

UNIVERSITY of LOUISVILLE

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2026

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was held on January 14, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in the Chao Auditorium in Ekstrom Library and online on the TEAMS Platform, Chair Andrew Winters presiding.

Senators Registering Attendance

A&S: Matthew Biberman, Michael Cunningham, Tomas Edison, Eugene Mueller, Natalie Polzer, David Roelfs, Christopher Tillquist **Business:** Ben Foster, Zac Goldman, Kathleen Gosser, Dale McIntosh **Dentistry:** James Harrison, Tiffany McPheeters, Thomas Salter, Jolene Zirnheld **Education:** Seth Eckler, Jon Lee, Anita Moorman **Kent:** Shantel Crosby, Emi Ramirez, Andrew Winters **Law:** Lisa Nicholson **Libraries:** Rachel Howard, Courtney Stine, Vida Vaughn **Medicine:** Mustafa Al-Kawaaz, Robert Bert, Matthew Black, Barbara Clark, Jennifer Hamm, Venkatakrishna Jala, Adrianna Masters, Christa Nnoromele, Ben Schoenbachler, Hugh Shoff **Music:** Katie Donner, Rebecca Long **Nursing:** Debra Anderson, Rudy Clark **Part-Time Faculty:** Aaron Ellis, Roy Fuller, Lance Gibson, Joseph Gutmann, Lynda Mercer **Public Health:** Lee Bewley, Jelani Kerr **Speed:** Thomas Berfield, Adrian Lauf, Olfa Nasraoui, Angela Thompson

Guests Attending

University President: Dr. Gerry Bradley
University Provost: Dr. Kathryn Cardarelli
Chief Financial Officer: Mr. Rick Graycarek
V President Budget & Finance: Ms. Jill Mullaney
V Provost Finance & Special Initiatives: Dr. David Schultz
Senior University Provost: Dr. Gail DePuy
Vice Provost-Faculty Affairs: Dr. Cherie Dawson

Also Attending

Staff Senate Representative: Ms. Becky Patterson
Student Government Representative: Ms. Kathleen Price
Provost Office: Dr. Kim Moss-Linnear
Provost Office: Ms. Tammy Green
UCW Representative: Professor Melanie Gast
ULARP Representative: Professor Elaine Wise
UofL Today: Mr. Chris Wooton

Senators Not Registering Attendance

A&S: Rachel Neal, Gerard Williger **Education:** Erica McClure **Law:** Daniel Canon, Enid Trucios-Haynes **Medicine:** Joshua Choo, Geoffrey Clark, Patrick Harris, Guillermo Rougier, Alan Smith, Lauren Talley, Alka Tyagi, Zeng Wang, Alexander Williams **Music:** Allison Ogden **Nursing:** Karen Turner **Part-Time Faculty:** Antigone Mehani **Public Health:** Michael Sekula

Call to Order

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In Memoriam: [Professor Robert C. Myers – McIntosh](#)

Senator Dale McIntosh (CoB) spoke in honor of the late Professor Robert Myers, highlighting his 56-year tenure at the College of Business at the University of Louisville, his roles, and his profound impact on students and colleagues, with contributions from colleagues and alumni.

Action Item: Approval of [December Minutes](#) – Winters

The December meeting minutes were approved and are linked above.

Report: [University President](#) – Bradley

President Bradley provided updates on the state budget session, legislative bills affecting higher education, funding requests for performance funding, the Kentucky Manufacturing Extension Program, the STEM building, and fundraising.

State Budget Session: The Kentucky state budget session is underway, with expectations of a less generous budget compared to previous years. Dr. Bradley described ongoing meetings with legislators to advocate for university funding priorities.

Funding Requests: The President outlined specific funding requests, including increased performance funding for universities, support for the Kentucky Manufacturing Extension Program, and capital funding for the STEM building to accommodate growing student populations.

Legislative Bills: Dr. Bradley discussed two legislative bills of concern: a transfer bill related to credit recognition for transfer students, and a proactive admissions bill involving the Kentucky Department of Education and CPE, expressing reservations about their effectiveness and potential for misinformation.

Strategic Plan and Philanthropy: President Bradley mentioned the upcoming Board of Trustees vote on the strategic plan, emphasizing resource alignment, and reported on efforts to improve university philanthropy, including plans for a comprehensive fundraising campaign.

Report: [University Provost](#) – Cardarelli

Strategic Plan Implementation and Unit Alignment: The Provost provided updates on the university's strategic plan, its presentation to the Board of Trustees, and the requirement for all academic units to develop aligned five-year strategic plans by June, with ongoing tracking and support.

Strategic Plan Status: The strategic plan is set for a Board of Trustees vote, with metrics and goals established for the next five years, and the current version available on the university website.

Unit-Level Planning: All academic units are expected to complete their own five-year strategic plans by the end of June, aligning with the university's plan, with resources provided by institutional effectiveness to assist units at various stages of planning.

Progress Tracking: Quarterly updates from academic units will be required to monitor progress, ensuring alignment and accountability across the university.

