

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)

MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2025, 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)	
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 Member)	

Legend

Highlighted text denotes follow-up.

Bold denotes action or recommendation.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:35 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 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

Presiding Officer Report — Stephanie Jett

1. **Senior Advisory Council** 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. **Newsletter Analytics** See supporting document.
 7. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates**
 - a. State Account: \$3,977.00
 - b. Foundation Account: \$TBD
 8. **ECUS Discussion**
 - a. **Newsletter Analytics**
 - i. Follow Up: Alex Blazer will link the newsletter to the website.

Presiding Officer Elect Report — Joyce Norris-Taylor

1. **Revised Slate of Nominees** John Jackson replaced Charles Cruey as Chief Business Officer Designee. The motion will be voted on at ECUS-SCC.
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.

V. Unfinished Business

1. There was no unfinished business.

VI. New Business

1. There was no new business.

VII. Open Discussion

1. **University Senate Website Migration** The committee discussed the migration of the University Senate website and expressed surprise about the cost. Follow Up: Holly Croft will discuss the transition with Brian Watson.

VIII. Next Meeting

1. **Calendar**
 - a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, September 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.**

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 3:17 p.m.**

X. Supporting Documents

1. There is one supporting document.
 - a. *Supplement_PresidingOfficerReport_NewsletterAnalytics.pdf* Newsletter Analytics mentioned in the Presiding Officer 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)

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