



UNIVERSITY OF
**NORTHERN
COLORADO**

#648

**MINUTES FOR THE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025,
FACULTY SENATE MEETING AT 4:00 P.M. IN MICHENER LIBRARY MULTI-
PURPOSE ROOM**

Present: Brownhill, Chapin, Cieminski, DeKrey, Dietz, Feinstein, Fischer Fleming, Garrett, Gershwin, Haddad, Han, Humphrey, Karlin, Lee, Leonard, Levin, Mannello, Henderson, Morse, Muller, Newman, Schuttler, Senbet, Trask, Wieben

Zoom: Alcantar, Castro, Elkins, Kang, Landry, Leatherman, Paytoe Gbayee, Shafie

Absent: Lunaris

Guest: Tamara English, Stephani Etheridge-Woodson, Beth Longenecker

1. Call to Order 4:00pm
2. Approval of the September 2, 2025 Agenda approved with the correction of the meeting day and removal the Policy Check Out Process Proposal, that will go to Codification first for review.
3. Approval of the April 21, 2025 Faculty Senate Minutes approved with correction to the numbering.
4. Chair's Report (Newman) –Welcome to the first meeting of the semester! I'm looking forward to working with all of you and collaborating with administration on several important items. A warm welcome to Stephani Etheridge-Woodson, the new Vice Provost for Enrollment Services and Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Keith Humphrey, the new Vice President of Student Affairs! Our key goals this semester include integrating the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM), strengthening shared governance, and navigating AI. Thank you to our committee chairs for the work already being done!
5. Administrative Reports

President (Feinstein) – Welcome back everyone! President Feinstein is happy to share some good news from Friday: The Commission on Accreditation approved the COM's pre-accreditation proposal. They will begin preparing for the site visit, during mid-October, where they will be looking at pre-existing spaces. Last week, we also celebrated the beam raising and signing. On December 4–5, we'll meet to review the final steps of pre-accreditation, once approve UNC can begin admitting medical students. We've already started conversations with partners and sharing the names of admitted students. Last week the President's office sent out a Fall Semester Welcome Message, highlighting milestones achieved last year, such as earning the HSI accreditation and R2 designation. The Governor has implemented budget cuts to higher education by approximately \$12 million, this is very unfortunate and frustrating. However, faculty salary still remains a priority. The UNC volleyball team beat Washington on Friday, followed by a loss against Colgate on Saturday. On Saturday the football team secured a win against Chadron State. Tonight, volleyball is playing against CSU. A few upcoming events include the Faculty Promotions and Tenure Reception at the Feinstein Residence on September 9th and the Star of the University Address on September 23rd.

- Dietz asked how much money is being paid to student athletes.
 - It was clarified that no NIL funds will come directly from the university, funding comes from donors and sponsors.
- DeKrey thanked President Feinstein for representing the university at the beam raising and asked about progress.
 - The project remains on time and on budget, with a ribbon cutting planned for June and the white coat ceremony scheduled for August.

Provost (Fleming) – The College of Performing and Visual Arts will host the opening of the Lydia and Robert Ruyle gallery on September 11th. A group of six universities will be visiting to see how UNC manages certain initiatives, with UNC serving as one of three selected sites. The Office of Global Engagement is also hosting visitors from 22 other countries. This year marks important milestones for our cultural centers: APASS and NASS celebrate 30 years, and the César Chávez Center marks 40 years. During tomorrow’s cabinet meeting, the Amorous policy will be discussed. The Hanover report has been shared with Senbet and Newman, and work is underway on the second phase, which involves a deeper dive with other institutions. Leadership workshops are also being planned. On Friday, there will be a meeting to determine the semi-finalist for the Chief of Staff position. Nacy Sileo will be the chair of the EBS Dean Search, with recruiting to begin soon. A request will be sent soon for the VP of Academic Resources and Faculty Affairs search committee.

Dean’s Representative (Haddad) – No report

Board of Trustees (Fischer) – No report

6. Staff Council Reports

Classified Staff Council (Henderson) – Classified Staff Council will be meeting next Wednesday. Colleagues have expressed a disconnect with UNC, and efforts are underway to consider how CSC is viewed on campus and how to bridge that gap. Work is also being done to prepare for the upcoming State of the University speech.

Professional Administrative Staff Council (Castro) – No report.

7. Standing Committee Reports

Academic Policies (Gershwin) – Academic Policies had their first meeting right before this, the committee discussed mandatory syllabus statements and the integration of the new medical school. At the next meeting, documents on the Micro-credential committee will be discussed.

Codification (Schuttler) – Codification will continue reviewing committee bylaws.

Elections (Schuttler) – No report

Faculty Welfare (Brown) – Faculty Welfare will be working on recommended language for funding.

Salary Equity (Senbet) – Salary Equity reviewed proposed language to the funding guidelines in the Board Policy Manual. The goal is to bring this revised policy to the December Board of Trustees meeting, to expedite the process the committee decided to have a subcommittee that will work with the administration in reviewing the policy. If anyone is interested in joining the subcommittee, please reach out to Dawit Senbet. The committee also discussed future agenda items that include the stipend for faculty promotions, the staff and faculty compensation guidelines, the step back policy, and the distinguished professor stipend.

