

University of Idaho
2025 – 2026 Faculty Senate Agenda

Meeting #03

Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 3:30 pm PT
Zoom Only

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes (Vote)
 - Minutes of the 2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting #31 (April 22, 2025) **Attach. #1**
 - Minutes of the 2025-2026 Faculty Senate Meeting #1 (April 29, 2025) **Attach. #2**
 - Minutes of the 2025-2026 Faculty Senate Meeting #2 (May 6, 2025) **Attach. #3**
- III. Chair’s Report
- IV. Provost’s Report
- V. Invited Guest Presentations
 - Office of Information Technology Update – Teresa Amos, Director, IT planning and Initiatives. **Attach. #4**
 - University Communications and Marketing Update –
 - Jodi Walker, Executive Director of Communications and Co-chief Marketing Officer;
 - Chad Neilson, Director Web Communications and Marketing; and
 - John Barnhart, Senior Director of Marketing and Creative Services and Co-chief Marketing Officer
- VI. New Concerns or Issues
- VII. Adjournment

Attachments

- **Attach. #1** Minutes of the 2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting #31 (April 22, 2025)
- **Attach. #2** Minutes of the 2025-2026 Faculty Senate Meeting #1 (April 29, 2025)
- **Attach. #3** Minutes of the 2025-2026 Faculty Senate Meeting #1 (April 29, 2025)
- **Attach #4** IT Governance 2025 Report

2024 – 2025 Faculty Senate – Pending Approval

Meeting # 31

Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Zoom only

Present: Barannyk, Borrelli, Chapman, Hagen, Haltinner, Hu, Kenyon, Kirchmeier, Kolios, Lawrence (w/o vote), Maas, McKenna, Murphy (vice chair), Pimentel, Quinnett, Ramirez, Raney, Remy, Rinker, Roe, Sammarruca (w/o vote), Shook, Strickland, Tohaneanu, Thorne

Absent: Aus, Corry (excused)

Guests: Jenn White

Call to Order: Chair Haltinner called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes (vote):

The minutes of the 2024-25 Meeting #30, April 15, 2025, were approved as distributed.

Chair's Report:

- Thanks to the folks who are stepping off senate. Jerry Long will join us from the College of Law, and thank you, David [Pimentel], for all your hard work this year. Tim retained his seat from Southwest Idaho. Philip retained his seat from the GPSA. Cody Harrison will be taking the SBA seat, and thank you, Abby, for your work. This year, Deb and I both retained our seats as CLASS senators. Chantal will be representing EHHS. The Staff Council has elected Celie Riviera as its representative. Many thanks to Barb, Shauna, Gavin and Erin for their service. Luke Erickson will be joining us from CALS. The new representative for the deans is Lisa Victoravich. Thank you all and we appreciate everything that you've done.
- The administration will allow students to include preferred first names on their diplomas. The Registrar's office is still working through the details of how to implement it. For this spring, if you have students who need this service, they can contact graduation@uidaho.edu and the staff will do manual adjustments. Please note that only notarized or apostilled diplomas are considered legal documents.
- We continue to work on the class schedule. We have a commitment that it will be supported through the 10th day of the fall semester. But we're working with OIT, the Registrar's office, and SEM to try to continue that service, so we will keep fighting the fight.
- A reminder that next Tuesday, after the first meeting of the new Senate, Torrey has offered to take the folks in Moscow to the Lookout for a drink. The link to RSVP is in the chat.
- A brief update on Senate Bill 1198, which passed into law. The SBOE hopes to send out guidance by the end of this week, which will give us a better sense of how they understand the law to operate and how it will impact us. I'll share any information I receive via email.
- Many thanks to Nichole for all the work she's done this year to support the Senate. She puts together the binders, runs the Senate meeting, updates the website, fields email, cleans up policies, makes all the systems run, and we could not do this without her.
- I was going to do "who we are" this week, but because we're short on time, I'll just tell you that I am a sociologist, and I study right wing political movements. If you want to know more, have a drink with me.

Provost's Report

- On Friday there is a celebration for passing the milestone with the capital campaign, from 4 to 6 at the practice field. We realize there may be conflict with other UI events on Friday, and we may try to have some kind of alternate celebration for people who are unable to attend.
- Hopefully you all will be at the reception for the senate next Tuesday from 5 to 6. Because there's an event at 6:30, we can't stay much longer. But I'd love to see you all there at the Lookout.