Enrollment and Retention Trends: Current enrollment and retention data were presented, noting increases in first-time and transfer student admissions, challenges in readmits and local recruitment, and ongoing efforts to improve student registration and retention rates.

Enrollment Data: First-time in college (FTIC) deposits are up 4% and transfer admits are up 6% compared to last year, with slight declines in readmits and out-of-state students.

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Retention Efforts: Current retention for fall entrants is at 93%, below the 95% target, with extensive outreach efforts including direct contact by RAs, phone calls, and emails to encourage registration.

Challenges Identified: A prolonged holiday break and academic status issues contributed to lower registration rates, prompting detailed tracking and engagement by deans to address individual student situations.

This presentation is linked above.

Report: [University Finance - Graycarek/Mullaney/Schultz](#)

University Budget Process and Work Group Recommendations: University CFO, Mr. Rick Graycarek, Ms. Jill Mullaney, Vice President for Budget and Finance and Dr. David Schultz, Vice Provost for Finance and Special Initiatives reviewed the FY26 budget status, the work of the Budget Steering Committee, and the outcomes of three budget work groups focused on revenue generation, cost containment, and program review.

FY26 Budget Status: The university's general funds are up \$15 million year-over-year due to enrollment growth, with financial aid and capital expenses also increasing as planned, and cash on hand metrics being closely monitored for financial stability.

Budget Steering Committee: The committee, representing diverse university constituencies, recommended a performance funding incentive pool aligned with state metrics and identified short-term budget levers such as at-risk and strategic funding pools.

Budget Work Groups: Three work groups developed 53 recommendations targeting \$90 million in budget impact through revenue growth, efficiencies, and cost containment, with 20 recommendations currently under review by leadership for potential implementation.

Libraries and Budget Model Concerns: Questions were raised about the impact of the budget model on non-revenue-generating units like libraries, with assurances that short-term funding levers have been used to support them and that the model will continue to evolve.

Ongoing Idea Generation: Leadership encouraged continued submission of budget and efficiency ideas from all university members, emphasizing that the process is ongoing and inclusive.

This presentation is linked above.

Action Item: [Special Election – Crosby](#)

Senator Shantel Crosby conducted a special election to fill vacancies on several university committees. After floor nominations were received and added to the ballot, a link to electronic voting was sent to faculty senators.

Action Item: [Position statement on collaborative decision-making – Winters](#)

Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Andrew Winters introduced a position statement on collaborative decision making, developed by an ad hoc committee with input from Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and SGA. If approved, the statement will be presented to the Board of Trustees.

The statement is linked above.

Action Item: [CEHD Academic Proposals – Ng](#)

Dr. Chin Ng, chair of the Academic Programs Committee, introduced the two proposals that were explained further by Dr. Deborah Powers. The senate discussed and approved both proposals for a

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new Master of Education in Education Administration and Leadership and a related graduate certificate, designed as stackable credentials to enhance student pathways and competitiveness.

- [M.Ed. in Education Administration & Leadership](#)
- [Graduate Certificate in Education Administration](#)

Both proposals are linked above.

Information Item: [University Libraries survey of Canon print and mail services](#) – Stine

Senator Stine presented survey results highlighting issues with Canon's print and mail services in the libraries, including inconsistent mail delivery, high costs for non-standard paper, and the financial burden on library budgets, with ongoing efforts to seek solutions.

This presentation is linked above.

Report: Student Government – Price

Ms. Kathleen Price reported on the restart of the bike lock program, upcoming events such as the We Are 502 event and leadership exchanges, participation in advocacy days, and ongoing elections.

Report: Staff Senate – Patterson

There was no report as the Staff Senate does not meet in January.

Report: [Faculty Senate Chair](#) - Winters

Dr. Winters updated the senators on the Viewpoint Neutrality Policy, annual reapportionment of the senate, the SACS Self-Study Leadership Team. The report is linked above.

Standing Committees' Reports

- **[Academic Programs](#) – Ng**
This report is online.
- **[Committee on Committees & Credentials](#) – Crosby**
This report is online.
- **[Executive Committee](#) – Tillquist**
This report is online.
- **[Part-time Faculty](#) - Fuller**
This report is online.
- **[Planning & Budget](#) – Harris**
This report is online.
- **REDBOOK & Bylaws - Ramirez**
There was no report as this committee had not met.

Other Committee Reports

- **AAUP Representative – Cunningham**
AAUP is waiting on its Open Records Request and will review the grievance process.
- **Legislative Advisory Council - Mueller**
Senator Eugene Mueller reported that this committee recently met for the first time and discussed legislative bills of interest.

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- **Sustainability Council – Anderson**

This report is online.

- **UCW Representative – Gast**

This report is online.

- **ULARP – Wise**

This report is online.

Old Business – Winters

Concerns were raised about the timing of RAVE alerts. Dr. Winters will reach out to University Police to attend a future meeting for discussion.

New Business – Winters

Senator Courtney Stine announced the University Libraries first undergraduate researcher awards. Students across all disciplines are encouraged to apply. Applications are open until March.

Announcements – Winters

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Henry
Senate Coordinator