

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS) WITH STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS (SCC)

MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025, 3:30-4:45 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 Member) | |
| P | Stephanie Jett (CoAS, ECUS Vice-Chair) | |
| P | Joyce Norris-Taylor (CoHS, ECUS Member) | |
| P | Holley Roberts (Provost) | |
| P | Lamonica Sanford (Library, ECUS Member) | |
| P | Rob Sumowski (CoE, ECUS Chair Emerita) | |
| P | Andrew Allen (APC Chair) | |
| R | Corey Claxton (DEIPC Chair) | |
| P | Jennifer Flory (FAPC Chair) | |
| P | Brad Fowler (RPIPC Chair) | |
| P | Amy Pinney (SAPC Chair) | |

Legend

Highlighted text denotes follow-up.

Bold text denotes action or recommendation.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Nicholas Creel (Chair).

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

III. Approval of Minutes: A draft of the 10 Jan 2025 minutes of the Executive Committee with Standing Committee Chairs 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

University President — President Cathy Cox

1. **Regrets, No Report** As President Cox had extended *Regrets* and was unable to attend this meeting, there was no President’s Report.

University Provost — Provost Holley Roberts

1. **USG Academic Affairs Update** Dr. Spirou visited campus on Friday, Feb. 7th to provide an update from the Academic Affairs division of the USG.

2. **Federal Grants** The Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects, Provost's Office, and Finance and Administration are closely watching for potential work stoppages related to Federal Grants. At this time, GCSU has not received any work stoppages.
3. **USG AI Policy Survey** The Provost's Office recently completed a USG survey providing the progress of university policies related to Artificial Intelligence.
4. **USG RACAA Meeting** GCSU will be hosting the USG RACAA meeting on February 26-27, 2025.
5. **USG Budget Hearing** The Provost's Office is currently preparing for the USG Budget Hearing scheduled for 10:00am on Friday, February 14th.
6. **USG Academic Affairs Staff** Dr. Roberts will meet with the USG Academic Affairs office staff on February 17, 2025 to discuss university academic strategies, potential academic programming, and low award and at-risk programs based on the USG enrollment thresholds.
7. **Dean Searches** The College of Arts and Sciences Dean Search has begun with a listening session that was held on January 31st followed by an anonymous survey seeking input on the next COAS Dean. Dr. Kevin Bucholtz, Associate Provost for Student Engagement and Academic Excellence will chair the search committee. The Search Firm Buffkin/Baker will lead the search process. The College of Business and Technology Dean Search is also beginning. The Listening Session will be held on February 12th followed by an anonymous survey. Dr. Mandy Jarriel, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Director of The Graduate School will chair the search committee. The Search Firm Buffkin/Baker will lead the search process.

Academic Policy Committee (APC) — Chair Andrew Allen

1. **Academic Dishonesty Policy Revision** The Academic Policy Committee approved a motion to revise the current Academic Dishonesty Policy to include sanction on unapproved uses of AI technologies.
2. **Bobcat Honor Code Revision** The Academic Policy Committee also approved a motion to revise the Bobcat Honor Code to align with recent changes in the Academic Dishonesty Policy.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy Committee (DEIPC) — Chair Corey Claxton

1. **Meeting** DEIPC had a meeting scheduled for 7 Feb 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
 - a. **No Report** DEIPC had no business to conduct, so its meeting was cancelled.

Executive Committee of University Senate (ECUS) — Chair Nicholas Creel

1. **Ad Hoc AI Policy Committee** An AI study Committee charter has been written, giving it a two year charge to examine and recommend policy in this area. The committee will be composed of University Senate members with guaranteed representation of each college, university staff, the student body, and the administration. ECUS approved this ad hoc committee.
2. **Bylaws Revision** Also, given recent developments, we need to look into renaming the DEIPC Committee and rewording its charter. This should be done by the end of the

Senate term at latest. Follow Up: Alex Blazer will revise the standing committee bylaws and ECUS will vote on a bylaws motion by February 18 so the motion can be read at February's meeting of University Senate and voted on at March's meeting.

3. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates**

- a. State Budget Account Balance: \$3,835.20
- b. Foundation Account Balance: \$93.75

Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN) — Chair Stephanie Jett

1. **Election Oversight** Election results will be posted to FrontPage.

