

Faculty Senate Chair Scott Crichlow called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Members Present:

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

1. The Minutes of the September 22, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting were approved as distributed.

2. Report from Faculty Senate Chair R. Scott Crichlow

- a. Chair Crichlow reported on recent meetings of the Senate Leadership Group, which has continued discussions with President Benson and Interim Provost Kreider regarding the university's strategic plan, mission statement, and budget. Nearly twenty presentations have been held on the strategic plan, with several hundred survey responses submitted.
- b. Budget discussions with Interim Provost Kreider have included collecting and organizing faculty questions related to the budget to more effectively direct them to appropriate university or college-level contacts.
- c. The provost search is on track, with on-campus interviews expected within five to six weeks.
- d. He also referenced that leadership continues raising concerns expressed by faculty on topics like faculty speech rights, printer access issues across colleges, and the importance of communication with administrative leadership.
- e. Crichlow, along with Diana Davis and Matt Valenti, recently met with Faculty Senate leaders from other Big 12 institutions to discuss shared governance and common challenges.

3. Consent Agenda approved by unanimous consent.

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](#)

4. Standing Reports

- a. Curriculum Committee Report (Cate Johnson)
For Information – Deleted Course Report – [Annex V](#)
 - i. The committee met on October 16, approving the proposals listed on the consent agenda, including six programs.

- ii. Corey Hunt noted that the committee is discussion potential removal of Faculty Senate from the course deactivation workflow in CIM to avoid unnecessary delays in that process. Faculty Senate access to reports on deactivated courses would be preserved even if removed from the workflow.
- b. General Education Foundations Committee Report (Cody Hood)
 - i. The committee met on October 20. They reviewed data on the Eberly Edge program's impact on GEF course enrollment, noting no major concerns but committing to ongoing monitoring. The committee is collaborating with the General Education Re-envisioning Team and contributed survey questions for upcoming faculty and stakeholder feedback. With no new GEF course proposals this term, the committee is reviewing existing courses to ensure they meet current expectations.
- c. Teaching and Assessment Committee Report (Ashlee Sowards)
 - i. The committee met on October 10 and is forming three subcommittees to advance ongoing initiatives. Sowards reported collaboration with WVU ADVANCE to promote early-semester feedback and SPoT workshops.
 - ii. Discussion followed about departments reverting to numeric scoring for SPoT evaluations. Committee members emphasized that SPoT is designed for qualitative feedback rather than numeric scoring. Suggestions included targeted communication with department chairs and additional training sessions to reinforce proper use.
- d. Committee on Committees Report (Lesley Cottrell)
 - i. Cottrell reported that the committee is in its "maintenance phase," focusing on maintaining representation across committees, especially Curriculum, GEF, and Student Recruitment and Retention. She also previewed upcoming committee representation updates for next month.
- e. Board of Governors Report (Lesley Cottrell)
 - i. Academic Calendar Cottrell noted the upcoming statewide Board of Governors Summit in Charleston. The Board continues to discuss athletics and NIL issues, with more concrete guidance expected after the February meeting. Budget matters remain under review.
- f. Report from Faculty Representative to State Government (Jason Gross)
 - i. Gross reported will attend interim legislative meetings on November 3 at Canaan Valley Resort and a WVU reception with state legislators.
 - ii. The annual meeting of the Statewide Advisory Council of Faculty representatives will be held November 7–8. Gross invited Senator Mike Oliverio to participate in discussion on how the ACF can work more effectively with the legislature, who agreed to speak with that group on November 7.

5. Guest Reports

- a. Report from Interim Provost Paul Kreider
 - i. Kreider provided updates on dean searches for the Libraries, Eberly College, and College of Law:

