

## FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 21 April 2026  
4:00 p.m. – Via Zoom

### ACTION MINUTES

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeremy Robinett, Chair; Lisa Wipperling, Vice Chair; Alice Melkumian, Secretary  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Mark Mossman, Provost; William Gblerkpor, Parliamentarian; Annette Hamm, Faculty Senate Office Manager

#### 1. *Rebuild/searches updates*

Provost Mossman anticipates that the results of the associate dean searches will be announced by Friday, April 24. He said the school director searches are progressing; all 13 ads have been posted, search committees have been staffed, and the openings close on April 24 with plans for on-campus interviews the first week of May.

Provost Mossman said the university is gearing up for Phase III of the Rebuild, which will include preliminary discussions of those areas reporting to the Provost's Office, thinking about scheduling, and discussions of the university's buildings. He thinks everyone in Faculty Senate, the faculty, the Provost's Office staff, and many others have done an incredible job across the board. He feels like Phase II is ready to be wrapped up and move forward.

Chair Robinett noted that the Academic Use of Space Committee meets this Friday, April 24. He said they have developed a tentative draft of where schools would ideally share spaces and are getting that logic ready to present to the Provost. He noted that this committee will extend beyond the current academic year. He said that all of the other Rebuild committees -- except for Constituency and Efficiency, which will continue to have work -- will have finished their assigned tasks by the end of this academic year.

Provost Mossman predicts that additional committees will be formed in the fall semester to branch out from the Efficiency Committee, which is where the schedule proposals will come from, and the Academic Use of Space Committee. Chair Robinett suggested that one thing which might make governance flow better going forward would be if the Academic Use of Space Committee were to combine in some way with the Senate's standing Council on Campus Planning and Usage, which has some of the same members. Provost Mossman concurs with this suggestion. Chair Robinett stated that in this way instead of having so many ad hoc committees doing this important work it can be streamlined into spaces and places where it makes sense.

Chair Robinett remarked that as the university reorganizes there has been really thoughtful conversation given to whether the many "centers" across the campus are better aligned with a particular academic college or whether some span the entire campus and would, therefore, make more sense reporting to the Provost's Office. He said there has been diligent work talking with deans and school directors to make sure that a variety of information goes into informing and collaborating with the various centers to determine which ones should report where. Provost Mossman remarked that one example is the Center for Rural Education, which probably needs to stay with the School of Education. He thinks this topic is worthy of discussion. He noted that the Office of Sponsored Projects, for example, is a university-wide grants generating office. He said the determination needs to take into account the audience for the office.

Senator Wipperling asked about the Center for the Performing Arts. Provost Mossman stated that right now this is a direct report to the Provost, but that is under consideration. He thinks it makes sense initially to have it under the College of Fine Arts, but when that becomes the bigger College of Humanities, Arts, Sciences, and Education it may make more sense to have it report to the Provost's Office in order to provide better coordination with the other vice presidential areas. He noted that the Vice President for Finance and Administration oversees the building service workers, and the Vice President for Student Success will need to work closely with the Director of the Center for the Performing Arts in regard to making sure the schedule coheres. He added that it is important for the entire university that the Center for the Performing Arts be

successful, particularly in its first season.

Senator Wipperlind was interested to hear that the Director of the Center for the Performing Arts is a direct report to the Provost because there are so many music, theatre, and other performing entities that will need to schedule around such things as roadhouse shows that may come in; because of all of the coordination of the Fine Arts in the space, she had thought it would make more sense to be in the Fine Arts area. Provost Mossman compared the situation to that of the Athletics Director who has to work with everyone wanting things to be held in Western Hall, such as the time the AD had to rearrange the entire schedule because a basketball team wanted to play there at the same time as graduation. He stressed that it is important to have coordination over these big university events that want to be held on the same day, and that it too much to ask the Director of the Center for the Performing Arts to do alone.

Provost Mossman remarked that the employee service recognition he attended earlier today went really great and was very well attended with employees receiving recognitions for ten, 20, 25, and 30 years as well as those receiving student and employee special awards. He said the event was coordinated by Alyssa Eddington in Human Resources. Chair Robinett will ask for a copy of the program and share it with senators in order to highlight the recipients.

## 2. *Petitions and elections updates*

Chair Robinett announced the election of Matt Blankenship to represent the School of Social Sciences next year; Andrea Baker to represent the School of Visual and Performing Arts; and Jennifer McKenzie and Hollie Mason to fill the two at-large seats for the College of Humanities, Arts, Sciences, and Education. He said a call has been sent out for petitions to fill the remaining seats with a deadline of Monday, April 27 so that if any elections were uncontested those elected could participate in Senate officer elections on April 28. He added that if any Senate seats remain vacant after Monday, April 27, there will be no more attempts to fill them until fall semester.

## 3. *May 5 meeting decision*

The Executive Committee determined that it will not be necessary to hold a special Faculty Senate meeting on May 5, a week after the last regularly scheduled meeting.

## 4. *Proposed meeting dates for next year*

The Executive Committee approved next year's Faculty Senate and ExCo meeting dates.

Chair Robinett said he has requested that Ms. Hamm ask next year's Senate Chair to consider inviting Marsha Dace from the Counseling Center and Jackie Price from the Student Development and Success Center to speak at the first fall meeting and to invite Amy Patrick Mossman to speak at the second meeting on the strategic plan process. He thinks this would be a great way for senators to start the year. Senator Wipperlind thinks it would be helpful to provide the next chair with a list of which individuals were invited to speak this year to use as a guide.

## 5. *Finalize agenda for Senate meeting of April 28*

Chair Robinett noted that while senators will approve the minutes of the closed session of March 31, this will be distributed via email with instructions to senators not to share them and that they should remain confidential within the body of the Senate.

Election of officers and Senate Nominating Committee representatives will occur just following the presentations from President Mindrup and Vice President Roselieb. Chair Robinett explained that the reason the Senate Nominating Committee membership is determined in April while membership on the two other Senate committees is determined in September is because the Nominating Committee members need to meet early in the fall to fill vacancies that occur after the last Senate meeting.

Chair Robinett observed that the Senate Nominating Committee will be bringing forward a number of

nominations that will be requested as part of the Bylaws exception approved last year. He said these include exceptions for a senator to serve on a Senate council, for a faculty member to serve on more than one Senate council, and for a faculty member to serve two consecutive terms on a Senate council. He said that rather than ask the SNC Chair to request individual approvals for each of these, he will ask senators to approve the exceptions via unanimous consent.

The Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Hamm, Faculty Senate Office Manager/Recording Secretary