

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

MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 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)	
R	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)	
R	Rob Sumowski (CoE, ECUS Chair Emerita)	
P	Andrew Allen (APC Chair)	
P	Hedy Fraunhofer (BIPC Chair)	
P	Jennifer Flory (FAPC Chair)	
P	Talecia Warren (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 3:29 pm by Stephanie Jett (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 5 Sep 2025 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

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. **Library Flooring Update** Construction in library to replace the flooring- Construction continues in the library to replace the flooring on all levels of the library. Work is being

done in the evenings and over fall break to alleviate the interruptions to library/class operations.

2. **Music Rehearsal Hall Opening** will be held at 2:00pm on Friday, October 10, 2025.
3. **H1B Update** Please continue with all current processes related to status and hiring.
4. **AI Policy** As directed, the Provost submitted the new AI policy to the office of Academic Affairs at the University System Office on the due date of October 1, 2025.
5. **Simulation Education** In a recent request from Dr. Shawn Little, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Health Education for the University System of Georgia, the School of Nursing submitted a 6 million request to enhance simulation education over the next five years.
6. **Budget Hearing Update** The University wide Budget Hearing took place on October 1, 2025.

Academic Policy Committee (APC) — Chair Andrew Allen

1. **GC2Y Courses** The Academic Policy Committee conducted an initial discussion on concerns regarding GC2Y courses. Dr. Mandy Jarriel was invited to the October 31st meeting of the committee to discuss these concerns, as well as ancillary issues regarding course proposals.
2. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **GC2Y Courses**
 - i. Comment: The College C&I doesn't have the power to approve GC2Y courses. The routing is the department curriculum committee, the department chair, the dean, and the General Education Committee.
 - ii. Comment: A concern has been raised that instructors are no longer allowed to teach double sections.
 - iii. Comment (Provost): Double sections limit class scheduling options for students.
 - iv. Comment: The same topics in 4950 Special Topics courses are not supposed to be taught regularly. Instead, the topic should be run a few times and then a new course proposal with a proper course number should be approved through the curriculum process.

Belonging and Inclusion Policy Committee (BIPC) — Chair Hedy Fraunhofer

1. **Policy Inventory** Human Resources reports that all diversity policies have been discontinued. The Student Disability Resource Center proposes faculty and staff training be added to annual mandatory training. The committee will review the Religious Observance Policy.
2. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **Policy Inventory**
 - i. Comment: I recommend talking with deans and colleges about reviewing their bylaws to keep policies while avoiding diversity language.
 - ii. Comment: We should provide useful faculty and staff training without creating an extra burden.

Executive Committee of University Senate (ECUS) — Chair Stephanie Jett

1. **Senior Advisory Council Invitation to Serve** A newly established Senior Advisory Council, a distinguished group of campus leaders who will provide strategic guidance and counsel to advance our university's mission and vision. This new initiative will replace the previous President's Council and will serve with a revitalized purpose in providing advisory support to institutional leadership. Your position on the Council is on an annual rotation and filled by the Chair of your respective entities. The Senior Advisory Council represents a strategic initiative to engage accomplished professionals, thought leaders, and advocates who share our commitment to educational excellence and institutional growth. This select group will serve as trusted advisors, offering insights on key institutional priorities including strategic planning, academic innovation, community partnerships, and emerging opportunities in higher education. Members of the Senior Advisory Council will:
 - a. Participate in quarterly strategic planning sessions with university leadership
 - b. Provide counsel on institutional priorities and emerging challenges
 - c. Serve as ambassadors for the university within their professional networks
 - d. Offer expertise on specific initiatives aligned with their areas of expertise
 - e. Contribute to the university's long-term vision and growth strategy
2. **Public CV Policy**
 - a. In order to implement BOR 2.8.2 Posting of Public Curriculum Vitae, The university is working with Simple Syllabus to develop an easy template to use to do this. Please distribute the attached to faculty and have them prep and keep a Word doc that covers the first 4 bullet points in anticipation. If we use Simple Syllabus, they will create a CV template, where faculty can then cut-and-paste directly from their Word doc. They can use their best judgment on the term recent (maybe last 5 years?).
 - b. **Timeline** = Week before Spring semester starts, so January 5th
 - c. Discussion of using Digital Measures vs. Simple Syllabus vs. putting everything on faculty directory pages inside departmental websites at ALT. Phase 2 is being more consistent with faculty directory page content (just directory info and education).
3. **<120 hour BA/BS** Sonny Perdue got really excited that we keep track of 3-year graduation rates (~6%).
 - a. **Arguments For Reduced-Credit Bachelor's Degrees (<120 hours)**
 - i. **Affordability & Accessibility**
 1. Fewer credit hours mean lower tuition costs and reduced student debt.
 2. Shorter time-to-degree can make college more accessible for first-generation and lower-income students.
 - ii. **Faster Entry into Workforce or Graduate School** Students can graduate earlier and begin earning or pursuing advanced degrees sooner.
 - iii. **Curricular Efficiency** Streamlined programs can focus on essential skills and workforce needs, especially in specialized fields like cybersecurity, AI, and drone technology.

