

# Thursday 24 April 2025 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

## 1. Roll Call (Juana Ibanez, JI)

		Representation	First	Last	Term	Committee	Sign In
1	1	Administration	N. Tina	Johnson	24-25		<i>[Signature]</i>
2	1	Staff Council	Coleen	Maidlow	24-25		<i>[Signature]</i>
3	1	SG President	Joshua	Trochez	24-25		<i>[Signature]</i>
4	1	Alumni Assoc	Dinah	Payne	24-25		
5	1	Adjunct	David	Lambour	24-25		<i>[Signature]</i>
6	1	COBA	DJ	Min	24-25	D	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	2	COBA	Cherie	Trumbach	24-27	SE, B	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	3	COBA	Greg	Price	23-26	C	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	4	COBA	Bridget	Bordelon	22-25	D	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	5	COBA	Kabir	Hassan	23-26	A	
11	1	COE	Ting	Wang	23-26	SE, D	<i>[Signature]</i>
12	2	COE	Damon	Smith	24-27		<i>[Signature]</i>
13	3	COE	Satish	Bastola	24-27	C	
14	1	COLAEHD	Juana	Ibanez (S)	24-27	SE, B	<i>[Signature]</i>
15	2	COLAEHD	Lisa	Verner		C	<i>[Signature]</i>
16	3	COLAEHD	Ariya	Martin	22-25	A	
17	4	COLAEHD	Dan	Rule	22-25	B	
18	5	COLAEHD	Max	Krochmal	24-27		<i>[Signature]</i>
19	6	COLAEHD	Brian	Beabout	23-26	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
20	7	COLAEHD	David	Beriss	24-27	B	<i>[Signature]</i>
21	8	COLAEHD	Maria	Nelson		A	<i>[Signature]</i>
22	9	COLAEHD				SE, D	
23	10	COLAEHD	Marc	Landry	23-26	Gen Ed.	<i>[Signature]</i>
24	11	COLAEHD	James	Mokhiber	24-27	SE, D	<i>[Signature]</i>
25	12	COLAEHD	Michelle	Wade	23-26	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
26	1	COS	Joel	Attalah		SE, C	<i>[Signature]</i>
27	2	COS	Phoebe	Zito	23-26	Gen Ed.	<i>[Signature]</i>
28	3	COS	Steve	Rick	23-26	B	<i>[Signature]</i>
29	4	COS	Simon	Lailvaux	23-26	D	
30	5	COS	Chris	Summa (VP)	23-26	SE, A	
31	6	COS	Rachel	Clostio	23-26	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
32	1	Library	Connie	Phelps (Pres)	24-27	SE, D	
33	2	Library	Lindsey	Reno	22-25		<i>[Signature]</i>
		Library	Abria m	Himmelstein	25-28		<i>[Signature]</i>

Key: Bold: Elected Senate Governance  
Blue: Senate Executive Committee

Committees:

COS	A - Academic	C - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
COS	D - Administrative	
	Dumesnil	25-28
	Samuel	25-28

Thursday, 24 April 2025

## 2. Approval of the Minutes (JI)

Unanimous Approval of February 25, 2025 minutes

Unanimous Approval of March 26, 2025 minutes

### 3. Faculty Senate President's Report (Connie Phelps, CP)

Report on Faculty Senate Fund. Summary \$6400 disbursed to 24 staff. \$2000 still available to disburse. We are still taking donations. Contest ends at the end of April.

Question: Is there any potential to advertise which dept is winning? Response: All depts are neck and neck in the contributions.

Comment: Coleen Maidlow, President of the Staff Council on behalf of the Staff would like to thank everyone for their support of the staff during these furloughs.

Report on 15 Apr 2025 FSEC meeting with UNO President. President Johnson (KJ) cannot be here now because she is attending a UL Board meeting. An agenda item has been set up later in the meeting should she be able to get to us before the meeting is over.

