

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)

MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025, 2:45-3:15 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)	
R	Stephanie Jett (CoAS, ECUS Vice-Chair)	
P	Joyce Norris-Taylor (CoHS, ECUS Member)	
R	Holley Roberts (Provost)	
P	Lamonica Sanford (Library, ECUS Member)	
P	Rob Sumowski (CoE, ECUS Chair Emerita)	

Legend

Highlighted text denotes follow-up.

Bold denotes action or recommendation.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:54 p.m. by Nicholas Creel (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 7 Feb 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

Presiding Officer Report — Nicholas Creel

1. **USG Tenure & Promotion Policy** In the near future, Senate might want to take a lead on Tenure/Promotion policy changes for purposes of “norming” as discussed by USG officials
2. **Provost Meeting**
 - a. **Grants** I discussed potential budgetary effects of changes to indirect costs for grants with the Provost. She communicated that the university was in no immediate danger from this.
 - b. **Federal Actions** The Provost and I discussed potential new concerns arising from other recent federal action. For example, [the letter from the DoE on eliminating all activities that touch on race](#). This explicitly disallows things such as scholarships, and “[all other aspects of student, academic, and campus life](#).” The Provost indicated that we are looking to comply and that area leaders, such as Deans, were empowered to take action as needed to comply with the new rules.

3. **Program Deactivations** Deactivations are to be announced; we should know more for the late March meeting if not sooner.
4. **2025-2026 Governance Calendar** is under review by Executive Cabinet.
5. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates**
 - a. State Account: \$3,835.20
 - b. Foundation Account: \$93.75

Presiding Officer Elect Report — Alex Blazer for Stephanie Jett

1. **2025-2026 Slate of Nominees** The committee preference survey, including standing committees, the ad hoc AI committee, and university-wide committees, will be sent to EFS soon. Next, Staff Council senators and appointees, SGA senators and appointees, and administrator designees and appointees will be requested. Finally, the call for non-senator volunteers from the Corps of Instruction faculty will follow.

V. Unfinished Business

1. There was no unfinished business.

VI. New Business

1. **Modified Operations Policy** The Provost has asked that we develop a modified operations policy for emergency shut downs and the like. Nicholas Creel sent the draft of this policy to APC, FAPC, and Staff Council for review. We are looking to have something to vote on for the April 25 meeting. Note that the Chancellor was ok with virtual meetings in an emergency.

VII. Open Discussion

1. There was no open discussion.

VIII. Next Meeting

1. **Calendar**
 - a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, March 28, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, April 4, 2:45 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, April 4, 3:30 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - d. University Senate Meeting – Friday, April 25, 2:00 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - e. University Senate Meeting (organizational) – Friday, April 25, 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.

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 3:16 p.m.**

X. Supporting Documents

1. There are no supporting documents.

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: 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	P		6	0	0	
Cathy Cox <i>University President</i>	R	R	R	R	R	R		0	6	0	
Nicholas Creel <i>EFS, CoBT ECUS Chair</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P		6	0	0	
Stephanie Jett <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Vice-Chair</i>	P	P	P	P	P	R		5	1	0	
Joyce Norris-Taylor <i>EFS, CoHS ECUS Member</i>	P	R	P	P	P	P		5	1	0	
Holley Roberts <i>Provost</i>	P	P	R	P	P	R		4	2	0	
Lamonica Sanford <i>EFS, Library ECUS Member</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P		6	0	0	
Rob Sumowski <i>EFS, CoE ECUS Chair Emerita</i>	P	R	R	P	P	P		4	2	0	