- iv. **Retention & Completion** Condensed programs may improve retention by reducing the time commitment and increasing relevance.
 - v. **Flexibility & Innovation** Encourages institutions to rethink curriculum design and delivery, potentially integrating hybrid or online formats.
- b. **Arguments Against Reduced-Credit Bachelor's Degrees**
 - i. **Perceived Devaluation of Degree** Critics worry that shorter programs may “cheapen” the traditional four-year degree and harm institutional reputation.
 - ii. **Depth and Breadth Concerns** Fewer credits may mean less exposure to general education and advanced coursework, potentially weakening critical thinking and interdisciplinary learning.
 - iii. **Employer and Graduate School Recognition** Uncertainty about how employers and graduate programs will view reduced-credit degrees, especially in traditional fields.
 - iv. **Accreditation and Transfer Issues** Ensuring rigor and quality in reduced-credit programs is a challenge for accreditors; transferability of credits may be limited.
- c. **Equity and Access Trade-offs** While shorter degrees may help some students, they could also limit opportunities for exploration, extracurriculars, and personal development.
- 4. **Public Safety Updates** Chief Hardin gave an extensive update on Public Safety to the Academic Leadership Team.
 - a. He stressed that while their primary role is educational and public safety, they are fully trained to become rapid response teams that are “fully SWATed up” if the need arises.
 - b. They replaced and increased the number of cameras we have on campus.
 - c. They fixed/added more alarms and panic buttons.
 - d. We are replacing the phones in classrooms.
 - e. Locks have been replaced around campus
 - f. Public Safety is fully staffed with 21 officers
 - g. AEDs and Stop-the-Bleed kits in every building
 - h. More patrol vehicles and “The Beast” atv thing
 - i. Body cameras
 - j. Active assailant options
 - i. Looking into locking classroom doors from the inside or another device that will do that automatically that might be cheaper than replacing the locks
 - ii. Looking into “shot spotter” tech that can triangulate gunfire, type of weapon, how many shooters, etc.
 - iii. System that ties into cameras that can automatically detect a weapon and large crowds in areas there normally aren’t large crowds
 - k. He stressed they want to take appropriate action to keep campus safe without over-reacting and paying for more than we actually need
 - l. Reminded everyone that we should all download the RAVE Guardian app
 - m. Can add crisis response training to courses, department meetings, etc.
 - n. Major revisions to access to Parks Hall are coming soon

- i. Likely key card swipe entry and someone to buzz you in to higher floors
- o. Campus Carry conversation: **Key exceptions and prohibited areas** Section 16-11-127.1 (as modified by HB 280 and preserved under SB 319) lists specific places on campus where even lawful weapons carriers may **not** carry a concealed handgun. Some of these include:
 - i. **Classrooms or spaces with dual-enrolled high school students**
Any room or space being used for classes in which high school students are enrolled (e.g., a college course with dual-enrolled high school students) is off-limits. [FindLaw Codes+3UGA Police+3Kennesaw State University+3](#)
 - ii. **Faculty, staff, or administrative offices**
Offices (or suites) occupied by faculty, staff, or administrators are excluded. [University of Georgia Registrar+4Kennesaw State University+4UGA Police+4](#)
 - iii. **Rooms where disciplinary hearings are conducted**
Spaces used for student/faculty disciplinary proceedings (or grievance hearings, etc.) are excluded. [UGA Police+3University System of Georgia+3Kennesaw State University+3](#)
 - iv. **Buildings or property used for intercollegiate sporting events / athletic venues**
Any real property or buildings used for athletic events, e.g., stadiums, arenas, etc., are always excluded (not just during events). [University System of Georgia+3University of West Georgia+3Kennesaw State University+3](#)
 - v. **Student housing complexes (dormitories, Greek housing, etc.)**
Student housing facilities (including fraternity/sorority houses) are off-limits. [East Georgia State College+3University System of Georgia+3Kennesaw State University+3](#)
 - vi. **Preschool or childcare spaces**
Rooms or spaces designated for preschool or childcare on campus are excluded (particularly if they are behind controlled access). [UGA Police+3UGA Police+3University System of Georgia+3](#)
 - vii. **Rooms used for classes related to a “college and career academy” or “specialized school”**
Some rooms used for specialized or vocational high school-level instruction on campus are excluded.
 - viii. **Spaces used for Health Services or Counseling.**
- 5. **Naloxone/Narcan on Campus** I looked into Wesley’s Law a bit more and Universities are specifically excluded from the requirements. Doesn’t mean we can’t add it to the AED boxes on campus like the Stop-the-Bleed kits, but I feel like there’s a lot of stigma we need to address about providing it and myths surrounding it that need to be busted before the conversation can really move forward.
- 6. **University Senate Newsletter Analytics** See supporting document.
- 7. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates**
 - a. State Account: \$3,977.00
 - b. Foundation Account: \$TBD

8. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**

a. **Public Safety Updates**

- i. Question (ECUS Chair): Public Safety has a great relationship with partners such as the Milledgeville PD. Campus police places public safety first and law enforcement second. Agencies will sometimes contact Public Safety about student public drunkenness and offer preferential treatment. It appears to set up a dual judicial system, one for students and one for town denizens; realistically, not all students are given the same break. What is ECUS-SCC thoughts and feedback on this practice?
- ii. Comment: International students might not know local alcohol rules.
- iii. Comment (Provost): The law is the law. Student Life approaches situations the lens of restorative justice. I trust Public Safety, Baldwin Sheriff's Department, and Milledgeville PD discretion to negotiate each case. There is a learning aspect for the students, and the consequences are higher than ever.

b. **Public CV Policy**

- i. Question: Can we omit our office address?

Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC) — Chair Jennifer Flory

1. **Information Request for Academic Affairs: Faculty Compensation**

- a. Draft request reviewed regarding compensation for part-time lecturers, lecturers, program coordinators, faculty overload, summer salary, faculty development allocations, and 2025 faculty merit raises
- b. Concern raised about confidentiality of merit raise recipients.
 - i. Committee recommends requesting scores and metrics only, not identifying information such as department.
 - ii. Additional categories for coordinators suggested: program type, size, credit-hour generation, FTE.
- c. Department identifiers were removed from the draft request.
- d. Questions remain about eligibility criteria and IFR metrics used for merit raises.

2. **Faculty Evaluation**

- a. BOR confirmed “noteworthy” now includes 3s on a 1–5 Likert scale.
- b. Discussion points:
 - i. Should “noteworthy” minimums be 3 in three categories (as on IFRs) or align with USG tenure standards (two of three: teaching, service, scholarship)?
 - ii. Definition of “insufficient” (1 or 2).
 - iii. Number of categories to be used (three vs. five, with student success and faculty development).
 - iv. Anonymous poll indicated majority support for requiring teaching as one area of noteworthiness. ECUS-SCC agreed that we should not propose removing teaching from the required noteworthy categories.
 - v. Lecturer promotion timeline: USG allows after 3 years; current policy is 6 years. ECUS-SCC suggested a compromise of 4 years.
 - vi. Likert scale edits: removal of language equating “noteworthy” with 4 or 5.

- vii. No votes taken; issues will return for action after ECUS feedback.
- 3. **Faculty Workload Policy**
 - a. Discussion of workload inequities and proposal for a Faculty Workload and Professional Leave Working Group.
 - b. Request originated from concerns about removal of double-sections in COAS (Fall 2026). However, broader concerns have been identified beyond COAS.
 - c. FAPC will revisit at October 31 meeting; invited faculty leaders (Adam Wood, Alex Blazer, Stephanie Jett) to join discussion.
- 4. **Post-Tenure Review Rewards**
 - a. USG requires linking positive post-tenure review outcomes to recognition/reward.
 - b. Academic Affairs is exploring options.
 - c. Academic Affairs has done an audit on faculty initiatives and potential redirection. They will take any ideas. Maybe we should add this to the professional leave ad hoc group.
- 5. **Professional Leave Ad Hoc Committee**
 - a. Committee membership confirmed: Jamie Downing, Jehan El-Jourbagy, Jennifer Flory, Sabrina Hom, Bekir Mugayitoglu, Suzanna Roman-Oliver, Amy Sumpter, Winston Tripp, Aric Wilhau
 - b. Will review current policy, procedures, and rubric for alignment with USG policy and equity across colleges.
 - c. Work to begin later this semester and continue into spring.
- 6. **Other Business**
 - a. Question whether staff are making similar edits to their evaluation process.
 - b. Clarification: Staff evaluation processes are separate and not subject to the same Likert scale revisions.
- 7. **ECUS SCC Discussion**
 - a. **FACULTY EVALUATION**
 - i. Question: If we lack an institutional definition, would this allow certain chairs to define noteworthy as 5? Could this be used as a cudgel?
 - ii. Comment: We are a teaching institution so we value teaching. We should not copy USG which does not mandate teaching as noteworthy.
 - b. **Post-Tenure Review Awards**
 - i. Comment (Provost): Academic Affairs has completed a Post-Tenure Review audit. We would like to provide a reward for a successful PTR. We welcome ideas.
 - ii. Question (FAPC Chair): Could FAPC offer ideas?
 - iii. Answer (Provost): Yes.