There are some International student issues now that the federal government is revoking student visas. 2 or 3 students at UNO had their student visas revoked. If student is worried about their visa status, Please send students to LeAnn Sipes. If ICE shows up send them to the President's Office. UNO has identified the international students who have had their visas revoked and they are all in their OPT status – optional training after graduating status. The University that gave the students the student visa are listed as the visa holder until the OPT is over (OPT is paid employment for job experience in their field and can be as long as three years after graduating). University of Innsbruck has reached out to UNO concerned about this issue.

Comment: Tina Johnson (Associate Provost Academic Affairs) – If ICE shows up in your class or office, please send ICE to president's office. Do not answer any questions. Do not engage in conversation with ICE.

Report on status for LSU system switch.

There is a bill in the Education Committee of the State of Louisiana. Today is the day to consider the higher level amendments for the switch. These are not day-to-day functionings of UNO being considered by the Committee.

Report on SACS accreditation.

UNO had four problems that will be resolved by December in a report providing additional details. One of the problems addressed whether or not the dual enrollment instructors at the high schools were eligible to teach those courses. One problem is the lack of Institutional Effectiveness indicators across all the colleges for the degrees being taught.

## Report on Technology.

There are still registration issues and Ad Astra software problems that are preventing students from enrolling in a timely manner. People have been brought in from IT and all over but there are some persistent problems.

UNO Faculty Teams session with KJ is scheduled for Tuesday April 29 pending final confirmation.

The faculty senate has had only one virtual update. Future virtual updates will be announced as needed.

## 4. Report from Provost Darrell Kruger (DK)

Registration has started. Numbers are picking up but a couple of problems still. Ad Astra/Workday integration still being worked on. Getting registration started now with standby process. Schedule for the next registration cycle will be spring and summer at the same time.

National Finance Center based at the Beach. They have 700 employees interested in continuing courses. 4 courses planned. In-Person, on campus courses. Working with Deans to identify faculty to teach the courses, with compensation.

Draft of Faculty Workload policy submitted to CP. Trying to get consistency and uniformity in how it is applied for teaching, service, professional production. Waiting for feedback.

50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Innsbruck summer school will happen in 2026-2027. Working with the State to secure resources from LT Governors office to have symposium and reunion in Austria and here for the program.

Heading to Honors Convocation in COBA.

Question: What are courses they are asking for from the Beach? Answer: Intro Spanish, intro accounting, CS list of 12 courses, intro communication (oral), intro to Microsoft (working with Dustin McKensie) possibly going to teach them this summer. Faculty getting first shot, then adjuncts. Good opportunity for us and the Beach. They are interested in sponsoring children summer camps, too.

Question: Are there results for the survey on child care needs on campus? Answer: Survey was shared with faculty/staff/students/ Franklin/Hinds/Beach – interest in different extents to create a childcare center. President can address this more fully and external sources who have expressed interest in supporting. Good response rate to the survey. Remember how preschool childcare is needed.

## 5. UNO Proclamation Day. Cherie Trumbach (CT)

The parish councils of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard and St. Tammany have all signed or passed a resolution/proclamation in support of UNO. On May 2 there will be an event in the atrium of KH where representatives from the councils will come for a press release. If you have contacts in the press, please let CT know and spread the word. Aundrea Kloor is facilitating the event. 2-page declaration gathered from Points of Pride that were requested are part of the proclamation.

## 6. Committee Reports

**Academic Report (Brian Beabout)** – low completer information. In March we got notice that 5 master's programs would be closed due to low completer status. This notice did not follow the normal process. The Tax Accounting program is gladly closing their program. The other chairs prefer a process that is not a Board of Regents (BoR) ad hoc decision. Chairs have filled out standard paperwork for submission to the BoR to address issue. Concern that some of this is being done in a top-down fashion to pick off programs to impress LSU. DK talking with KJ to make decisions about the programs. Program review committees should have an active roll in the decision and we have been shut out from it. Alerted the Provost that we do have a better process.

