

Faculty Senate Minutes

November 6, 2025

Call to order:

A regular meeting of the University of North Alabama's Faculty Senate (FS) convened via MS Teams Video Conferencing at 3:30pm with President Carter presiding.

Members in attendance

Jackie Allen, Lisa Ann Blankinship, Sidney Blaylock, Miranda Bowie, Charles Brooks, Keli Brothers, Danny Burton, Corey Cagle, Justin Carter, Freda Coleman-Reed, James DaSambiagio-Moore, Jenny Dawson, Ravi Gollapalli, Anissa Graham, Leah Graham, Einar Gudmundsson, John Hodges, Rebecca Hopkins, Andrea Hunt, Jason Imbrogno, Lorie Johnson, Kelly Latchaw, Mark Linder, Melanie Looser, Tom Lukowicz, Jason McCann, Ashley Molina, Andrea Nate, Brent Olive, Gary Padgett, Michael Pretes, Steven Puckett, Chris Purser, Candice Quinn, Suzanne Reese Mills, Robert Rausch, Beverly Russell, Justin Scott, Darlene Townsend, Gretchen Windt, Ping Zhao, Rui Zhou

Members not in attendance

Argie Campbell (3rd)

I. Recognized Proxies

Dr. Ulrich Grotsch for Sen. Schoenbachler

Mr. Eric Knox for Sen. Montgomery

II. Recognize guests

Manly Glee Barksdale, Benjamin Williams, Demetrius Witt

III. Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda as submitted was made by FS President Carter. No amendment. Agenda approved as submitted

IV. Approval of the Minutes from October 9, 2025 meeting

A motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by FS President Carter. No amendment. Minutes approved as submitted.

V. Remarks from Dr. Ken Kitts, President

- The AGB Review report recommended continued collaboration with Shared Governance, cooperation, increased communication, and a BoT statement. [AGB report disseminated to Senators in minute packet.]
- A new Lion Alert 360 App is now available.
- New city officials now in office. First budget meeting is expected on 11.18.25
- UNA FY27 budget discussions beginning with State officials.
- 2026 is an election year which will shift the Montgomery schedule (May primary; runoffs in June).
- University education remains an excellent investment per Bureau of Labor Statistics. College costs may appear inaccurate due to increases in scholarship use.

VI. Remarks from Dr. Brien Smith, Provost/ EVPAA

- An interim research misconduct policy will be used to remain in compliance with federal standards. The new policy will be reviewed through shared governance.
- CTL faculty fellows program will launch in Spring 2026. The CTL will be presented at the Dec. 2025 BoT meeting.
- Engineering Technology recently completed their accreditation process. Currently there are 22 accredited programs at UNA which keep current practices at industry standards and relevant.
- 23 new faculty searches approved with many currently underway.

VII. Remarks from Dr. Justin Carter, Faculty Senate President

- Request for recommendations regarding the AGB review be sent to FSP Carter. Faculty Affairs and Academic Affairs subcommittees are asked to do the same.
- CTL and AI panels coming in January 2026.

VIII. Reports

A. Standing Committees

- i. Faculty Affairs – No report
- ii. Academic Affairs – No report
- iii. Faculty Attitude Survey (Sen. Purser) – New questions are asked to be submitted to the committee. FAS 2026 will be out in early March and close before Spring Break 2026.
- iv. Faculty Handbook Oversight Committee (Sen. Lukowicz) – Update on credit hour ad hoc and department chair edits. Noted that faculty merit process is not well laid out in Faculty Handbook.

IX. Unfinished Business

None

X. New Business

- a. Approval of Handbook edits from COAD
 - i. Sections 2.6.2 Special Criteria by Ranks for Appointment, Promotion, and/or Tenure, 2.6.3 Annual and Mid-Tenure Review, 2.6.4 Procedure for Promotion and/or Tenure, and Appendix 2.C.1. Motion to approve was made by Sen. Scott, seconded by Sen. Johnson. Discussion. Motion withdrawn. FSP Carter will ask a representative to join the December 2025 meeting to address the raised questions.
 - b. Approval of Faculty Attitude Survey Report – Motion to approve as presented and distribute online was made by Sen. L. Graham with second by Sen. Scott. No discussion. [Vote: 39Y: 1N] Motion passes.

XI. Information Items

- A. AGB review of Shared Governance report

- B. Sen. Imbrogno asked about interest in having online courses so noted on student transcripts.
- C. Sen. L. Graham recommends forming an Ad Hoc committee related to the FAS 2025 results and the AGB report.

XII. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Sen. Scott and seconded by Sen. Bowie. Meeting adjourned at 4:29pm.