

Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 3:45 PM via Zoom, Sandy Martin presiding.

Members Present: Christine Albright, Mark Anderson, Kelly Black, Sara Blankenship, Timothy Bolger, Joshua Bousquette, Joshua Bynum, Monsur Chowdhury, Carmen Comeaux, Megan DeMarche, Drew Etheridge, Rebecca Gose, Le Guan, Austin Heil, Peter Hoffer, Allison Howard, Richard Hubbard, Christin Huggins, Christian Klimczak, Dennis Kyle, Pablo Lapegna, Nicolás Lucero, Sandy Martin, Lindsey Reynolds, Daniel Rood, John Rose, Amy Ross, David Saltz, Bernd Schuttler, Alexandra Shapiro, Jennifer Stull, Anne Summers, Demi Thomloudis, Lisa Townsley, Bram Tucker, Michael White, Yang Yang

Proxies: Tania Rozario for Andrea Sweigart, Ari Lieberman for Frans Weiser

Members not present: Fei Dou, Brian Haas, Rodrigo Martini Paula, Sarah Wright

Guests/Visitors: Adam Goodie, Paula Lemons, Adam Barb, Casie LeGette, Susan Ambrosetti

Approval of the minutes of the January 28, 2025 meeting: The minutes were unanimously approved without corrections.

President Sandy Martin's Remarks:

No remarks.

Dean Stenport's Remarks:

Dean Stenport thanked the senate leadership and senators for their service.

The Dean's office recognizes that the federal funding landscape currently appears more unpredictable than in years past. In response, the Dean's Office has been working closely over the past several weeks with the OVPR, the Graduate School, the Provost Office, department heads, school directors, and graduate coordinators to assess sponsored project risks and initiate a tiered graduate student enrollment plan. The college continues to be committed to enrolling the strongest, most robust cohort possible of graduate students into Franklin programs. At the same time, it should be understood that scenarios and guidance can change at any moment.

The Vice President of Research has recently launched a new FAQ regarding sponsored projects. Faculty are encouraged to frequently look at the FAQ as the research funding landscape may change.

Unless there has been a stop work order, all work on funded projects should continue. Any questions around this should be directed to the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects Administration.

On February 14, revisions to the policy for general education core curriculum (policy 01.05.009) were presented and approved by the University Curriculum Committee. These proposed changes are expected to be approved by the University Executive Committee at its next meeting, with the expectation that a new core curriculum will be on the agenda at University Council on March 19.

The Dean's office is currently reviewing the proposed changes in detail. All faculty are encouraged to the same. The Dean's office will also bring this to the attention of heads and directors at an upcoming meeting.

The Comprehensive Learner Record is an initiative by the Vice President of Instruction, along with collaboration with many units and a strong student representation. The CLR will indicate student learning outcomes and institutional competencies, which have been approved by the University Council. Incoming students will learn about the CLR at orientation. Faculty should indicate which institutional competencies are fulfilled by their courses. The deadline for Fall 2025 is March 14.

Updates on the policy of improvement and documentation of teaching effectiveness (policy 01.06.005) were discussed and voted affirmatively in the University Educational Affairs Committee on Feb. 10. This policy revision is expected to be discussed in the Executive Committee at its next meeting. If moved forward, the changes would be considered by University Council on Mar. 19. All faculty are encouraged to be familiar with the proposed changes. Reach out to Franklin faculty and University Council representative Jennifer Rice with any questions or comments.

The Faculty Advisory Council will host their next research mixer on Feb. 20.

The deadline for new Multidisciplinary seed grants, collaboration grants, innovation in instruction, and multidisciplinary instruction grants is Mar. 1.

An important component of the Franklin College communication and marketing strategy is front facing faculty web profiles and web pages. Susan Ambrosetti, Executive Director of Marketing and Communications, shared some recommendations of what faculty should consider when it comes to their profiles and web pages.

Five things are key:

1. A professional headshot, available for free at the UGA Career Center.
2. A summary of your research and expertise.
3. Break your page areas into categories for easy reading.
4. Prioritize and consolidate honors and awards.
5. Update Elements profiles.

This information has been shared with Heads and Directors. There are also new sub brand pages that are available on the Franklin website.

Committee Reports:

Executive: Nothing to report.

Academic Standards: Considered two appeals, both were approved.

Curriculum: 23 new courses approved, 24 course changes approved, 1 multicultural proposal: Institute of Native American Studies, 4 termination of area of emphasis: English, 4 new areas of emphasis proposals: 3 English, 1 Biochemistry & Molecular Biology.

Faculty Affairs: Nothing to report.

Planning and Evaluation: Nothing to report.

New Business:

Proposal for Therapeutics Discovery MS Program: Adam Barb, Department Head, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology explained the reasoning behind it. The proposal passed – 37 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Proposal for an Area of Emphasis, Literature and Media: Casie LeGette, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, English explained the reasoning behind it. The proposal passed – 38 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Proposal for an Area of Emphasis, Literatures of Empire: Casie LeGette, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, English explained the reasoning behind it. The proposal passed – 40 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Proposal for an Area of Emphasis, Professional Writing: Casie LeGette, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, English explained the reasoning behind it. The proposal passed – 38 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Proposal for Termination of an Area of Emphasis, Eighteenth-Century Literature: Casie LeGette, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, English explained the reasoning behind it. The proposal passed – 38 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain.

Proposal for Termination of an Area of Emphasis, English Language Studies: Casie LeGette, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, English explained the reasoning behind it. The proposal passed – 37 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Proposal for Termination of an Area of Emphasis, Humanities Computing: Casie LeGette, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, English explained the reasoning behind it. The proposal passed – 39 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Proposal for Termination of an Area of Emphasis, Rhetoric and Composition: Casie LeGette, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, English explained the reasoning behind it. The proposal passed – 40 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike White
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for Genetics