



## MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE

### MINUTES

March 18, 2026

**3:00 PM – Student Center Ballroom**

**PRESENT: Faculty Senate Officers** C. Olszewski, A. Voight, and J. Marino; **Faculty Senators** S. Allena, E. Avram, M. Baumgartner, J. Bolt, B. Browning, M. Buckley, B. Conti, Y. Fu, J. Gatica, P. Gerum, A. Goodsett, T. Greer-Medley, M. Heath, E. Jennings, W. Kang, S. Kent, C. Kothapalli, A. O'Connor, K. Pataki, L. Quinn, E. Rauschert, A. Resnick, H. Richter, W. Sarver, A. Severson, Y. Shen, J. Sola, A. Vincent, J. Vitali, W. Wang, R. Whitbred, and B. Yusko; **Administrative and Corresponding Members** L. Bloomberg, N. Sridhar, R. Carnell, B. Kosteas, and S. Zachariah; **Ex Officio Limited Members** J. Ausherman, T. Heus.

### OTHERS

**PRESENT:** Zoom indicated a peak of 56 participants.

### Called to order at 3:04pm

- I. Approval of the Meeting Agenda—March 18, 2026  
Approved.
- II. Approval of the Minutes of the February 18, 2026 Meeting  
Approved
- III. Report of the Senate President  
Dr. Olszewski opened with comments of gratitude for faculty.

Regarding the survey being sent to faculty asking them to volunteer their service on Senate standing committees and other university assignments, Dr. Olszewski exhorted faculty to be intentional about their service and to hear out the nominating committee's calls.

She reported on progress of the Annual Review Committee, noting that there has been a significant amount of work done toward a consensus. She called for experienced faculty to review some new core curriculum courses at the end of the year.

Internal awards announcements are going out.

Dr. Olszewski announced that we will host our In Memoriam remembrance at the May Senate meeting; the online link to share information will be sent to senators.

She invited all to the Provost's recognition of faculty excellence ceremony, which will include the recognition of the distinguished faculty in teaching, research, and service. The ceremony is scheduled for April 8, and also includes recognition for faculty colleagues who were awarded promotion and tenure. Dr. Olszewski thanked this year's distinguished faculty awards committee, chaired by Dr. Vania De Paoli.

#### IV. Report of the University President Laura Bloomberg

Dr. Bloomberg began by thanking Dr. Ausherman for “St. Patrick’s Day Meteor” stickers, and she noted that she is reminded every day about the many wonderful contributions of those on campus, even though there are always different types of challenges.

She introduced Dr. Andrew Crawford, new Vice-President of Enrollment Services and Dr. Chad Warren, new Vice-President for Advancement.

Dr. Bloomberg mentioned some recent highlights and reported on CSU’s evolving partnership with Ideastream.

*Academia Magazine* recently recognized 4 of CSU’s programs (out of 52 recognized) : LiftUp Vikes, Student Athlete Advisory Council, the Center for Refugee and Immigrant Services (CRIS), and the College of Heath.

The upcoming Cleveland Thyagaraja Festival is the largest Indian classical music festival outside of India, and has been hosted by Cleveland State for over a decade.

Dr. Bloomberg recognized Dr. Birch Browning, the motive force between The President’s Concert, scheduled for April 17. She acknowledged the passionate student musicians and the innovative concert staging, and invited faculty to attend as their schedules permit.

CSU’s AI Symposium is upcoming, and faculty are encouraged to participate. (**Report No. 36, 2025-2026**)

#### IV. University Faculty Affairs Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Heus, presented the second reading of proposed changes, readjustments, and additional language for: Faculty Personnel Policy - 3344-11-02 Definitions, 3344-11-08 Resignation, Retirement and Emeritus Faculty, and 3344-12-01 Personnel policies for persons with special faculty status. (**Report No. 37, 2025-2026**)

Approved with no nays and one abstention.

#### VI. Admissions and Standards Committee

Dr. Marino presented the items in the absence of the committee chair, Dr. A. Smith. (**Report No. 38, 2025-2026**)

Application and Administration of Accelerated Master’s Degrees  
Unanimously approved.