Resolution on Senate Bill 1198 (motion and vote) – Kelly Quinnett and Debb Thorne, Senators from CLASS, Erin Chapman, Senator from CALS.

The resolution was open for comments last week, and, based on the comments, it was condensed and revised to make it cleaner and tighter.

Motion to approve the resolution (Thorne, Barannyk)

Vote: 13/14 yes; 1/14 no. Motion carries.

Consent agenda

- AY 2025-26 committees. There are a few updates since the binder went out. We lost the IT committee chair, so we'll be working to find a replacement. Kate Skinner from CLASS stepped up to be the chair of FAHB, and Maya Groza from CBE is returning as the chair of the University Budget and Finance Committee. Other than that, the list is as distributed.
Approved by consent.
- AY 2025-26 sabbaticals. Approved by consent.

Committee Reports

- University Curriculum Committee (vote)
 - UCC 158 – Change to university-level learning outcome Practice Citizenship – Erin James, Chair of UCC
This is an application for a Stars Platinum ranking with the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher education. One of the metrics for this ranking is curriculum, and Sarah Dawson, Director of Sustainability, thinks this would help us get this ranking. We're asking to include the word *sustainability*. This request went through a couple of different iterations with various committees. We had a revision approved via UCC and UAAC. We then asked for a second revision, because we realized that the revision that we had passed included the word diversity in the learning outcome, and we didn't want to put a learning outcome with the word diversity in front of the State Board at this moment. So, we have done some very gentle revision. We fully expect that university learning outcomes across the board are going to change or stand to change as the university develops its plan. We anticipate this to be a temporary revision to the learning outcome, but it would really help us with this sustainability ranking. And there's some urgency to that request. If we achieve the platinum sustainability ranking, we would be amongst the elite universities in the world that have this designation, with Cornell and Arizona State. There are only 13 other institutions in the country that have this ranking. This recognition of sustainability on campus would be a significant achievement.

Discussion

A senator asked whether the request is just to remove the word *diversity*. Erin clarified that the main revision is to include the words *environmentally responsible behavior*, and *in a rapidly changing world* added to the learning outcome, so that one of our university level learning outcomes explicitly acknowledges the environment. To protect the learning outcome from some scrutiny at the State Board level, they are asking for the word *diversity* to be replaced by *open-mindedness*.

Vote: 18/20 yes; 2/20 no. Motion passes.

State Board of Education Introduction – Jenn White, Executive Director of the State Board of Education

Jenn will be the next Executive Director of the State Board of Education starting in May. The main purpose of this visit is to introduce herself and talk about how she hopes to work with Faculty Senate in the future. She won't be able to field questions during this conversation. Jenn shared facts about her upbringing, education and past employment. She focused on making our daily work in higher education accessible to populations that largely do not understand it. In view of the heightened scrutiny that higher education is going through go, Jenn wishes to make a real effort to develop a relationship with Faculty Senate leadership, as she came to really appreciate the importance of shared governance in moving the university forward. Before starting on May 12th, she wanted to make herself known to the senators and share her commitment to working with faculty during this really difficult time.

Jennifer is very familiar with the legislative challenges and the federal challenges that we all are facing, and she is committed to supporting freedom of speech and academic freedom to the greatest extent possible, and to assisting the board in their support of that as well.

Jennifer would be happy to come back to the senate another time. She hopes to bring her perspective to the board from her time in higher education, and to make sure that the voices heard at the board accurately reflect what faculty are experiencing.

- **Advising Committees (vote)**

- FSH 4310 Academic Advising and Counseling – Matthew Swenson, Chair of UAC, and Chantal Vella, member of UAC

In revising this policy, the committee's intent was to bring it up to a point that reflects what we are currently doing. When it was brought to us, it had not been revised for over a decade. There are discussions out there about the best way we should be operating in the future, and how we can optimize the whole advising process. Those debates are worthwhile having. This committee doesn't feel they're authorized to mandate or dictate how the university should be operating. Instead, we're just trying to make the policy reflect the way we are currently behaving as a university. We also tried to simplify it and shortened it to about two pages. The document reflects that some colleges are heavily leveraging SEM for advising, and where faculty are primarily just mentoring, while other colleges are only lightly using SEM resources and faculty are leaned on heavily for advising, and some colleges are in between. We redrafted the document to cover the current flexibility and allow each college to determine what works best for them.

