

2024-2025 UNIVERSITY SENATE
MINUTES FOR THE 26 APR 2024 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
University Senate Officers: Presiding Nicholas Creel,
Presiding Officer Elect and Secretary to be determined at this meeting

ATTENDANCE

Members	P denotes Present	A denotes Absent	R denotes Regrets
Andrew Allen-P	Kerry James Evans-A	Bekir Mugayitoglu-P	John Swinton-P
GeGee Arnold-P	Sayo Fakayode-P	Joyce Norris-Taylor-P	Student Senator-TBD
Alex Blazer-P	Nancy Finney-P	Amy Pinney-P	Student Senator-TBD
Rodica Cazacu-A	Jennifer Flory-P	Frank Richardson-A	Natalie Toomey-P
Mikkel Christensen-P	Matthew Forrest-A	Suzanna Roman-Oliver-P	Winston Tripp-P
Corey Claxton-P	Brad Fowler-A	Peter Rosado-A	Amy VanderGroef-A
Cathy Cox-P	Bryan Hall-P	Lamonica Sanford-P	Eryn Viscarra-A
Nicholas Creel-P	Stephanie Jett-P	Arnab Sengupta-A	Henry Wang-A
Holly Croft-P	Mehrnaz Khalaj Hedayati-P	Will Smith-P	Talecia Warren-A
Matt Davis-P	Lee Kirven-A	Marshall Smith-P	Benjamin Whittle-A
Donovan Domingue-A	Adam Lamparello-P	Costas Spirou-P	Aric Wilhau-P
Helen DuPree-P	Nadirah Mayweather-A	Rob Sumowski-P	
Josefina Endere-R	Matthew Milnes-P	Amy Sumpter-A	
Guests	Role on University Senate or Position at the University		
Chris Clark	Professor of Economics and Chief Academic Officer Designee to the 2024-2025 FAPC		
Rhonda Griffin	Administrative Assistant of the 2024-2025 University Senate		
Amy Malcom	Assistant Professor of Nursing and Volunteer on the 2024-2025 SAPC		
Kim Muschaweck	Assistant Professor of Teacher Education and Parliamentarian of the 2023-2024 University Senate		
David Weese	Associate Professor of Biological & Environmental Sciences and Volunteer of the 2024-2025 FAPC		

CALL TO ORDER Rob Sumowski, Presiding Officer of the 2023-2024 University Senate, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

PASSING THE GAVEL:

- a. Rob Sumowski (Presiding Officer of the 2023-2024 University Senate) called Nicholas Creel (Presiding Officer of the 2024-2025 University Senate) to the podium.
- b. The first two questions were directed to Nicholas Creel and the third was directed to the university senate.
 - i. Will you view your role as presiding officer as an opportunity, rather than a burden?
 - ii. Will you be a faithful steward of the resources of the University Senate?
 - iii. And will you, members of the 2024-2025 University Senate, vow to support your Presiding Officer in his efforts toward effective shared governance?
- c. The answers to the first two questions were “I will” from Nicholas Creel while the answer to the third question was “We will” from the membership.
- d. Rob Sumowski transferred the role of Presiding Officer of the University Senate.

CONSENT AGENDA A consent agenda was available as an item of business listed on the meeting agenda and read as follows.

1. **AGENDA/MINUTES**

- a. University Senate Meeting Agenda (26 Apr 2024, 3:30 p.m.)

A **MOTION** to adopt the consent agenda was approved by voice vote with no proposed extractions, no further discussion, no dissenting voice, and only voting members of the university senate eligible to vote.

MINUTES As the previous meeting of the University Senate immediately preceded this meeting, the minutes for that meeting (2:00-3:15 p.m. on Friday 26 Apr 2024) were not yet available for review.

UNIVERSITY SENATOR PINS Nicholas Creel distributed university senator pins to the first-time members of the University Senate. Pin recipients were as follows.

1. **Elected Faculty Senators** Bekir Mugayitoglu, Suzanna Roman-Oliver
2. **Selected Staff Senators** GeeGe Arnold, Will Smith

UNFINISHED BUSINESS There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **MOTION 2324.CON.003.O SLATE OF NOMINEES 2024-2025**, Nicholas Creel, 2024-2025 Presiding Officer, presented the motion: “To endorse the Slate of Nominees for the 2024-2025 University Senate Officers and Committees as proposed in the supporting documents.”

- a. **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS** Supporting documentation was available in the online motion database: <https://senate.gcsu.edu/motions/slate-nominees-2024-2025-04192024>

- i. *Slate of Nominees 2024-2025 Summary.pdf* This pdf document contained the slate of nominees proposed by the 2023-2024 Subcommittee on Nominations to serve on the committees and as officers of the 2024-2025 University Senate.
- ii. *Senate Representatives on University Committees 2024-2025.pdf* This pdf document contained the slate of nominees proposed by the 2023-2024 Subcommittee on Nominations to serve as university senate representatives for the 2024-2025 University Senate.
- iii. *SCoN Bylaws Compliance 2024-2025.pdf* This pdf document provided verification of the slate’s compliance with university senate bylaws. This report is required as articulated in the university senate bylaws. The pertinent bylaw is quoted here.

