the administrative professionals or state classified employees.
- The second department/college code forum was yesterday, March 23rd. A final one has been scheduled for April 16th. Noted that this had been rescheduled from the original April 21st date. Believe the plan is to refine the task force document and bring it back to Faculty Council, as there may be a few Manual changes required.
- The Provost search is moving on and we are on track for campus interviews in April.

An Executive Committee member requested clarification on the Academic Calendar and when implementation would be.

Vice Provost Smith: We are waiting on the Registrar's Office to come back with some scenarios and some considerations, such as fall break or a J-term. Indicated there are other recommendations and considerations from the task force.

Executive Committee members discussed the recommendations and potential considerations, as well as a timeline for socializing the changes.

An Executive Committee member asked whether the committee would consider sending a letter of congratulations to the newly elected ASCSU President and Vice President. An additional

request was made to follow up on the move of CSU Online to the President's Office and concerns around the revenue and where that money would go.

Chair Norton: Indicated that he sent a congratulatory email to the new ASCSU President and Vice President but would defer to Executive Committee members if a more formal letter is requested. Regarding CSU Online, will be meeting with Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Affairs Michael Galchinsky later this week and this is high on the topics for discussion during that meeting.

Executive Committee members discussed the various workflows involved with the CSU Online move. Information about the different workflow groups was shared. Following discussion, it was requested that more information be provided regarding the revenue streams and where that revenue would go.

An Executive Committee member asked about the department and college code forums and the misalignment between what the Manual expects and what the departments have in terms of written documentation. Concerns were expressed regarding a lack of information and expectations that are actually written down and accountability.

Chair Norton: Indicated that there are a few things going on to try to improve the situation, such as improving the tenure and promotion system, as well as scaffolding for codes so they can be reasonable and interpretable. Other efforts include the work of Faculty Success.

2. Board of Governors Report – Jennifer Martin

Jennifer Martin: A special Audit and Finance Committee meeting will occur on Friday, March 27th and we will receive the finalized proposed cuts in greater detail.

F. Discussion Items

G. Executive Session

Hearing no additional discussion, a motion was made and seconded to move into Executive Session. Chair Norton requested a vote.

Motion passed.

Executive Committee adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Executive Session concluded at 4:47 p.m.

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