Discussion:

A senator detected some ambiguity in terms of who's managing the overall advising process. On point 3 of the cover sheet, FSH 1420 appears as a related policy that would be impacted. FSH 1420 describes the responsibilities of deans, and one of them is to

operate a system of academic advising and counseling for students. Presently, each college is using a different model, which is reflected in the policy. The senator suggests amending the proposed policy to make it clear that it is consistent with FSH 1420 regarding the dean's responsibility to set up the advising structure in their college. Without this language, we'd have to go back to FSH 1420 and take out the second responsibility of deans to manage advising in their own college.

Motion (Shook, Maas) to include the language: *"Each college is given the autonomy to establish its own advising model and the appropriate roles to support that model under the dean's management."*

Discussion on the amendment:

Matt Swenson said he would welcome the proposed amendment.

The intent should be clear. The added language doesn't mean the advising responsibility has to remain in the college. It gives the dean the autonomy to make that decision. If they want to use a more centralized model through SEM, they can do that, or, they can opt for something that's more internal. This interpretation is agreed upon.

Vote on the amendment: 21 yes; 0 no. Amendment passes.

Back to the full motion.

A senator raised a concern about the part of the policy about writing letters of recommendation (last bullet in section D-3). They think there should be no mention of that in policy, because writing a letter of recommendation or not is entirely at the faculty's discretion.

Motion to remove the last bullet in D-3 (Tohaneanu, Barannyk).

Discussion on the motion:

Some senators argued that the present language does not actually require the writing of recommendation letters. It's one of the activities that can be included in mentoring and faculty can receive credit for. Therefore, the language in the last bullet of D-3 should stay.

No further discussion.

Vote: 4/19 yes; 15/19 no. Motion to amend fails.

Vote on the full policy, as it currently stands: 19/19 yes. Motion passes.

A senator asked whether advising is part of teaching in P&T. The provost confirmed that it is.

- Ad Hoc Committee on Intercollege Curriculum (vote):
 - FSH 4120 (approved by UCC) and FSH 1640.94 (approved by the Committee on Committees) - Karen Humes and Erin James, Chairs of the Ad Hoc Committee on Intercollege Curriculum

In AY 2023-24, FSH 4120 was amended to expand the authority for submitting curriculum change proposals to UCC (previously limited to department units and colleges) to include the authority for interdisciplinary faculty committees to submit proposals to UCC for intercollege interdisciplinary programs. The change last year was catalyzed by the formation of a university-wide committee to develop and maintain the curriculum for the Academic Certificate in Sustainability. The demand for interdisciplinary programs is such that concerns arose this year around the creation of Faculty Senate-appointed committees for each individual intercollege program, both existing and newly proposed. The change to FSH 4120 proposed here is to formalize

just one university-wide Faculty Senate-appointed Intercollege Curriculum Committee (ICC) to serve in a role analogous to colleges in the curriculum change process (only) for intercollege programs. Faculty working groups for individual intercollege programs will continue to serve in a role analogous to departments, with respect to submitting curriculum changes for intercollege programs to the newly formed ICC. This is the second component to this proposal.

There were no questions.

Vote: 19/20 yes; 1/20 no. Motion passes.

Vote for FSH 1640.94: 19/21 yes; 2/21 no.

- FSH 1640.93 (requires motion and vote) – Tim Murphy, Chair of the Committee on Committees

Deletion of this policy is proposed because, if the proposed ICC Committee (FSH 1640.94) passes, it will replace the need for 1640.93, which would become a working group independent from Faculty Senate oversight.

Second: Chapman

Vote: 18/19 yes; 1/19 no. Motion passes.

- Committee on Committees (vote):

- FSH 1640 University Committees

This change will update multiple sections of FSH 1640 that have become out-of-date with changes to position titles and office names across the University over the last several years. Several substantive changes are also included to better align the committee memberships with the current University structure; remove designated senator seats from committees where they are not necessary; resolve ambiguous language in the current policy; and to reduce the usage of designated position titles where a representative from the appropriate unit will suffice. And then additional changes were just to clean up the language and remove ambiguities about what the committees are supposed to do or who's supposed to be on them. So, it's an extensive list. Hopefully, you had a chance to look through that in the binder before that was what we were going for there. This was approved at the Committee on Committee and comes as a seconded motion.