Question: What are the programs considered as low completers? Answer: MA Sociology, MA Physics, MA Curriculum and Instruction, MA Tax Accounting, MA Fine Arts. The MS Transportation is being asked for information, too.

Question: which of these are Academic Partnership programs that were terminated? Answer: MA Tax Accounting and MA Curriculum and Instruction. The partnership was for online programs with recruiting being done by partner but UNO has not paid the contract so the partner stopped recruiting students and is willing to part ways with us.

Question: What is the normal process for closing low completer programs? Answer: The BoR ultimately makes the decision. The University reviews programs targeting the 3 year rolling average of graduates. There are different amounts of graduates needed depending on if you are a Science or not. Fewer graduates are needed in the Science majors. The MA in Fine Arts is not treated as a terminal degree but it is a terminal degree. MA Fine Arts needs 2.5 per year if terminal degree. The BoR is planning on sunsetting the program but faculty in FA have not been a part of the planning to keep it off the low completer list. Faculty are very frustrated because they don't understand why they are still being considered a low completer since they are a terminal degree. There is no PhD in Fine Arts.

Question: What is the cost to continue the programs? Answer: The BoR not looking at cost. Faculty are teaching the graduate courses in addition to their undergraduate course load so it costs nothing extra. The BA International studies is another example. It has no faculty. It is an interdisciplinary program that grants degrees with multiple departments teaching their regular courses for their degrees. It is a great option for students that costs the University and UL System nothing to have available.

Question: Should the Senate make a motion to let the Administration know we are unhappy about this ad hoc BoR decision? Answer: In the interest of recruiting, in Education March 15 was deadline to admit students into graduate program. Telling them know that their program has been terminated is very bad timing. None of the programs have issued formal notice that they are closing.

Motion to suspend the rules to consider the motion on the table. Seconded and passed unanimously.

**Motion: “The UNO Faculty Senate calls on the Administration to refer the review of any Low Completer Programs to the Senate’s Academic Committee for review and recommendation before any action is taken.”**

Motion passes unanimously. The Secretary will send this to KJ and Academic Committee.

**Administrative Committee (DJ Min)** – Committee is reviewing 2 policies.

1. President’s graduation
2. Grievances

Drafts are completed and will go through with reviews and once reviews completed will be passed around. Former grievance committee will be consulted.

**Budget Committee (Steven Rick)** –If you have issues with changes to LSU system, please let SR know if related to the budget.

**Courses and Curricula (Linsey Reno)** - no report

**General Education (Marc Landry)** – Committee is considering 4 proposals from COBA BA 1000, BA 1001, HRT 2050, HCM 2000 as new social science general education courses.

**International Education Advisory Committee (James Mokhiber)** – Provost spoke to the committee regarding his Fulbright trip to India, Apr 3, 2025. IEAC exchanges with specific university. Innsbruck summer school continues to thrive. 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next summer. IELP program is scheduled to be terminated. Visit of 5 members of former IELP cohort from Brazil just arrived. Japan program has been transferred to Tennessee. Oaxaca will not be going forward this summer. Other programs will be offered. Fewer opportunities for our faculty to DOIE or some other way to get faculty abroad. Possibility of revising 3-year plan for the IEAC.

Comment: Tennessee stepped up to take over the Doshisha program. It wasn't a transfer.

**7. Report of UNO President.** Agenda item put in in case KJ was back from UL Board meeting. No report.

**8. Old Business Follett report (Ting Wang)** – follow up on Follett. Follett had denied requests for printed books. Opt out is not easy to follow. Contract is clear that whatever the faculty requests is what they are supposed to be providing. Approached Student Affairs about this and they had complaints as well especially since details for opting out were not readily available. Student Affairs will send out information to clarify that they are automatically enrolled in Follett at \$27/credit hour and they have the option to opt out. Nicholas St. Amant designs the Follett UNO webpage and has been approached to add a clear link to opt out. He has agreed to add it to the website. If publishers contact you about books, you still have to send information to Justin Harris of Follett to order the books. If you request hard cover book, our local manager will get the hard cover books. In the past, bookstore would buy back purchased books but that isn't an option anymore. Buy back may be reinstated. Report written and sent to FSEC for review.

