CSU | Faculty Senate

MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES
May 6, 2026
3:00 PM – Wolstein Center, 4th Floor

PRESENT: Faculty Senate Officers C. Olszewski, A. Voight, and J. Marino; **Faculty Senators** E. Avram, M. Baumgartner, J. Bickel, J. Bolt, S. Brockhaus, M. Buckley, M. Collins, B. Conti, J. Gatica, P. Gerum, A. Goodsett, T. Greer-Medley, M. Heath, C. Heyward, E. Jennings, J. Kahler, W. Kang, S. Kent, C. Kothapalli, B. Nagy, A. O'Connor, L. Quinn, E. Rauschert, H. Richter, W. Sarver, A. Severson, Y. Shen, A. Smith, 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, R. Schoephoerster, S. Zachariah, and A. Syed; **Ex Officio Limited Members** J. Ausherman, T. Heus, C. Vander Weerdt

OTHERS
PRESENT: Zoom indicated a peak of 54 participants.

Prior to the meeting, a slideshow presentation was shown to honor those members of faculty who had passed away recently (**Report No. 44, 2025-2026**)

Called to order at 3:11pm

I. Approval of the Meeting Agenda—May 6, 2026
Approved

II. Approval of the Minutes of the March 18, 2026 Meeting
Approved

III. Report of the Senate President
Dr. Olszewski referenced the slideshow of CSU faculty who have passed away in the last year, noting that these colleagues made valuable contributions in their fields and to our Viking community.

Dr. Olszewski expressed thanks to Senate members for a productive year, she noted that the success of an organization is only as good as its people, and CSU's faculty are professional and passionate about student success and scholarship. She acknowledged the contributions of Senate VP Adam Voight, and Senate Secretary Jim Marino.

Longtime elected faculty senators and committee chairs/members were recognized with applause for their dedication and service.

She reported that the elections for incoming Senate officers, and other Academic Steering appointments, would be completed before June.

Dr. Olszewski noted that new changes in procedures for the EFAR and Simple Syllabus format, are ongoing and moving forward smoothly. She encouraged faculty to reach out with any questions. **(Report No. 45, 2025-2026)**

IV. Report of the University President Laura Bloomberg

President Bloomberg thanked the outgoing and incoming faculty on the Faculty Senate, and noted her appreciation for the faculty who chose to serve.

She thanked Senate President Olszewski for two productive and successful years of leadership and wide-ranging service.

President Bloomberg acknowledged that work is underway to better access data and budgetary information, and that best practices and advanced planning will give the university the ability to make more informed and thoughtful decisions. She thanked the Senate's Budget and Finance Committee for their participation in the Planning and Financial Advisory Committee (PFAC).

Dr. Bloomberg provided updates to campus facilities including a preliminary design for the Euclid to Chester concourse.

Looking forward to the spring commencement, she thanked the faculty who are able to participate and celebrate with our graduates. **(Report No. 46, 2025-2026)**

VII. University Curriculum Committee

Chair M. Heath, presented the Consent Agenda for Senate approval. Additional items that were approved by UCC were also included for informational purposes. **(Report No. 47, 2025-2026)**

Approved

- AI and Innovative Workspaces - 1170 - Fall 26
- Biomedical Engineering, BS BME - 1170 - Fall 26
- Classical Studies Minor - 1170 - Fall 26
- Public Policy, Planning, and Management, B.A. - 1170 - Fall 26
- Public Safety Management, B.A. - 1170 - Fall 26
- Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering, Integrated, B.S. - 1140 - Fall 25
- Business Analytics Minor - 1170 - Fall 26 - With the introduction of the B.B.A
- Civil Engineering, BSCE - 1170 - Fall 26 –
- Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering, Integrated, B.S. - 1140 - Fall 25
- Psychology, MA - 1140 - Fall 25
- Research & Professional Writing (Second Writing) Course Changes - Washkewicz College of Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering Minor - 1170 - Fall 26
- Biomedical Engineering, BS BME - 1170 - Fall 26 – Update from the originator

Additional Items approved by UCC- informational

- REL - 235 - Origins of the Christian Religion
- SWK - 150 - The Black Experience and Contemporary Society
- UST - 207 - Ohio Government
- Political Science Program Modification of American-Area Distribution Requirement Options - 1170 - Fall 26
- MKT - 465 - Advanced Selling and Sales Force Management
- LCCC 2+2 for BS EET at CSU
- PHL - 101 - Introduction to Philosophy

It was noted that as a result of the new regulations, all curricular proposals will go before the Board of Trustees for final approval.