Discussion:

A senator asked whether any changes of substance were made. Reply: There are a couple of instances. For example, we had a question come up on the Campus Planning Advisory Committee where we decided that it might be appropriate for somebody from the College of Art and Architecture to be on that committee. We did one substantive change that impacted a couple of committees which you may consider substantive – we changed the language “representative from the office of Equity and Diversity” to “representative from a center on campus directed to providing support for students from nontraditional backgrounds.” That's somewhat of a substantive change, because it's a different office than it previously pointed to. There was a situation where we had two senator appointments on a committee for no apparent reason and those were removed. Those are probably all the changes that you would consider substantive.

Discussion:

There was a request for clarification about the meaning of *ex officio* and *ex officio without vote*. In the first case, the member is understood to be *an ex officio with vote*.

Vote: 22/22 yes. Motion passes.

- Ubuntu (non-voting) – Joint Resolution thanking equity office staff – Caitlin Cieslik Miskimen, Chair of Ubuntu

Originally, we presented this resolution as an effort to show our support for the staff in the now closed offices related to diversity and show our appreciation for the service that they have provided. The Staff Council could not reach a quorum to move forward with a joint resolution. So, we are moving this forward as an Ubuntu only resolution, going back to the language included in its January version, which had unanimously passed our committee. It was important for the committee to put forth some acknowledgement of the work done by all these staff members, come out before the end of the academic year. So, after a conversation with Kristin, we decided that putting it forth as an Ubuntu only resolution might be the best way to expedite the process.

- Faculty and Staff Policy Group (vote):
 - FSH 4800 Language Skills – Barb Kirchmeier, member of Faculty and Staff Policy Group (FSPG); Director of General Education.

Following comprehensive review, FSPG proposes to delete FSH 4800 Language Skills because it does not meet the FSH 1460 E-2 criteria for inclusion in the policy library.
Vote: 21/21 yes. Motion passes.
 - FSH 3130 Disruption Policy – Francesca Sammaruca, Faculty Secretary and Professor of Physics

Many people have worked on this new policy since August 2020, Faculty Affairs, Staff Council, Faculty and Staff Policy Group, as the policy got broader. In essence: in case of disruption to the university operations, (for example, a natural disaster or a public health emergency), all employees have the opportunity to recommend to their supervisors some temporary adjustment to their responsibilities. The policy addresses several levels of disruptions and different provisions. The idea to create such a policy came out of the COVID crisis. We hope it gets into place for the protection of our faculty and staff.
Vote: 21/21 yes. Motion passes.

This concluded the AY 2024-25 senate session.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francesca Sammaruca
Secretary of the University Faculty & Secretary to Faculty Senate

Attach #2

2025 – 2026 Faculty Senate – Pending Approval

Meeting # 2

Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Zoom only

Present: Barannyk, Borrelli, Erickson, Hagen, Haltinner (chair), Harrison, Hu, Kenyon, Kolios, Lawrence (w/o vote), Long, Maas, McKenna, Miller, Murphy (vice-chair), Ramirez, Remy, Rinker, Roe, Rivera, Sammarruca (w/o vote), Shook, Strickland, Tohaneanu, Thorne, Vella, Victoravich

Absent:

Call to Order: Provost Lawrence called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

Special Orders

- Elections for the 2025-26 Faculty Senate Leadership – Torrey Lawrence, Provost and Executive President
 - Review of FSH 1580 IV – Election of Officers
 - Gathering of additional nominations for the offices of Chair and Vice Chair
 - Short presentations by the nominees who agreed to be on the ballot
 - Vote by secret ballot (FSH 1580.IV)
 - Reading of the election results.
2025-26 Senate Chair: Tim Murphy
2025-26 Senate Vice Chair: Kristin Haltinner

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francesca Sammarruca
Secretary of the University Faculty & Secretary to Faculty Senate

Attach #3

2025 – 2026 Faculty Senate – Pending Approval

Meeting # 1

Tuesday, April 29, 2025, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Zoom only