## **9. New Business.**

Questions for Administrators – These questions were sent to Faculty Senate via anonymous portal or other means and are being sent to the persons indicated - These questions will likely be answered by written reply, not in person.

1. The University of Louisiana System Policy and Procedures Memorandum regarding employee furloughs states that tenured faculty may not be furloughed. It makes no provision or exception for any particular type of tenured faculty. Yet the twelve-month faculty who are tenured in the Library have been furloughed. How have UNO administrators been able to circumvent the UL system policy?

- Sent to President Johnson and VP Edwin Litolff

Awaiting response

2. What other marketing efforts are being developed? In what way has the student government been provided an opportunity to work with the administration and/or Faculty Senate to create outreach through alternative social media? TikTok, YouTube?

- Sent to Sarah Bergez and Randall Langston

Response: Student organizations currently produce content reflecting their activities, which we actively repost and share to showcase campus life. Content created and shared on platforms like TikTok and YouTube is typically cross-posted on Instagram for broader visibility.

Recent collaborations include:

- MBA Alumni Content: An MBA class is developing social media content featuring alumni. Coordination is facilitated through Dr. Elyria Kemp.

- Homecoming Promotion: A social media countdown is being managed in partnership with the Pom Squad.

Additionally, we offer opportunities for both individual students and organizations to participate in Instagram takeovers, providing authentic, first-hand perspectives on student life.

Strategic Communication and University Marketing welcome collaboration with students and departments in co-creation of social media content.

Within Enrollment Services, we are enhancing outreach efforts by involving current students in high school visits alongside recruiters. Other recruitment initiatives include:

- Privateer for a Day: Reintroducing this event to provide prospective students with an immersive campus experience.
- Future Student Events: Launching new events to further engage prospective students.
- Expanded High School Visits: Increasing visits with faculty and student participation. VP of enrollment and SGA president are participating.
- Strengthened Partnerships: Deepening our relationship with Delgado Community College.

3. Master P aside, NOLA has a wonderful connection with sports & Hollywood. We are depending upon the administration to reach out on our behalf. What specific actions have been taken by the Alumni Association, UNO Foundation and/or the Faculty Senate (representatives) to contact supporters such as Wendell Pierce? Quentin Tarantino? Brad Pitt?

- Sent to Sarah Bergez and Anthony Gregorio

Response from Anthony Gregorio (verbal, general wording) : These folks and others get thousands of requests and don't really respond unless it's from someone they know. A more effective method is to establish contacts with people and pursue that avenue. The UNO Foundation has established contacts with potential donors and has raised funds successfully.

Response from Sarah Bergez: Strategic Communications said, over the period of several years, the University made multiple requests for Wendell Pierce (who has a close family connection to UNO), Harry Connick Jr., Ellen Degeneres, John Goodman and others to serve as commencement speakers without any success.

Motion to adjourn 2024-2025 Senate. Seconded and unanimously passed.

## 2025-2026 Senate Meeting commences

1. Call to Order with New and Continuing Senators (CP)
2. Roll Call of New and continuing senators -- completed with sign in sheet.
3. Election of new Faculty Senate Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary).

CT is running elections for the new officers.



Christopher Summa nominated for President of the 2025-2026 Senate. No nominations from the floor. Motion to close nominations from the floor and motion to accept nomination by acclamation passed.

Connie Phelps has been nominated for Vice-President. Motion to close nominations from the floor and motion to accept nomination by acclamation passed.

Juana Ibanez has been nominated for Secretary. Motion to close nominations from the floor and motion to accept nomination by acclamation passed.

CS not present. CP substituted for CS and thanked FSEC team and Senate for their work.

#### 4. Asked for new business.

None offered.

#### 5. Motion for adjournment.

Seconded and motion to adjourn accepted by acclamation.

Meeting ended 1:53 pm.