Resources, Planning and Institutional Policy Committee (RPIPC) — Chair Talecia Warren

- 1. **Parking Policy** The 2017 Parking Policy needs to be removed from the Policy Manual and replaced by the 2025 Parking Policy.
- 2. **Pet Waste Receptacles** Request made from the campus concerning possible addition of pet waste receptacles or at least bags to collect pet waste around center campus. More information about how to assist with this is being sent to the appropriate parties.

3. **Safety Committee** The cost of securing doors with mobile credentials is \$3.5 million. The committee is exploring the cost of securing A&S doors from the inside.
4. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **Safety Committee**
 - i. Comment (Provost): Academic Affairs is exploring locks for classroom doors.

Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) — Chair Amy Pinney

1. **SGA Meeting** We spent our meeting on October 3rd attending the SGA meeting, 2:00, The Dogwood Room, 3rd floor of the Student Activities Center. We introduced ourselves and discussed the collaborative relationship between SAPC and SGA

Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN) — Chair Joyce Norris-Taylor

1. **Revised Slate of Nominees** John Jackson replaced Charles Cruey as Chief Business Officer Designee. **Follow Up: Joyce Norris-Taylor will share the motion for approval via email.**
 - a. **ECUS-SCC Action** After the meeting, **the Revised Slate of Nominees motion was approved by email vote.**
2. **Election Oversight** The Corps of Instruction list, apportionment with and without administrators in departments, letters to the dean and library director, and appendices will be voted on at ECUS-SCC. **Follow Up: Joyce Norris-Taylor will share election oversight materials for approval via email.**
 - a. **ECUS-SCC Action** After the meeting, **the Election Oversight materials were approved by email vote.**

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. No items were steered to committees.
3. **University Senate Agenda and Minutes Review**
 - a. **Tentative Agenda 17 Oct 2025**
 - i. Motions
 1. SCoN: Revised Slate of Nominees
 - ii. Reports: Administrative reports and committee reports will also be agenda items.
 - i. Supplemental Items of Business: None.
 - b. **University Senate Minutes Review A Motion** *that the DRAFT minutes of the 19 Sep 2025 meeting of the 2025-2026 University Senate be circulated for university*

senator review was made and seconded. **The motion to circulate the minutes was approved.**

VIII. Open Discussion

1. **University Senate Agenda** A question was raised about placing Staff Council and SGA Reports before the Presiding Officer's report and other University Senate Presiding Officer and Standing Committee Chairs. It was noted that the SGA President was placed earlier due to other meeting obligations.

IX. Next Meeting

1. **Calendar**
 - a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, October 17, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, October 31, 2:00 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, October 31, 3:30 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - d. University Senate Meeting – Friday, November 14, 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. **Stephanie Jett 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 4:47 p.m.**

XI. Supporting Documents

1. There is one supporting document.
 - a. *Supplement_ECUSReport_NewsletterAnalytics.pdf* Newsletter Analytics 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: 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						2	0	0
Cathy Cox <i>University President</i>	R	R						0	2	0
Nicholas Creel <i>EFS, CoBT ECUS Chair Emerita</i>	R	R						0	2	0
Holly Croft <i>EFS, Library ECUS Member</i>	R	P						1	1	0
Stephanie Jett <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0
Joyce Norris-Taylor <i>EFS, CoHS ECUS Vice-Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0
Holley Roberts <i>Provost</i>	P	P						2	0	0
Rob Sumowski <i>EFS, CoE ECUS Member</i>	P	R						1	1	0
Andrew Allen <i>APC Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0
Hedy Fraunhofer <i>BIPC Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0
Jennifer Flory <i>FAPC Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0
Talecia Warren <i>RPIPC Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0
Amy Pinney <i>SAPC Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0