Present: Barannyk, Borrelli, Erickson, Hagen, Haltinner, Harrison, Hu, Kenyon, Lawrence (w/o vote), Long, Maas, McKenna, Quinnett (Miller), Murphy (vice chair), Remy, Roe, Rivera, Sammarruca (w/o vote), Shook, Tohaneanu, Thorne, Vella, Victoravich

Absent: Harrison, Kolas (excused), Rinker, Strickland, Ramirez

Call to Order: Provost Lawrence called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

Special Orders

- Elections for the 2025-26 Faculty Senate Leadership – Torrey Lawrence, Provost and Executive President
 - Review of FSH 1580 IV – Election of Officers
 - Gathering nominations for the offices of Chair and Vice Chair
 - Senators nominated for office were asked whether they do or do not accept the nomination. Additional nominations will be accepted at senate meeting #2, May 6, 2025. The elections will take place at that meeting.

Announcements

- **University Faculty Meeting #2.** Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 2:30pm PDT (Zoom only). Please attend if you can!
- **Excellence Awards.** April 30, 3:30pm, in the university auditorium (Admin building).
- **Strategic Plan Town Hall.** Next Tuesday, May 6, from 11am to 12pm, in the Vandal ballroom at the Pittman Center.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francesca Sammarruca
Secretary of the University Faculty & Secretary to Faculty Senate

IT GOVERNANCE 2025 REPORT

Our first year of IT Governance (ITG) has concluded, marking a period of significant growth and strategic planning. The expanded interest from various ITG Advisory Boards has driven institutional planning for technology initiatives. Over the past year, 141 IDEA s

ubmissions were received, with more than 105 approved and closed. Many submissions involved tools for low-risk data, while those concerning medium and high classification data underwent thorough review processes. Additionally, approximately 20 requests were made for enhancements to existing enterprise products at the University. These requests went into the university-wide Technical Product Manager Meta Scrum process for prioritization and development.

ITG or Support Area	Requests Submitted
ITG Academic and Learning Technology Advisory Board	4
ITG Admin Technology Advisory Board	12
DFA Business Services	3
ITG - IT Steering Committee	8
OIT Software Operations	1
OIT TSP	1
Technical Product Manager Team	103
OIT Security-Solutions	1
OIT Classrooms	2
reg-developers Development	2
ITG Research Technology Advisory Board	4
Grand Total	141

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

There has been a large trend this year toward the use of AI tools in general. Several have been related to the use of Ai-powered chat bots to answer customer questions and facilitate administrative activities. Through the work of the ITG Advisory Boards and IT Steering Committee, OIT has obtained funding from the President's Office to develop a Proof of Concept (POC) project that will allow OIT to better understand what products are available, how they work, understand their maintenance, and the costs involved for their use. The product chosen for the project is Ivy.ai (now Gravyty) and it is being developed as part of the OIT Client Portal.

Additionally, the ITG IT Steering Committee discussed strategy on AI development. It was agreed that investments in internal capacity, rather than reliance solely on vendors, were important and that the [recommendations of the AI working group](#) were a solid platform for growing AI capacity.

IMPROVEMENTS TO PROCESS

Early in the program, we noticed that many of the requests coming in were being used with data that was considered low-risk to the institution. The approval of those requests were manually reviewed and processed by the OIT-Product Team and the Director of Planning and Initiatives. We were able to create automation for the IDEA submission process that would automatically approve requests like this based on answers provided by the requestor. The questions related to the data classification, number of licenses to be purchased, unit funding secured, use by a whole class, and support needs. If all answers were in alignment with use existing university policy, the requestor is notified by email to proceed with their purchase.

For those items that don't qualify for automatic approval, the requests go through the normal vetting processes.

Both the Administrative Technology Advisory Board and the Academic and Learning Technology Advisory Board have developed supplemental questions asked of the IDEA requestor to aid in the review and approval of a new purchase. Many of the questions related to budget allocation, clarification of OIT support needs, and the use of other competing products. The budget questions have been added to the request form to better understand the return on the investment for the purchase for the University.

NEXT STEPS

1. Improved tracking of status of approved IDEA requests
2. Further automation of approvals (as appropriate)
3. Build out of the Application Portfolio
4. Continuous process improvement

CONCLUSION

In summary, our first year was highly educational and productive. Despite the advisory boards being on hiatus during the summer, we continue to receive new requests, reflecting ongoing engagement and interest.