1. V.Section1.D.2.e. **Compliance Report**. The Subcommittee shall prepare a report that demonstrates that the composition of all committees complies with the requirements of these bylaws. Such a report shall be submitted to the Executive Committee when the initial committee recommendations are made and any time that changes are proposed to committee membership.

- b. **DISCUSSION**
- i. **Officers**

1. Nicholas Creel noted the 2023-2024 Subcommittee on Nominations had received four nominations for Presiding Officer Elect of the 2023-2024 University Senate, and Stephanie Jett agreed to accept the nomination. Nicholas Creel invited other nominations for this officer position from the floor. Nicolas Creel was nominated but declined the nomination. This nomination invitation is required as articulated in the university senate bylaws. The pertinent bylaw is quoted here.
 - a. II.Section4.A. Presiding Officer and Presiding Officer Elect. The University Senate shall have a Presiding Officer, who presides at all meetings of the University Senate, and a Presiding Officer Elect, who shall assume the position of Presiding Officer the following year. Only elected faculty senators are eligible to serve as Presiding Officer or Presiding Officer Elect. The election of the Presiding Officer Elect shall proceed as follows. At the spring organizational meeting of the University Senate, the outgoing Subcommittee on Nominations shall nominate one elected faculty senator from the incoming University Senate. The Presiding Officer at the spring organizational meeting shall then call for other nominations from the floor. Should this result in more than one nominee for Presiding Officer Elect, all members of the incoming University Senate shall vote by secret ballot. The nominee receiving the most votes shall be the Presiding Officer Elect. The terms of service for the Presiding Officer and Presiding Officer Elect shall begin with the adjournment of this spring organizational meeting, and shall end when her/his successor assumes office.
2. Nicholas Creel noted the 2023-2024 Subcommittee on Nominations had received two nominations for Secretary of the 2024-2025 University Senate, and Alex Blazer agreed to accept the nomination. Nicholas Creel invited other nominations for this officer position from the floor. No nominations were received from the floor. This nomination invitation is required as articulated in the university senate bylaws. The pertinent bylaw is quoted here.
 - a. II.Section4.B. Secretary. The University Senate shall elect a Secretary at its spring organizational meeting who shall be responsible for keeping minutes at all meetings of the University Senate. Only elected faculty senators are eligible to serve as Secretary. The election of the Secretary of the University Senate shall proceed as follows. At the spring organizational meeting of the University Senate, the outgoing Subcommittee on Nominations shall nominate one elected faculty senator from the incoming University Senate. The Presiding Officer at the spring organizational meeting shall then call for other nominations from the floor. Should this result in more than one nominee for Secretary, all members of the incoming University Senate shall vote by

secret ballot. The nominee receiving the most votes shall be the Secretary. The term of service of the Secretary shall begin at the call to order of the first meeting of the University Senate following the spring organizational meeting at which (s)he is elected, and shall end when her/his successor assumes office.

- c. **SCoN Report** The proposed slate of nominees to be voted on by the University Senate is as follows.
- i. Committee preferences and nominations for university senate officers (Presiding Officer Elect and Secretary) were invited from all elected faculty senators.
 - ii. Elected Faculty Senators were also invited to express their interest in serving as a university senate representative. The responses received allowed the 2023-2024 SCoN to fill nearly all the university senate representative positions.
 - iii. A call for volunteers to serve on university senate committees was made to the corps of instruction. Each volunteer was invited to express preference for committee service.
 - iv. Informed by these individual committee preferences and officer nominations, the 2023-2024 Subcommittee on Nominations discussed this slate of nominees at the 5 Apr 2024 ECUS with Standing Committee Chairs meeting and adopted the slate of elected faculty senators and volunteer committee assignments. Appointees, designees, selected staff senators, and selected student senators were awaiting selection by administration, Staff Council, and SGA, respectively. The slate is presented for your consideration.
 - v. Alex Blazer and John Swinton were nominated for 2024-2025 University Senate Secretary, and only Alex Blazer accepted.
 - vi. Andrew Allen, Nicholas Creel, Catherine Fowler, and Stephanie Jett were nominated for 2024-2025 University Senate Presiding Officer Elect, and only Stephanie Jett accepted.
 - vii. The two *selected student senators* and three *SGA appointees to DEIPC, RPIPC, and SAPC*; the *Admissions Director Designee for DEIPC*; and the *Chief Business Officer Designee for RPIPC* will be identified over the summer and added to a revised slate of nominees for vote at our first fall university senate meeting.
 - viii. There is an elaborate set of requirements in the university senate bylaws with which the slate must comply.
 1. ECUS composition includes the President, Provost, Presiding Officer, Presiding Officer Elect, Past Presiding Officer, and Secretary. Additionally, ECUS must have at least one elected faculty senator from each academic unit (colleges and the library).
 2. Desirable for each of the standing committees (APC, DEIPC, FAPC, RPIPC, SAPC) is corps of instruction representation from all academic units (colleges and the library), yet this requirement is not explicit in the university senate bylaws.
 3. Each of APC and FAPC require no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows:

