

Faculty Advisory Council Meeting

April 7, 2026

Present:

Tami Morton, Brad Klypchak, Maggie Salem, Jason Lee Davis, Sarah Northam, Saurabh Srivastava, Hunkar Gizem Yesilyurt, Jimmy Womack, Whitney Figland, Celine Hoe, Greg Lubiani, LaVelle Hendricks, Julie Mills, Laura Slay, Peter Williams, Nicole Farris, Christian “Kiki” Hemplemann, Beth Bailey, Deena Besson, Jeff Kopachena, Pam Webster, and Fatemeh Kholoosi Raftar

1. Meeting was called to order at 2:02 by Morton with Opening Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve from Bailey, second by Figland
 - b. Motion Passed
3. Open Forum
 - a. Hendricks-Discussed a quicker turnaround on faculty awards dates
 - b. Davis and Northam-addressed those concerns and stated the goal was to have nominations by the end of the fall semester
 - c. Hempleman-Discussed salary compression, this cannot be addressed right now but it Morton is aware of the issue
 - d. Discussion on Ombudsman roll that has not been filled
 - e. General discussion on being in a hiring freeze. We are still on a hiring freeze but hire can with special approval.
 - f. Discussion of the Provosts role as a Guest not a member
4. Communications
 - a. Post-Tenure Review Policy
 - i. Morton-Brought discussion on the post-tenure review policy and items that were brought up included: issues with D2L submission need to be addressed, the Zoom meetings on post-tenure was not ideal, faculty voices need to be up front
 - ii. Morton suggested we need another standing committee for the T&P process (Academic Life and Practices)
 - iii. Discussion that our, FACs, job is to stay in front of these new polices as they are advised especially concerning faculty
 - b. Update on summary to Academic Freedom and Responsibility Policy
 - i. Discussion that our job is to stay in front of these new polices as they are advised especially concerning faculty
 - ii. Morton-Informed the FAC that FACs feedback was shared with the Provost including:

1. Less ambiguity on the document, misalignment of roles, and rigid expectation on presence and work structures especially fixed 40 hours
 2. Morton stated the Provost was immediately in agreement and has forwarded the information to the VP Livingston
 - c. Update on AI syllabi evaluation
 - i. Morton updated FAC that Risk Categorization Syllabus Review Committee has met and provided feedback on syllabi; the committee's feedback was provided to the Provost
5. Committee Updates
 - a. Awards Committee (Sarah Northam, Chair)
 - i. Faculty Advisory Council Awards Reception April 30, 2026, 4:00pm-5:30pm
 - ii. Northam-Over 85 nominations across all awards
 - iii. Committee and volunteers are working through the submissions
 - iv. Slay-Suggests the awards ceremony is scheduled for earlier in the day
 - b. Organization of the Council Committee (Brad Klypchak, Chair)
 - i. No new reports, the committee is moving forward with their work
 - c. Webmaster, (Jason Davis)
 - i. Davis is updating as we learn things, calendar vs. academic year clarity, minutes and agendas are going online
 - ii. Trying to address how to find FAC online, has sent that concern to Tom at MARCOMM
 - d. New Standing Committee: Academic Life and Policies
 - i. Dr. Hendricks volunteered to Chair the new committee
 - ii. Committee members include: Northam, Mills, Farris, Webster and Kopachena
6. **New Business**
 - a. College Spotlights
 - i. Morton discussed the idea that it would be a good chance to get to know all Colleges on campus
 1. It should include a "college snapshot," 5 minutes, information from Colleges they believe to be noteworthy information, such as: departments, student highlights, challenges, needs, where the FAC could assist, opportunity to ask for collaboration etc.

2. 2 Colleges per meeting
 3. May, Sept, Oct, Nov, December (2 colleges an FAC meeting)
 - a. College of Education in May
 4. Email Tami if you would like to be added to the Agenda
 5. Spring 27 could include the addition of other Divisions
- b. Dr. Figland brought discussion on the cancellation of minors
- i. FAC Discussion included: Who was on the committee? How was the criteria decided?
 - ii. Klypcheck brought that he is on the task force for these decisions, the task force is taking arguments into consideration for Tier 1 and Tier 2 decisions
 1. Arguments are due April 14 to Task Force
 2. Dobbs asked Deans for recommendations to the committee
 - iii. Many faculty brought that this meeting, the FAC, was the first time they had heard of the minor elimination
- c. Slay-How can we find out what University decisions are being made?
- d. Williams-Can we suggest a sub-committee as a sounding board to advise for things that come up in “quick time?”
- e. Much discussion from FAC as a whole concerning FAC’s role and responsibilities
- i. FAC does not want to be adversarial but would like to be included in the conversation
 - ii. Morton will bring this to the Provost
- f. Hendricks-Requested update on University vision
- g. Webster-Discussion on HEF funds
- h. Hempelmann-Requested clarification on the Provost’s role in relationship to the FAC, is she is a permanent invited guest, is she an ad hoc member?
- i. What does membership mean? The meetings are open so anyone can come...
- i. Durkin-Discussed thoughts that the Council could serve as an intermediary between the students and admin
- j. May will be our final meeting, we do not meet over the summer
7. Adjournment
- a. Northam moved to adjourn, seconded by Figland