

**MINUTES FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026, FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:00 P.M. IN CAMPUS COMMONS 2200**

Present: Brown, Feinstein, Fischer, Fleming, Gershwin, Haddad, Landry, McDuffie, Newman, Schuttler, Senbet,

Call to Order: 4:02pm

Approval of the Agenda: approved without objection

Approval of the Minutes from February 9, 2026 approved without objection

Announcements

Chair's Report (Newman) – The Board of Trustees meeting was held last week. The provost search is moving forward. Some faculty have expressed concern about continuing the search without a sitting president next year. However, since applications have already been received, the committee will continue reviewing materials and asking candidates about their comfort with entering the role during a presidential transition. A meeting will be held soon to discuss next steps. There are both pros and cons to proceeding, and it would still be possible to delay the process entirely if necessary. At this time, there is no clear reason to postpone the search. The committee's charge is to vet applicants and determine which candidates to invite to campus. If the committee determines that none of the applicants are suitable, the search could then be postponed. Newman will be sending invitations to meet with prospective provost candidates to faculty and senators. If the search is held off until a permanent president is in place, we would have an interim provost for at least two years. Work is also underway to develop a calendar of upcoming Faculty Senate agenda items, and it is becoming quite full. Please be mindful of timing and workload for any items that would need to go to the Board of Trustees in June.

Senate Committee Reports

Academic Policies (Gershwin) – Academic Policies will be looking at the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) policies at the next meeting. The committee passed the graduate school 4+1 Accelerated Program proposal that will go to Faculty Senate.

Codification (Schuttler) – Codification continues working on the Administrators Moving to or Returning to Faculty policy and another Salary Equity document.

Elections (Schuttler) – The call for nominations were sent out earlier today.

Faculty Welfare (Brown) – Faculty Welfare continues to work on the University Regulations for faculty evaluations. Mit McHlaughlin will attend FWC on March 11th.

Salary Equity (Senbet) – The Salary Equity Committee reviewed and approved the proposed revisions to the Budget Priorities Guidelines. The revisions will now move forward to Codification. The committee considered a counteroffer from the administration in addition to other proposed values. The committee raised a couple of questions, including what is the projected budget impact? Why was the percentage removed? The promotion proposal will be removed from the Faculty Senate agenda.

Standing Reports

Board of Trustees (Fischer) – The Board of Trustees' agenda and minutes are available online. All action items were approved. Funding for the football field lights will come from a private donor. The proposed changes to Holmes Dining Hall were approved and will be funded by Sodexo as part of its contract agreement. The Trustees expressed interest in expanding stackable

programs and exploring opportunities to combine programs. They also discussed enrollment and shared several related ideas. Fischer noted that the primary responsibility of the Board of Trustees is to select and evaluate the president. Policy states that input may be gathered from other groups, including faculty; however, the final decision rests with the Trustees. The faculty perspective in this process will be represented by the Faculty Trustee. Fischer encourages faculty to consider the Faculty Trustee position next year.

President (Feinstein) – President Feinstein expressed appreciation for all the well wishes and kind comments. After eight years, he feels it is simply time for a break. He will continue working through August 1 and will remain president of the philanthropic organization while assisting the incoming president with the transition. Last week, he attended the Chamber of Commerce dinner with Trustees and participated in a fireside chat with the mayor. March 18th is Greeley Day at the Capitol; students will be able to share why Greeley matters and continue advocating around cost issues. April 2nd President Feinstein has an interview with Commissioner Scott. There is an upcoming accreditation site visit from COCA to ensure readiness to begin instruction and the White Coat Ceremony and building celebration will be held on July 24th.

President Feinstein shared that Senator Bennet asked many questions about higher education funding and was surprised that the institution is not funded similarly to CU and CSU. He discussed the future of healthcare, infrastructure needs, and the concerns younger generations are experiencing. He appeared genuinely interested and engaged in the conversation. President Feinstein is also scheduled to have dinner with Wisner and Kirkmeyer in the coming weeks.

Provost (Fleming) – The Vice Provost search is moving forward, and semi-finalist candidates will be on campus on March 9. The Academic Affairs (AA) newsletter will be sent out soon. It will highlight the AA team's participation in the Women's Walk, and Newman will contribute a segment about a module on AI literacy for educator and students. The book club, which previously focused on leadership in higher education, received interest in continuing. The next selection will broaden the focus on leadership more generally. Additionally, all reports from Hanover have been received and are currently being reviewed.

Dean's Representative (Haddad) – The deans are currently working on their budget submissions. They have received their adjunct budget allocations as well as travel budgets and are operating within tight constraints in both areas. Comprehensive reviews have also begun.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Comments to the Good of the Order

Chris Harris is presenting on AI on Thursday at 2:30pm.

Thank you, President Feinstein and Provost Fleming, for your consistent attendance to FSEC and FS.

Adjournment 4:58pm