- a. no fewer than nine (9) and no more than eleven (11) members selected from the corps of instruction faculty, at least seven (7) of whom are elected faculty senators,
 - b. a Presidential Appointee,
 - c. and a Chief Academic Officer Designee.
4. DEIPC requires exactly thirteen (13) members distributed as follows:
 - a. seven (7) members selected from the corps of instruction faculty, at least six (6) of whom are elected faculty senators,
 - b. a Chief Diversity Officer Designee,
 - c. a Director of Human Resources Designee,
 - d. a Director of Admissions Designee,
 - e. a Staff Council Appointee,
 - f. a Student Government Association Appointee, and
 - g. a Presidential Appointee,
5. RPIPC requires no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows:
 - a. no fewer than four (4) and no more than eight (6) members selected from the corps of instruction faculty, at least four (4) of whom are elected faculty senators,
 - b. three Selected Staff Senators,
 - c. a Presidential Appointee,
 - d. a Chief Business Officer Designee,
 - e. a Chief Information Officer Designee, and
 - f. a Student Government Association Appointee.
6. SACP requires no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows:
 - a. no fewer than four (4) and no more than six (6) members selected from the corps of instruction faculty, at least four (4) of whom are elected faculty senators,
 - b. two Selected Student Senators,
 - c. one Selected Staff Senator,
 - d. a Presidential Appointee,
 - e. a Chief Student Affairs Officer Designee,
 - f. a Staff Council Appointee, and
 - g. a Student Government Association Appointee.
7. There are thirteen highlighted positions in the slate that will be resolved in the coming months.
 - a. Admissions Director, DEIPC
 - b. Staff Council Appointee, DEIPC
 - c. Student Government Association Appointee, DEIPC
 - d. Presidential Appointee, DEIPC
 - e. Selected Staff Senator, RPIPC
 - f. Selected Staff Senator, RPIPC
 - g. Selected Staff Senator, RPIPC
 - h. Student Government Association Appointee, RPIPC
 - i. Selected Student Senator, SACP
 - j. Selected Student Senator, SACP

- k. Selected Staff Senator, SAPC
- l. Staff Council Appointee, SAPC
- m. Student Government Association Appointee, SAPC
- d. **SENATE ACTION** Motion 2324.CON.003.O was **APPROVED** via voice vote with no further discussion, no dissenting voice, and only voting members of the university senate eligible to vote.

COMMITTEE REPORT This being an organizational meeting, there was only one additional committee report.

1. **GOVERNANCE RETREAT PLANNING COMMITTEE — NICHOLAS CREEL, CHAIR**

- a. **PLANNING IN PROGRESS** The following 2024 governance retreat information was shared.
 - i. **DATE** The retreat date is Monday, 12 Aug 2024.
 - ii. **LOCATION** The retreat will take place at a location to be determined.
 - iii. **SCHEDULE**
 - 1) Arrival and Registration 8:45am to 9:00am
 - 2) Call to Order 9:00am
 - 3) Adjourn 2:00pm
 - iv. **INVITEES** All members of the committees of the 2024-2025 University Senate – university senators, appointees, designees, volunteers – are invited to attend the retreat.
 - v. **PLANNING COMMITTEE** Nicholas Creel is chairing the committee with members to be determined. Nicholas Creel invited any of those present who were interested in assisting with retreat planning to contact her.
 - vi. **SURVEY** A survey will be circulated requesting dietary preferences, confirmation of intent to attend, and preferences on proposed retreat agenda items. It is requested that this survey be completed in a timely manner.
 - vii. **STAY TUNED** More information about the governance retreat will be disseminated by email as it becomes available.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. **2024-2025 UNIVERSITY SENATE COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS — NICHOLAS CREEL, PRESIDING OFFICER**

- a. After adjournment, proceed to breakout rooms for Standing Committee Organizational meetings and election of committee officers. Rooms for committee breakout sessions with facilitators in parentheses: APC: A&S 2-42 (Nicholas Creel); DEIPC: A&S 2-46 (Rob Sumowski); FAPC: A&S 2-70 (Alex Blazer); RPIP: A&S 2-74 (Lamonica Sanford); SAPC: A&S 2-75 (Joyce Norris-Taylor).
- b. All committee organizational meetings will occur directly after University Senate adjourns. All committee organizational and committee officer training meetings not accomplished on 26 Apr 2024 will be completed during the committee breakout sessions of the Governance Retreat on 12 Aug 2024.

OPEN DISCUSSION Nicholas Creel invited open discussion from the floor. There was none.

ADJOURN

1. **STANDING COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS** Rob Sumowski reminded members to proceed to breakout rooms after adjournment for committee organizational meetings, including election of committee officers.
2. **ATTENDANCE AND SIGN-IN SHEET** Nicholas Creel requested that each individual present at the meeting sign the university senator attendance sheet or guest sign-in sheet on their way out if they hadn't already signed in.
3. **NEXT UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING** is scheduled for Friday, 20 Sep 2024 at 3:30 p.m. in Arts & Sciences 272.
4. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** As there was no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. There are no supporting documents.