

**MINUTES FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025, FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:00 P.M. IN CAMPUS COMMONS 2200**

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

Absent:

Call to Order: 4:02pm

Approval of the Agenda: approved without objection

Approval of the Minutes from September 8, 2025: approved without objection

Announcements

Chair's Report (Newman) – The first Faculty Senate newsletter was distributed last week, and Newman received positive feedback through her linked Qualtrics survey. At tomorrow's State of the University Address, she will highlight two stories from the survey. Newman is also working with Provost Fleming on the Chief of Staff search. The Salary Equity Committee has formed a subcommittee to draft budget priority language for the Board Policy Manual. This week, Newman will meet with PVA senators to discuss their goals, concerns, and hopes for the University. She will continue holding similar meetings with senators from each college.

Senate Committee Reports

Academic Policies (Gershwin) – Academic Policies will continue working on the Micro Credential Review Committee language and discussing any lingering questions.

Codification (Schuttler) – Codification meets on Wednesday and will pick up where they left off.

Elections (Schuttler) – The call for nominations were extended to Wednesday.

Faculty Welfare (Brown) – Faculty Welfare is meeting on Wednesday and will continue working on the evaluations process.

Salary Equity (Senbet) – The Salary Equity Committee formed a subcommittee that will work with administrators on budget priority language. The goal is to move quickly, which may require work outside regular hours. Today's discussion included updates to the stipend for faculty promotion, where HR will provide some data for the next meeting. The committee also shared feedback on the faculty and staff compensation guidelines, HR will clean up the language.

Standing Reports

Board of Trustees (Fischer) – No report

President (Feinstein) – At the upcoming State of the University Address, President Feinstein is hoping for high student attendance as he plans to discuss several key topics, including the budget. He noted that elected officials are engaged in conversations about both federal and state challenges. It is homecoming week, which will feature several events and activities, with a football and volleyball game this weekend. President Feinstein also shared that he attended the Houston game with city officials. Looking ahead, a Budget Town Hall is scheduled for October

- Kyle asked about an update on the accreditation to the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM)?

- President Feinstein shared that they met in late August. Revisions were accepted a week ago and a team is now being sent to verify the application.
- There's significant focus on allocating funds and ensuring that the entire process runs smoothly.
- Recruitment of students will begin in December, contingent upon obtaining COCA pre-accreditation approval.
- Is \$1.3M an ongoing expense?
 - The \$1.3M funding will be utilized over five years, with strategic planning underway to utilize the resources effectively.
 - This investment supports Graduate Medical Education (GME) growth (residency and fellowship training for medical graduates). Although there was an option to delay the project by a year, this would have been more costly.

Provost (Fleming) – The Chief of Staff search committee is small but mighty. They are moving forward, with the first candidate arriving next week. Invitations have also been sent to two additional candidates, along with an alternate. The budget picture remains concerning, and attention is being given to spending trends. Phase IV of the strategic plan was discussed today. The President also announced the addition of a fee for H1B visas and advised H1B holders not to travel and to return by the 21st. This change is expected to impact UNC, as a number of faculty members are not U.S. citizens.

- Senbet asked if the H1B fees are annual and if there can be an exemption?
 - Fleming shared that the government may be reconsidering the fees and that it would apply to new H1B holders.
- H1B holders are being advised not to travel if they are currently in the country and if they are out of the country to fly back as soon as possible.
 - General Council English is informed of these changes.
- Landry asked how this would affect searches?
 - It was considered, but the current focus is on existing employees.
 - The situation will need time to settle, though there may be potential impacts.
 - Fischer suggested providing search committees with clear guidance on what they can and cannot review.
 - Members agreed that such guidance would be helpful.

Dean's Representative (Haddad) – No report

Unfinished Business

New Business

- Discussion item: Committee formation process
 - Newman is looking for feedback and information on the process of creating university wide committees, with focus on the Micro Credentials Review Committee (MRC)
 - Brown suggested reaching out to Jeff Temkin or Stan Luger, they have historical knowledge of the university.
 - Schuttler shared that in her time here new committees have not been created.

- It was suggested that this could be an ad hoc committee or a completely new senate committee such as a curriculum committee.
 - It was shared that the university used to have a curriculum committee
- Haddad explain that the MRC should be a university wide committee because micro credentials can be earned outside of the classroom.
- It was suggested the committee will fall under the provost.
 - The provost's office does not have the capacity to staff the committee and instead Stephani could be the one to report to.
 - Gershwin will reach out to Stephani
 - The MRC could function similar to the HSI Steering Committee
- It was also noted that the chair could be the registrar, who would report to Pete Lein as it would still fall under academics even if the badges are non-credit bearing.
 - Senbet asked about the possibility of having a faculty and staff chair/co-chair.
- There is concern about the proliferation of committees and challenges in adequately populating them.
- Brown suggested that Faculty Welfare could take this next semester.
- It was noted that the integration of the COM would need to be discussed.
 - The COM will be treated like any other college and integrated as usual.
- It was asked how certain COM faculty will be classified, faculty vs. preceptors.
 - It was clarified that mentors/teachers who are preceptors would not be faculty.
- Fleming shared that bringing policies straight to Senate and not through committees, would be concerning.
- Newman will reach out to Stephani regarding the COM policy for Codification and the MRC committee. She also raised the possibility of reinstating the curriculum committee.

Comments to the Good of the Order

Thank you to the administration for their willingness to work with the SEC and the Faculty Senate subcommittee.

Adjournment 4:51pm