8. Student Government Association Report (Brownhill) –The Student Government Association is focusing on the elections for freshman senators and a few senior senators. They are planning on training and getting the word out to students.

9. Special Orders

- Elect Faculty Senate Executive Committee Member-at-Large
 - i. Dana Landry – elected by acclamation
- Elect Faculty Senate Scholarship Committee
 - i. If anyone is interested, please contact Harmony Newman.

10. Unfinished Business

- None

11. New Business

- [Faculty Success Stories Qualtrics Survey \(LINKED HERE\)](#)
 - i. Newman shared the survey and has already received some feedback.
 - ii. The survey will be linked in the newsletter, and senators will be asked to share it with colleagues.
 - 1. Respondents who wish to remain anonymous will not be identified; otherwise, feedback will be shared. This is seen as an opportunity for improvement.
 - iii. Provost Fleming shared that some of the responses can be included in the Academic Affairs Newsletter.
- Policy Check Out Process Proposal
 - i. Review and offer feedback, vote next meeting
 - ii. The proposal will be sent to Codification for review before Faculty Senate.

12. Special Reports

- Tamara English, UNC General Counsel
 - i. Information on Compliance Policy Change
 - 1. Colorado Senate Bill 25-276 prohibits public entities and their employees from sharing personal data related to immigration status with federal immigration enforcement.
 - 2. Institutions are required to have a policy regarding these changes.
 - a. Revisions were made to University Regulations 3-4-129 (FERPA) and 3-7-134 (Access Control) to remain compliant with the Senate Bill.
 - 3. If federal immigration enforcement is requesting data or personal information, the General Counsel is the person of contact.
 - a. If they are requesting access control of facilities, UNC chief of Police is the person of contact.
 - ii. Levin asked how Graduate Assistants will know what to do.
 - 1. It was suggested that guidance be broadcast and that similar procedures be posted on the website once updates are complete.
 - iii. Paytoe Gbayee asked how this will work with access to campus buildings that are open to the public.
 - 1. It was clarified that they will have access to any building that the public can enter.

- iv. Questions were also raised about whether Residence Hall Advisors are aware of these protocols.
 - 1. They have not been informed yet but will be soon.
- v. Administration is currently working on how to best communicate these updates.
 - 1. While campus buildings are open to the public, classrooms are not. In such cases, federal agencies typically coordinate with UNC Police.

- Beth Longenecker, Dean College of Medicine

- i. Brainstorm partnership opportunities
- ii. Update –
 - 1. In August 2024, UNC received funding and achieved candidacy status.
 - a. Since then, three deans and support staff have been hired.
 - 2. In Summer 2025, more staff have been hired and searches for both support staff and faculty positions continue.
 - 3. The program is currently in candidacy status and working toward pre-accreditation, with the goal of beginning student admissions in December.
 - 4. MOUs have been established so that if partner institutions have students who meet requirements, UNC can guarantee them an interview.
 - 5. The curriculum for the first class is being developed, with research to follow.
 - a. Faculty were thanked for their continued collaboration with COM.
 - b. Next year, a broader search will take place, and outreach will be made to those interested in participating.
 - 6. Work is ongoing with different colleges and offices to identify outreach opportunities.
- iii. DeKrey asked if the guaranteed 10% of UNC students is reached, will it be capped.
 - 1. Longenecker clarified that they won't cap it if reached.
- iv. Fleming noted that there will be many opportunities will be available to those across campus with COM
 - 1. To participate directly in COM initiatives and to engage in new opportunities created by COM's presence.
- v. An initial benchmark assessment will be conducted to evaluate student performance in the curriculum, identifying strengths, gaps, and ways to enhance the program.
- vi. DeKrey asked whether there are opportunities to buy the curriculum.
 - 1. It was clarified that there are not. Only small changes can be made, and any major changes would require a lengthy process and could delay progress.
- vii. Longitudinal courses will be offered, which could serve as a significant benefit for students.
- viii. There will be a lot of student success opportunities
- ix. Leatherman asked how much emphasis there will be on rural health?
 - 1. It was confirmed that rural health tracks will be offered
- x. Gershwin noted that the COM would have strong connections with EBS,

1. Longenecker stated that they are working opportunities in areas such as ASL. More mapping will be needed.
- xi. Shafie Asked if there will be biostatistics offered.
 1. Longenecker stated that a biostatistics course will be included in the second year of the curriculum.

13. Comments to the Good of the Order

- Legal clinic on Sunday in Candelaria from 1-4 (in UNC Today newsletter)
- Most of this semester FS meetings will be in CC 2300 and starting Dec 8 and forward Senate meeting will be in UC council room.
- Thank you, President Feinstein and Provost Fleming, for the promotion and tenure reception.
- Catalyst is looking for faculty participation, if anyone is interested reach out to Harmony Newman.
- If any senators would like to be Faculty spotlight, contact Newman.
- This Friday, the Office of Undergraduate Research will be having an open house.

14. Adjournment 5:23pm