

Faculty Senate Chair Scott Crichlow called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Members Present:

Benson, M.	Graves, C.	Kreider, P.	Pena-Yewtukhiw, E.	Valenti, M.
Cottrell, L.	Gross, J.	Leight, M.	Prinzo, L.	
Crichlow, S.	Hood, C.	Murphy, E.	Sowards, A.	
Davis, D.	Johnson, C.	O'Quinn, J.	Stueckle, J.	

1. The [Minutes](#) of the August 18, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting were approved without corrections.

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2. **Report from Faculty Senate Chair R. Scott Crichlow**

- a. Senate leadership has established regular meetings with President Benson and Interim Provost Kreider.
- b. Encouraged faculty to reach out regarding concerns both broad and specific.
- c. Scott Crichlow and Diana Davis will be attending Marshall University shared governance event on October 7.
- d. Nearly all Senate committees have met and are setting ambitious agendas.
- e. Volunteers are sought for the University Promotion and Tenure Advisory Panel. Those interested may contact Chris Staples in the Office of the Provost.

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3. **The Consent Agenda was approved as presented by unanimous consent.**

For Approval:

Curriculum Committee

New Course Report – [Annex I](#)

Course Change Report – [Annex II](#)

Program Report – [Annex III](#)

Committee on Committees, Membership, and Constituencies

Committee Roster Updates – [Annex IV](#)

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4. **Standing Reports**

- a. Curriculum Committee Report (Cate Johnson)
  - i. Committee has met twice and is off to a strong start. Committee membership includes many new members this year.  
For Information – Deleted Course Report – [Annex V](#)
- b. General Education Foundations Committee Report (Cody Hood)
  - i. Revised Honors Foundations Program proposal (originally 2016) updated to reflect current GEF learning outcomes (Annex VI).
  - ii. Committee will play a stronger advisory role in Honors course approvals.

- iii. Committee beginning data collection on impacts of Eberly Edge and similar programs on GEF enrollments.  
For Information – Honors Foundations Program Proposal, Revised from [2016 Version](#) – [Annex VI](#)
  - c. Teaching and Assessment Committee Report (Ashlee Sowards)
    - i. Reviewed new accessibility rules (implementation April 2026) to determine relevance to TACO; matter will fall under the scope of other committees.
    - ii. Blue system will be upgraded over winter break. Correspondence will be sent to faculty on what to expect.
    - iii. Committee is considering AI-related initiatives, with potential for a subcommittee.
    - iv. Intent to continue collaboration with the TLC.
    - v. Questions raised about early feedback communications and inconsistent handling of SPOT data between units.
  - d. Committee on Committees Report (Lesley Cottrell)
    - i. Chair-elects have been identified for all committees but Library, Recruitment, and Research.
  - e. Board of Governors Report (Lesley Cottrell)
    - i. BOG met September 11–12.
      - 1. Items included enrollment planning, program approvals including a M.S. in Cybersecurity, facilities updates at Jackson’s Mill and the band field, and athletics financial planning considering NIL and revenue-sharing.
      - 2. President Benson raised Association of American Universities (AAU) membership aspirations.
  - f. Report from Faculty Representative to State Government (Jason Gross)
    - i. No new updates. Meetings with WVU Government Relations team members are scheduled for October and November.
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## 5. Guest Reports

- a. Report from Fabrizio D'Aloisio, Vice President for Enrollment Management – Enrollment Strategies
  - i. Declining high school graduate numbers in WV and neighboring states highlight the need to increase WVU’s in-state market share and expand recruitment in out-of-state and new markets.
  - ii. Emphasis on enrollment diversification, (ex: first gen, online, dual enrollment, certificates).
  - iii. Will develop an enrollment strategic plan, improve data use, and strengthen collaboration with colleges.
  - iv. Pilot program planned for busing students from targeted WV high schools to campus this fall. Six high schools have been invited to an event on 10/29.
- b. Report from President Michael T. Benson
  - i. Stressed the importance of open communication and rebuilding trust between administration and faculty following recent challenges.
  - ii. Shared updates on strategic initiatives, including:
    - 1. Continuing work on financial stability and aligning programs with state workforce needs.
    - 2. Enhancing national reputation, including exploratory steps toward AAU membership.

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- 3. Fundraising progress and alumni engagement, noting strong donor interest.
- iii. Encouraged faculty to be ambassadors for WVU in their communities and to highlight academic successes alongside athletics.

- c. Report from Colin Street, Student Body President – Building Community in Academic Departments
  - i. Reported strong student turnout for fall welcome activities, with enthusiasm for campus events and traditions.
  - ii. Outlined major student government priorities for the year:
    - 1. Student Wellness: Expanding access to counseling services, shortening wait times, and creating more opportunities for peer-to-peer support.
    - 2. Academic Success: Students have expressed concerns about the transition to Ultra; emphasized the need for consistent communication from faculty and better integration of learning technologies.
    - 3. Affordability: Advocating for transparency in student fee structures, exploring open educational resources, and working with administration on keeping textbook and material costs manageable.
  - iii. Mentioned ongoing collaboration with WVU Dining Services regarding meal plan flexibility and with Transportation Services regarding student parking availability.
  - iv. Expressed appreciation for faculty engagement with students outside of the classroom, noting that positive faculty-student relationships are central to retention.
  - v. Invited faculty input on joint projects, emphasizing that student government seeks to work closely with Senate committees on issues such as recruitment, retention, and campus climate.

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## **6. Senate Business and Announcements**

- a. No new business.

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## **7. Faculty Senate Chair Scott Crichlow adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.m., to reconvene on October 27, 2025**

Corey Hunt  
Faculty Senate Office Administrator

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