



Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate

Minutes for meeting of Thursday, April 23, 2026, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Location: In person at the Charge on Chamber, Student Union, Room 340

1. Call to Order – 3:01 p.m.
2. Roll Call via Qualtrics
3. Approval of Minutes for March 26, 2026 – Minutes approved as written.
4. Recognition of Guests –
 - John Buckwalter, UCF Provost
 - Tim Letzring, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
 - Joel Cramer, Interim Vice Provost for Faculty Excellence
 - Marc Mendonca, Associate Vice President for Research and Scholarship
 - Jarib Benitez, Student Body Vice President
 - Dwayne Jones, Student Representative
5. Announcements –

Chair King provided the following announcements:

 - a) As the semester neared its end, Chair King encouraged faculty to submit grades on time, noting that doing so supports graduation reporting.
 - b) Chair King provided an update on digital accessibility.
 - c) Chair King updated the Senate on the three candidates for Vice Provost for Faculty Excellence and thanked Joel Cramer for his work as Interim Vice Provost for Faculty Excellence.
 - d) Chair King reviewed the Senate's accomplishments during his four years as chair and thanked the senators for their work on those accomplishments.
6. Report of the Provost –

Provost Buckwalter provided the following report:

 - a) Provost Buckwalter thanked Chair King for his service and for the assistance he provided during the provost's transition to UCF.
 - b) Provost Buckwalter reported that the BOT unanimously approved more than 200 faculty promotions.
 - i) He explained that the administration recommends faculty promotions, while final approval rests with the BOT.
 - ii) He noted the high quality of UCF faculty.

- c) Provost Buckwalter reported that graduation was a few weeks away and that UCF would award more than 10,000 degrees that semester:
 - i) More than 8,300 undergraduate degrees
 - ii) More than 1,550 master's degrees
 - iii) More than 170 Ph.D. and doctoral degrees
- d) Provost Buckwalter reported that the BOT approved a collective bargaining agreement that included a salary increase and expressed hope that the university could do more in the future.
- e) He reported that town hall meetings and follow-up activities would continue.
- f) Provost Buckwalter announced that the College of Business had been renamed the Barry S. Miller College of Business and that the renaming was accompanied by a large donation to the college.
 - i) He noted that the donation reflected people's belief in the university.
- g) Provost Buckwalter also provided updates on the following searches:
 - i) Associate Vice Provost of Faculty Excellence
 - ii) Dean of the College of Medicine
- 7. Nominating Committee Chair Self presented the candidates for the 2026-2027 officer elections and the vote breakdown for each candidate. *Candidate information was available in the meeting materials:*
 - a) Chair
 - i) Jeff Kauffman – 72% (56)
 - ii) Devon Jensen – 27% (21)
 - iii) Other – 1% (1)
 - b) Vice Chair
 - i) Nicole Lapeyrouse – 45% (31)
 - ii) Peter Sinelli – 32% (22)
 - iii) Reid Oetjen – 22% (15)
 - iv) Other – 1% (1)
 - c) Vice Chair Run Off
 - i) Nicole Lapeyrouse – 61% (45)
 - ii) Peter Sinelli – 39% (29)
 - d) Secretary
 - i) Danny Seigler – 100% (74)
- 8. Each college met to select its Steering Committee and Committee on Committees members for the 2026-2027 Senate year.
- 9. New Business

- a) Committee on Committees members worked with unit senators to identify committee assignments.

10. Other Business – None

11. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Daniel Seigler

Daniel Seigler
Secretary, Faculty Senate

04-15-2026

Date