

MINUTES

AP Faculty Senate
Wednesday, March 18, 2026
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Zoom

Present – Marlena Lester (presiding), Shelton Norwood, Susan Gill, Nick Woods, Nicole Akers, Rob Emmett, Ruth Wallace, Sarah Armstrong, Shelley Seckers, Elissa Waybright, Erica Cooper, Ginny Wagg, Janice Austin, JC Whidden, Jennifer Jones, Jes Davis, Judy Alford, Julie McClafferty, Kelsey Huffman, Kristi Moose-McConkey, Juliet Dadras, Aaron Bond, Alix Guynn, Amanda Covey, Nikki Connors

Absent with Notice: Terri Pecora, Eric Bowen

Absent:

Guests: Sharon Kurek, Dee-Dee Somervell, Holli Drewry, Alan Fellers, Cristen Jandreau, April Myers, Trevor Hughes, Zachary Adams, Larry Cox II, Lauren Thomas, Melanie Fox, Meridith Long, Michelle Dalton, Michelle Hall, Molly Wilson, Nasim Schwab, Roberto Silva, Dave Andrews, Ashely Offutt, Bryan Felts, Casey Polk, Charlotte Waggoner, Amy Hogan, Jule Bostick, Kayla Ryan, Alyson Bryson, Chris Allen

Marlena Lester called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Jess Davis and seconded by Jennifer Jones to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

2. Approval or announcement of approval and posting of minutes of February 18, 2026 meeting.

A motion was made by Jennifer Jones and seconded by Rob Emmett to approve the February 18, 2026, minutes. The vote passed.

3. Unfinished Business

CAPFA 2025-26A – Revision to AP Faculty Senate Constitution to Update the AP Faculty Representation to Constituent Areas

Jennifer Jones presented the CAPFA 2025 -26A for second reading and made a motion to approve. Rob Emmett and Kristi Moose-McConkey provided commentary on why we are doing this and the hope that this will make future senators feel more connected to the people that they represent. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken on the motion, and the motion passed.

4. New Business

Treasurer's Report

Nikki Connors: No Report.

CAPFA

Jennifer Jones: Presented the CAPFA 2025-26 Resolution for a second reading. No feedback was received since our last meeting on the resolution.

Communications

Susan Gill: Communications met and discussed the newsletter. The committee did have questions about Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day which is scheduled for May 20. Dave Andrews from Hokie Wellness said they would be happy to have us at the event. Dave will send information about tabling to Susan. Ginny Wagg also said they host a DC regional event, and she is happy to connect with their HR people to see if this might be possible for their event as well.

Elections and Nominations

Jes Davis: The committee has received nominations for the upcoming elections and is building the ballot. The committee anticipates that elections will open on March 23 and end on April 3. They are expecting to announce incoming senators the week after voting ends.

Policy and Issues

Rob Emmett and Kristi Moose-McConkey: They are currently working on updates to the bylaws language, which can be found on the A/P Faculty Senate SharePoint site. They will present the proposed bylaw changes more in depth at future meetings. A procedural question was raised: Are they expected to present the full text today, or at a later meeting? Today just a brief overview but at a future meeting we will need to vote on the bylaw language revisions. Rob presented some of the proposed updates. Marlena Lester noted that we will have two full discussions and votes on the new bylaw language in the future.

Professional Development

Marlena Lester and JC Whidden: The committee is still working on the spring walking tour event. The walking tour with the Vet School will be held on April 21. There will be tours of the space and some networking time. The committee continues to think about other professional development opportunities.

5. Reports

- Nominations – Janice Austin: There were 44 nominations for A/P Faculty awards. Unfortunately, they could only pick 4 names. Janice just wanted to thank those who participated in the nomination process.
- Transportation and Parking Committee – Susan Gill: This committee is talking about introducing a sliding scale for parking fees for some employees based on salary and wages. They are also trying to add more electric car charging stations. They are also trying to bring back the van shuttle service.
- Academic Affairs, Holli Drewry: Continues to work on extending fall break by one day. This would be adding a Thursday so as not to take two instructional days from MWF courses.
- Staff Affairs, Judy Alford: Nothing to report.
- IT Governance Advisory Committee, Julie McClafferty: they are looking for people to serve on the committee and working to bring new members up to speed on the work of the committee.
- CUSA, Sarah Armstrong: They have a new chair and will resume meeting next week.

6. Presentation

Alan Fellers, Director of Conflicts of Interest and Commitment Disclosures, and Director Research COI Program, presented on Conflict of Interest and Commitment Program.

7. Other Items

- Marlena Lester asked for additional recommendations for speakers. Next month HR will come to talk about Managers Compass and talent development. This will be a follow up from a presentation that we had last fall.

8. Announcements

- Holi Drewry – Giving Day was a success! Thank you for your support.
- Marlena Lester – Brent Kremer has changed roles and Nicole Akers will be filling his senate seat.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:45.