

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)

MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026, 2:30-3:15 P.M.

MEETING LOCATION: PARKS HALL 301

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS		“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets
P	Alex Blazer (CoAS, ECUS Secretary)	
R	Cathy Cox (University President)	
P	Nicolas Creel (CoBT, ECUS Chair Emerita)	
P	Holly Croft (Library, ECUS Member)	
P	Stephanie Jett (CoAS, ECUS Chair)	
P	Joyce Norris-Taylor (CoHS, ECUS Vice-Chair)	
P	Holley Roberts (Provost)	
P	Rob Sumowski (CoE, ECUS Member)	

Legend

Highlighted text denotes follow-up.

Bold denotes action or recommendation.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Stephanie Jett (Chair).

II. Approval of Agenda: A **Motion** to approve the agenda was made and seconded. **The agenda was approved.**

III. Approval of Minutes: A draft of the 6 Mar 2026 minutes of the Executive Committee had been circulated to the meeting attendees via email. A **Motion** to approve the minutes was made and seconded. **The minutes were approved.**

IV. Reports

Presiding Officer Report — Stephanie Jett

1. **Course Withdrawal** APC will revisit the Course Withdrawal discussion.
2. **Civility and Collaborative Effectiveness Policy** The PO asked the BIPC Chair to review policies such as the Professionalism in Academic Setting Policy and the Workplace Violence Policy.
3. **Standing Committee Information Requests** A question was raised about standing committee information requests. Are information requests for the administration coming from committees or individuals on committees? Additionally, some of the information being requested is too identifiable and the administration has equity concerns.
4. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates**
 - a. State Account: \$3,977.00
 - b. Foundation Account: \$721.67
 - c. Donation Account: \$64.17
5. **ECUS Discussion**
 - a. **Civility and Collaborative Effectiveness Policy**

- i. Comment: We need a policy that address situations in which people come to work and affect people's ability to work.
- ii. Comment: That sounds like a toxic work environment policy rather than a faculty evaluation policy
- iii. Comment: The faculty evaluation in my department explicitly mentions teaching, service, research, and collegiality.
- iv. Comment: Faculty evaluation policies must go through FAPC and Academic Affairs; BIPC can be consulted.

Presiding Officer Elect Report — Joyce Norris-Taylor

1. **2026-2027 Slate of Nominees** The slate, including potential nominations for POE, is being prepared for approval by ECUS-SCC.

V. Unfinished Business

1. There was no unfinished business.

VI. New Business

1. **University Senate Handbook** An agenda item and motion decision tree has been added to the handbook. Since the handbook contains information about University Senate processes rather makes than a policy recommendation, it was suggested that a change to the revision procedure be made, specifically, that Handbook revisions only require ECUS approval rather than Senate approval, just like the Governance Calendar. **Follow Up: Stephanie Jett will ask President Cox if the revision process can be updated.**
 - a. **ECUS Action A Motion** to approve the revised University Senate Handbook was made and seconded. **The motion was approved.**

VII. Open Discussion

1. There was no open discussion.

VIII. Next Meeting

1. **Calendar**
 - a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, April 24, 2:00 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - b. University Senate Meeting (Organizational) – Friday, April 24, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - c. Governance Retreat – Monday, August 10, 9:00-2:00 p.m., Location TBD
 - d. ECUS Meeting – Friday, September 4, 2:00 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - e. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, September 4, 3:30 p.m., Parks Hall 301
2. **Tentative Agenda:** Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. **Stephanie Jett will ensure that such items (if any) are added to the agenda of a future meeting of ECUS or ECUS-SCC.**

IX. Adjournment

1. As there was no further business to consider, a **Motion** *to adjourn the meeting* was made and seconded. **The motion to adjourn was approved and the meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.**

X. Supporting Documents

1. There is one supporting document.
 - a. US Handbook (2026-04-03) DRAFT.docx

Distribution: First, these minutes will be sent to committee members for review; second, they will be posted to the Senate website.

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)

COMMITTEE OFFICERS: STEPHANIE JETT (CHAIR), JOYCE NORRIS-TAYLOR (VICE-CHAIR), ALEX BLAZER (SECRETARY)

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2025-2026

AGGREGATE MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR:

“P” denotes Present, “R” denotes Regrets, “A” denotes Absent

Acronyms		EFS = Elected Faculty Senator CoAS = College of Arts and Sciences; CoB = College of Business; CoE = College of Education; CoHS = College of Health Sciences									
Meeting Dates		9/5	10/3	10/31	1/9	2/13	3/6	4/3	P	R	A
Alex Blazer <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Secretary</i>		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	6	0	0
Cathy Cox <i>University President</i>		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	0	7	0
Nicholas Creel <i>EFS, CoBT ECUS Chair Emerita</i>		R	R	P	P	R	P	P	4	3	0
Holly Croft <i>EFS, Library ECUS Member</i>		R	P	P	P	R	P	P	6	1	0
Stephanie Jett <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Chair</i>		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	7	0	0
Joyce Norris-Taylor <i>EFS, CoHS ECUS Vice-Chair</i>		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	7	0	0
Holley Roberts <i>Provost</i>		P	P	R	P	P	P	P	6	1	0
Rob Sumowski <i>EFS, CoE ECUS Member</i>		P	R	R	P	P	P	P	5	2	0