Graduate Student Leave of Absence Policy:  
Approved with one abstention

Change in graduate residency requirement from 16 to 15 credits:  
Approved unanimously

## VII. University Curriculum Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Heath, presented the Consent Agenda. **(Report No. 39, 2025-2026)**

Approved unanimously

- Criminology Minor - 1170 - Fall 26 Remove SWK 240 as an elective for the Criminology minor.
- Criminology, B.A. - 1170 - Fall 26 Remove SWK 240 as an elective for Criminology majors. The course is being deactivated.
- Exercise Science, MS - 1170 - Fall 26
- Social Work, B.S.W. - 1140 - Fall 25 Move content under "Required Core Curriculum" to "Major Requirements". Adding SWK200 to the list of Major Requirements as it was previously left off the list. Removing SWK 240 as an elective option as it will be deactivated.
- Social Work, MSW - 1170 - Fall 26 Eliminating the requirement of: "All advanced standing applicants will be required to include their field evaluations from both required undergraduate practicums. For those admitted students who are continuing directly from a BSW program to the MSW program, admission will be considered pending until they successfully complete field and their final field evaluation is received." Below is the text for the MSW Advanced Standing admission requirements per the Graduate catalog; #3 (underlined) needs to be deleted.
- Exercise Science, Accelerated Master's BS/MS - 1170 - Fall 26 Exercise Science, Accelerated Master's BS/MS - 1170 - Fall 26 | Curriculum

## VIII. Budget and Finance Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Ausherman, reported on the strategic financial challenges of dealing with declining enrollment demographics.

She reported that planning for the upcoming university fiscal year budget is ongoing, and that it will be presented to the Board of Trustees in June (rather than the originally scheduled date in May).

Dr. Ausherman reported on budget allocation for the implementation of the University's enterprise resource management system, Workday.

The Graduate Assistantship budget will be reduced by 8% (around \$500,000).  
**(Report No. 40, 2025-2026)**

## IX. SGA Update

Postponed until a later meeting at SGA's request.

## X. CSU Compass, Centralized Computer Refresh Updates, and Cybersecurity Update

CIO Helou offered an update on CSU Compass, including a detailed timeline for planning, inviting and incorporating recommendations, and implementation, followed by an update on refreshing computers and a cybersecurity update. **(Report No. 41, 2025-2026)**

Mr. Ryno (Sr. Director, IT Customer Service and Operations) updated members on the modernization of requested systems and fulfilled computer requests. He reported that the university's institutional standardization is nearing completion, including Windows 10 upgrade to 11, and other benchmarks. **(Report No. 42, 2025-2026)**

Mr. Tony Mansoor (Senior Director, CISO) provided a cybersecurity update, including future plans include a behavioral AI security system for an improved detection rate. The University regularly monitors security and that process includes an annual internal phishing campaign as a security test.

XII. Parking Rates

Parking rates will increase, as outlined in a memo outlining the details from Nick Vande Velde (Associate VP, Division of Hospitality & Facility Services). (**Report No. 43, 2025-2026**)

XIII. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Sridhar began by acknowledging those faculty who will be officially promoted and tenured at the Board of Trustees meeting the following day. He also acknowledged Vice-Provost Dr. John Holcomb's upcoming return to faculty.

He reported on the Syllabus Reporting Requirement, required by SB1. A new online platform, Simple Syllabus, will facilitate this. There will be a training session in mid-April.

Dr. Sridhar reported on the (SB1 and HB96-mandated) changes to the curricular process, now requiring the Board of Trustees to approve all curricular changes. This will be added as a final step to the process in the Modern Campus Curriculum system.

He reported on the Levin College's Columbus Seminar, an intensive 3-hour course that happens over spring break in Columbus, as students learn about state government and the surrounding environment.

He reported on the CSU Talent Hub and upcoming plans for faculty involvement.

XIV. Old Business

There was no old business.

XV. New Business

Dr. Olszewski reminded faculty of the regalia-rental deadline and urged participation in the spring commencement ceremonies.

Dr. Sridhar mentioned that this year's spring commencement will include an honorary degree being presented to Mr. Kurt Russell, a dedicated educator and community leader from Oberlin, Ohio.

Dr. Rauschert proposed more opportunities for the CSU Trustees to meet university faculty (such as an annual breakfast).

XVI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED ON MAY 6, 2026**

James J. Marino, Faculty Senate Secretary