

Austin Peay State University Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2026

Time: 3:01 p.m. – 4:06 p.m.

Location: Morgan University Center, Room 307

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Faculty Senate President Dr. Brandon Di Paolo Harrison.

2. Recognition of Guests

The following guests were recognized: Lisa Sullivan, Interim Senior Vice Provost and Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs; Christina Chester-Fangman, Parliamentarian (ex officio); Ozzie Di Paolo Harrison, Past President (ex officio); Nancy Gibson, Board of Trustees Representative (ex officio); Dr. Mickey Wadia; Professor Angie Hernandez-Scoggins; Dr. Loretta Griffy, Dean of University College and Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs; Dr. Florian Gargallo; Professor John Schnettler; Dr. Rod Mills

3. Roll Call

Roll was conducted by Vice President/President-Elect & Secretary Pro Tem Darren Michael.

Absent Senators:

Laura Barnett, Ronnel Berry, John Blake, Charles Gonzalez, Matt Hampton, Kathy Heuston, Mahesh Pallikonda, Bill Pruitt, Jeffrey Williams

4. Approval of Agenda

Senator Dr. Bill Rayburn moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and the motion was carried by voice vote.

5. Approval of Minutes

Senator Dr. Bill Rayburn moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and the motion carried by voice vote.

6. Staff Service Award

Senator Dr. Jessica Morris presented the nominees for the 2026 Staff Service Award: Steve Sawyer (Communication); Kelly Pitts (Research Office); and Sherry Bagwell (Physics)

Voting was conducted by eligible senators.

7. Reports

a. Ad Hoc Committee on Office Hours

Senator Dr. Donna Short presented a summary of her committee's charge to examine faculty office hours policies and student perceptions. The committee's report (PowerPoint) can be found on the Faculty Senate webpages. Senators discussed some concerns around privacy when meeting outside offices, applicability across disciplines, workload implications, online teaching accommodations, and importance of maintaining faculty presence and campus community

No formal motion was made.

b. Faculty Affairs Committee Report

Senator Dr. John Nicholson presented a summary of his committee's charge to review policies related to off-contract assignments and course minimum enrollments. The committee's report (PowerPoint) can be found

on the Faculty Senate webpages. Senators raised questions regarding definitions of low enrollment, compensation and workload policies, and interpretation of off-contract teaching

No formal motion was made.

10. Announcements

Faculty Senate President Dr. Brandon Di Paolo Harrison made several announcements:

- The results of the Staff Service Awards voting and a winner was announced.
 - A reminder about the upcoming Executive Committee Elections: Open for nominations; voting closes next Friday at 4:30 p.m.
 - A reminder about the Faculty Senate 50th Anniversary Celebration:
 - Date: April 10, 2026
 - Time: 5:00–7:00 p.m.
 - Location: Customs House
 - Event includes reception and performance by the cast of *Lizzie the Rock Musical*
 - Upcoming Policy Reviews:
 - Policy 2049 (Chair Policy)
 - Policy 2067 (Course Continuity Policy)
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11. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Darren Michael
Secretary Pro Tem, Faculty Senate