1. Libraries: Listening session and feedback surveys through November 7; campus visits anticipated in February.
 2. Eberly: Feedback from listening session closes October 29; campus visits expected in March.
 3. Law: First-round interviews underway; campus visits expected in December.
 - ii. Reporting on PEIA, there is a proposed 3% premium hike and increase in spousal surcharge by \$200 per month. PEIA is also proposing a Plan D with lower premiums but higher deductibles and West Virginia-only service coverage. Open forums will occur statewide November 3–20, including one at the Mountainlair on November 17.
 - iii. Kreider also announced the Mountain State Cyber Summit, to be held November 12 at the Morgantown Marriott, focusing on cybersecurity collaboration among academia, government, and industry.
- b. Report from Associate Provost Lou Slimak – Updates on Assessment, HLC Report
- i. Slimak discussed multiple initiatives:
 - ii. Formation of a work group or community of practice to discuss better method for post-graduate outcomes data collection, with examples being job placement, earnings, and debt-to-earnings ratios. Faculty interested in participating can submit the survey linked below:
 1. https://wvu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1QUy9RPz1K25oG2
 - iii. In spring, Faculty volunteers will be sought to aid in clarifying connections between Academic Unit Review and Board of Governors Program Review.
 - iv. Creation of a University Program Review Council combining undergraduate and graduate perspectives to address college-level trends.
 - v. Recognition of WVU's successful HLC reaccreditation, with all components met and no follow-up required.
 - vi. Updates to CIM forms to clarify the intent-to-plan process.
- c. Report from University Police Department Chief Sherry St. Clair – Campus Safety [Presentation Slides - PDF](#)
- i. The LiveSafe App now includes a panic button feature that directly alerts UPD with GPS location.
 - ii. The Safety Notification System includes WVU Alerts, Campus Warnings, and Community Notices, each with varying levels of urgency and communication channels.
 - iii. Community policing and training programs include Active Shooter response, Alcohol Awareness, “Protect” self-defense, Verbal De-escalation, and “Stop the Bleed” training.
- d. Report from Dean of Students Carrie Showalter – Student Mental Health
- i. Campus support structure includes Care Team (behavioral intervention, weekly risk reviews), Carruth Center (short-term clinical triage, 24/7 crisis coverage, walk-in and telehealth), Healthy Minds University (psychiatric/long-term care), and the TAC threat assessment team for risk of harm to others.
 - ii. Steady increase in care reports since 2016 with a post-COVID spike; 488 reports through midterms this semester; critical/elevated cases up ~40%.
 - iii. Student surveys show high rates of loneliness and psychological distress. Showalter noted that only 32.3% of students feel the college prioritizes well-being (national average 53%).

- iv. Support team uses emergency funding, food/SNAP assistance, transportation help, and small practical aid (e.g., laundry funds) to remove barriers affecting student success.
 - v. Showalter requests that faculty file care reports early for attendance, grade, appearance, or behavior changes so the care team can intervene.
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6. Senate Business and Announcements

- a. For Information – Committee of Retired Faculty Annual Report – [Annex VI](#)
 - b. Executive Session – Review Honorary Degree Nominees
 - i. Motion made and seconded to enter executive session to discuss honorary degree nominees. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting entered executive session at 4:13 p.m.
 - ii. The meeting returned to open session at 4:24 p.m.
 - iii. A motion was made and seconded to approve the slate of honorary degree candidates approved during executive session. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
 - c. Faculty Constitution – Approval Process and Summary of Revisions
 - i. Multi-year draft that began with a subcommittee two years ago and was revised extensively by Shared Governance last year.
 - ii. Major changes focused on:
 - 1. Making assemblies more workable by keeping assemblies as forums for discussion while moving votes to an electronic ballot after the assembly.
 - 2. A new “Senate Special Action” process was proposed to allow prompt Senate consideration of urgent faculty petitions, while the threshold to call a full university assembly by petition was raised from 5% to 15% and requiring signers from multiple constituencies to ensure broader support.
 - 3. The draft proposes lowering the maximum representation any single constituency may have in Faculty Senate to 25%.
 - 4. Introduces required attendance of two meetings per semester for Senators, with procedures for removal for non-attendance. It was clarified that any motion to remove a senator would still come from a member of Faculty Senate, and not Senate leadership or the Faculty Senate Office. Votes to remove would require a 2/3 majority vote.
 - 5. A concise side-by-side (current vs proposed) version to be circulated prior to the November Executive Committee meeting.
 - 6. Members asked to submit amendment language before the November meeting so that it can be refined as needed.
 - 7. If approved by Exec in November, revised constitution will be presented to the full Faculty Senate on December 1 and, if approved, proceed to the University Assembly for ratification.
 - d. New Business
 - i. Member requested a future presentation/update on the Barnes and Nobles First Day Complete program.
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7. Chair Crichlow adjourned the meeting at 4:49 p.m., to reconvene on November 17, 2025.

Corey Hunt
Faculty Senate Office Administrator