- a. CoAS
 - i. Biological and Environmental Sciences: Christine Mutiti
 - ii. Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy: Peter Rosado and Sayo Fakayode
 - iii. English: Alex Blazer and Sidonia Serafini
 - iv. Mathematics: George Cazacu
 - v. Philosophy, Religion, and Liberal Studies: Sabrina Hom
 - vi. Psychological Science: Stephanie Jett
 - vii. Theatre and Dance: Amy Pinney
- b. CoBT
 - i. MIS: Brad Fowler
- c. CoHS
 - i. Nursing: Shantee Henry

2. **At-Large Senator Election** The at-large faculty senator nomination will be sent to Corps of Instruction faculty on Feb 10th. Nominations will close on Feb 14th at 5 p.m.

3. **New Business for February**

- a. Should Deans, Associate Deans, and Chairs be allowed to serve as EFS?
 - i. If they are listed on the Corps of Instruction list, then they can serve as EFS.
 - ii. Given the extensive additional responsibilities of the aforementioned individuals as well as the power differential that exists between faculty and these CoI administrators, should ECUS amend the by-laws to exclude them from being elected as EFS?
 - iii. What about serving as appointees?

Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC) — Chair Jennifer Flory

1. **Teaching Effectiveness Ad Hoc Committee** Charge to committee: Create a list of alternative methods for evaluating teaching effectiveness (for faculty and evaluators) and place on CTL Faculty course in GaView. We hope to have this completed by the end of the semester.

2. **Faculty Compensation Study** Still in process. The areas below will be indexed.

- a. Part-Time Faculty
- b. Program Coordinators, Directors of Centers, etc. (anyone on an MOU) (including historical data for positions that have lost funding)
- c. Overload Policies (by college and department)
- d. Summer Semester Teaching Policy (by college and department)

3. **Professional Leave Policy** Still discussing. We hope to wrap up discussions by our following meeting.
4. **Workplace Accommodations** We plan to discuss workplace accommodations for psychological and/or developmental disabilities that fall under the ADA definition of disabilities with Dr. Jett in April.
5. **Teaching Load** There is a concern regarding the change in practices in terms of PALS load for lecturers.
6. **ECUS SCC Discussion**
 - a. **Parking & Transportation**
 - i. Question: Is there a new parking plan, and has it been discussed and circulated?
 - ii. Answer (RPIPC Chair): Yes, RPIPC reviewed the plan, which has since been sent to Executive Cabinet for approval, in its January meeting. The plan would raise parking prices (employees will be \$200/year, everyone else will be \$50/year), revitalize the Irwin St Lot, discontinue Green St pickup at the dorms because the dorms are so close, and guarantee an 8 minute wait for the Irwin St Lot shutter, increase repeat parking offender fines.
 - b. **Searches**
 - i. Question: Why are our searches failing?
 - ii. Comment: Human Resources required my committee to post a 9-page job advertisement. Could the Provost's Office speak with Human Resources about creating more concise ads that highlight potential course releases for administrative labor?
 - iii. Comment: Our institution has issues with compensation, online teaching, and housing.
 - iv. Comment: Despite our issues, we are a gem in the current higher education environment.
 - c. **Workplace Accommodations**
 - i. Comment (Provost): Let us know what accommodations are needed for graduation and convocation are needed and we will determine how to meet the accommodation.
 - ii. Comment: We could ask for accommodations when email invitation is sent to the faculty.

Resources, Planning and Institutional Policy Committee (RPIPC) — Chair Brad Fowler

1. **Meeting** RPIPC had a meeting scheduled for 7 Feb 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
 - a. **No Report** RPIPC had no business to conduct, so its meeting was cancelled.
2. **March Business** RPIPC will be looking at ADA compliance of the Max Noah recital hall and our Zoom campus license during our March meeting.
3. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **TranGuide**
 - i. Question: Has the new Banner/PAWS discontinued the Student TranGuide?
 - ii. Answer: No, it is still there, just difficult to find.

Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) — Chair Amy Pinney

1. **SAPC/SGA Collaboration** We had a brief but productive meeting focused on laying the groundwork for increased SGA/SAPC collaboration next year.
2. **Next Meeting** Dr Larry Christenson, Lori Burns, Dr. Nadler will be guests in March.
3. **SGA Update**
4. **Bobcat Code** The following sections of the Code could use some attention, including
 - a. Separate section for housing policy
 - b. Unclear jurisdiction in the parking lot
 - c. Lack of self-defense policy
 - d. “reasonable cause”
 - e. “In the presence of”
 - f. SGA Attorney General Ezra Ryall leads a working group in SGA re: the Bobcat Code of Conduct. SAPC will act in an advisory and support capacity as sections of the code that need some attention are identified. After care and consultation, we anticipate making recommendations for which sections of the bobcat Code of Conduct should be addressed.
5. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **Bobcat Code**
 - i. Comment: It appears that the code regarding “reasonable cause” is mixing “reasonable suspicion” with “probable cause”
 - ii. Comment: Yes, and Ezra Ryall argues that the code should use one clear term.

VI. Unfinished Business

1. There was no unfinished business.

VII. New Business

1. There was no new business.
2. **Steering of Items to Committees**
 - a. There were no items to be steered to committee.
3. **University Senate Agenda and Minutes Review**
 - a. **Tentative Agenda 28 Feb 2025**
 - i. Motions
 1. APC: Bobcat Honor Code Revision
 2. APC: Academic Integrity Revision
 3. ECUS: DEIPC Bylaws Revision
 - ii. Reports: Administrative reports and committee reports will also be agenda items.
 - i. Supplemental Items of Business: None.
 - b. **University Senate Minutes Review** *As the 28 Jan 2025 meeting of the 2024-2025 University Senate was cancelled, there were no minutes for review.*

VIII. Open Discussion

1. There was no open discussion.

IX. Next Meeting

1. **Calendar**
 - a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, February 28, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, March 7, 2:45 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, March 7, 3:30 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - d. University Senate Meeting – Friday, March 28, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
2. **Tentative Agenda** Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. **Nicholas Creel will ensure that such items (if any) are added to the agenda of a future meeting of ECUS or ECUS-SCC.**

X. 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 4:49 p.m.**

XI. Supporting Documents

1. There is one supporting document.
 - a. *Supporting-AdHocAIPolicyCommittee_2025-01-28_DRAFT AI committee charter mentioned in the ECUS Report.*

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) WITH STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS (SCC)

COMMITTEE OFFICERS: NICHOLAS CREEL (CHAIR), STEPHANIE JETT (VICE-CHAIR), ALEX BLAZER (SECRETARY)

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2024-2025

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 | 9/6 | 10/4 | 11/1 | 1/10 | 2/7 | 3/7 | 4/4 | P | R | A | |
| Alex Blazer <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Secretary</i> | P | P | P | P | P | | | 5 | 0 | 0 | |
| Cathy Cox <i>University President</i> | R | R | R | R | R | | | 0 | 5 | 0 | |
| Nicholas Creel <i>EFS, CoBT ECUS Chair</i> | P | P | P | P | P | | | 5 | 0 | 0 | |
| Stephanie Jett <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Vice-Chair</i> | P | P | P | P | P | | | 5 | 0 | 0 | |
| Joyce Norris-Taylor <i>EFS, CoHS ECUS Member</i> | P | P | P | P | P | | | 5 | 0 | 0 | |
| Holley Roberts <i>Provost</i> | P | P | R | P | P | | | 4 | 1 | 0 | |
| Lamonica Sanford <i>EFS, Library ECUS Member</i> | P | P | P | P | P | | | 5 | 0 | 0 | |
| Rob Sumowski <i>EFS, CoE ECUS Chair Emerita</i> | P | R | R | P | P | | | 3 | 2 | 0 | |
| Andrew Allen <i>APC Chair</i> | P | P | P | R | P | | | 4 | 1 | 0 | |
| Corey Claxton <i>DEIPC Chair</i> | R | P | P | P | R | | | 3 | 2 | 0 | |
| Jennifer Flory <i>FAPC Chair</i> | P | P | R | P | P | | | 4 | 1 | 0 | |
| Brad Fowler <i>RPIPC Chair</i> | P | R | P | P | P | | | 4 | 1 | 0 | |
| Amy Pinney <i>SAPC Chair</i> | P | R | P | P | P | | | 4 | 1 | 0 | |