The change in process means that additional time sensitive deadlines for the approval process should be noted when faculty develop curricular proposals.

VI. Admissions and Standards Committee

Chair A. Smith, presented the Consent Agenda. **(Report No. 48, 2025-2026)**
Approved

- Elimination of pre-MT designation for Music Therapy would-be majors (https://csuohio.curriculog.com/proposal:9780/form)
- Update of English proficiency requirement for international graduate students to reflect change in the scale on which TOEFL scores are reported. (https://csuohio.curriculog.com/proposal:10023/form)
- Adds Data Science as a permissible major for the Accelerated Master of Computer Science degree (https://csuohio.curriculog.com/proposal:8829/form)

IV. University Faculty Affairs Committee

Chair T. Heus, presented UFAC's recommendations that address the SB1 mandate that "*Each state institution of higher education shall establish a written system of peer evaluations for faculty members with emphasis placed on the faculty member's professional development regarding the faculty member's teaching responsibilities.*"

The proposal for Peer Observations, is also relevant for the annual performance review.

A brief discussion ensued and included that the peer observers should not judge the participant; it is the Chair's and participant's role to discuss the observations. **(Report No. 49, 2025-2026)**

A vote to approve the recommendations was taken and they were approved.
This recommendation is posted to the Senate website.

VIII. Budget and Finance Committee

Chair J. Ausherman updated members on the FY2027 budget calendar, noting that the final budget would be presented to the Board of Trustees in June. She acknowledged that university leadership was asked to consider long-term planning for possible targeted adjustments.

The committee engaged with productive discussions focused on five guiding questions centered around enrollment and marketing efforts, including new initiatives, data around marketing and enrollment growth and enrollment projections, and how financial planning will be adapted to enrollment projections. **(Report No. 50, 2025-2026)**

IX. Electronic Learning Committee

Chair C. Heyward presented the committee's recommendation that chairs and associate deans assign fully online, websync, or blended courses only to faculty who have completed the Faculty Online Teaching and Design Course (F.O.T.D.) or equivalent training. **(Report No. 51, 2025-2026)** This recommendation is posted to the Senate website.

X. Library Committee

Chair C. Vander Weerdt and CSU Libraries Director Scott Vine presented information on Leganto, a new course reserves platform that will work within Blackboard. **(Report No. 52, 2025-2026)**

XI. SGA Update

SGA President Syed reported on recent activities led by the student groups (event supporting student-athletes, *Paint the City Green and White*), the SGA debate and elections, and that approximately $17 thousand was distributed to support student organizations last year.

The SGA also helped 200 students with regalia rental costs for commencement and recognized Dr. Clayton Wukich (Urban) as the "Textbook Hero" honoree of the year. **(Report No. 53, 2025-2026)**

Ms. Syed thanked the faculty for their dedication to students, noting that throughout her CSU experience she has grown personally and professionally. She will attend dental school after graduation.

Senate President Olszewski thanked her and Senate applauded the report.

XII. Informational Presentations

External Relations SLG (Senior Leadership Group)

Chief Marketing and Communication Officer Gifford reported on work being done to support Cleveland State United by reimagining our community partnerships to increase opportunities for our students. He presented objectives and key next steps. **(Report No. 54, 2025-2027)**

CSU Compass, Centralized Computer Refresh Updates, and Cybersecurity Update

CIO Helou reported on progress and timelines with the technology transformations across HR, finance, and students. Senior Director of CISO, Tony Mansour, updated members on cyber security. **(Report No. 55, 2025-2026)**

Office of Compliance

Executive Director Roche reported working with UFAC on the faculty personnel policies to clean and revise outdated or other information that needed to be updated. He is also working across campus with other entities to do the same. Centralizing all the policies is also an ongoing process.

XIII. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Provost Sridhar had a limited report due to time constraints, which included information on new funding from the Cleveland Foundation for the CSU Talent Hub.

XIV. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2026
James J. Marino, Faculty Senate Secretary