

MINUTES

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee was called to order by Tracy Klein, Chair, at 3:32 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, 2025, in French Ad. 324 and via Zoom.

Members Present: Executive Committee: T. Klein, E. Shelden, K. Roberts, M. Hudelson; Committee Chairs: (AAC) D. Grigar; (FAC) J. McDonald; (GSC) R. Thomas; (PHSC) K. Meier; (Legislative Rep.) S. Bollens; Campus Reps: (Everett) S. Seo; (Spokane) John Roll; (Vancouver) J. Barber. Absent: Tri-Cities, A&E, Budget, Library, and RAC. Others present: Provost Riley-Tillman, Christine Horne (incoming chair-elect).

- I. Approval of Steering Committee Minutes from May 22, 2025 ([PDF](#)).

Approved by unanimous consent

- II. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

K. Roberts – Motioned to move discussion items 2 and 3 to action items 1 and 2, and discussion item 1 to action item 3. **M. Hudelson** seconded the motion.

Motion passed; 9 Approve, 0 Reject

- III. Announcements

None

- IV. WSU Leadership Update – **Provost Rilley-Tillman**

Budget Overview and Cuts

- The university faced a budget impact of approximately \$17.4 million, with around \$9.9 million in specific cuts.
- A significant issue was the regression in salary split percentages, which affects overall funding.
- The FY26 budget was approved by the Board of Regents. Units have been asked to submit 30-day budget plans, which will be reviewed.

Accountability and Monitoring

- There's a history of inconsistent budget cut implementation across units.
- To address this, monthly check-ins are being instituted for units in deficit to ensure compliance and promote responsible budgeting.

Organizational Restructuring

- The Pullman Chancellor's Office has been dissolved, leading to the redistribution of responsibilities:
 - Student Life and Institutional Research moved to the Provost's Office.
 - The museum also now reports to the Provost.
 - Event planning remains with the President's Office.
- The Office of Strategy Planning and Analysis will be dissolved by June 30, with some positions eliminated.



Communication and Marketing Changes

- A new website, <https://newchapter.wsu.edu> provides updates on budget and organizational changes.
- Pam Scott has been appointed to lead Marcom, bringing a stronger focus on crisis response and internal communications.

V. Legislative Update

S. Bollens – Met with the Council of Faculty and C. Mulick, no updates yet. If a special session is needed in the fall, it will be announced at a later date.

VI. BoR Report – **J. McDonald** – BoR met June 5, 2025, to discuss budget. Budget passed by BoR, public document not yet released.

VII. Presidential Graduate Committee Report – **R. Thomas** – No update yet, IR still crunching numbers for each PhD program.

VIII. Executive Officer Updates

A. **T. Klein, Chair** – Senate Executives will be transitioning on August 15, 2025. Senate Executives participating in a strategic planning meeting 6/27/25.

B. **E. Shelden**, Immediate Past Chair – AI taskforce has not met, verifying if still active. The Athletics Oversight Committee charter has expired, and the committee is debating if the oversight committee is still needed. Question raised on what Athletics process has for making up the deficit. At this time, there is nothing in place. Athletics leadership is tasked with making the best athletics program possible with budget funds available. Reducing their deficit may need to be tasked to another committee.

C. **K. Roberts**, Chair Elect – A few loose ends to tie up with staffing the committees, but the majority of the work is done. Ex-officio and student members to be finalized next.

D. **M. Hudelson**, Executive Secretary –

1. Senator Onboarding and Senate meeting invites – We are very close to having a full slate of senators, a couple of colleges are finalizing their elections. The invites for the upcoming academic year Faculty Senate and Steering Committee meetings have been sent out. Finalizing the edits to the New Senator Handbook, updated handbook will be linked on the website for easy access.

IX. Information Items

1. (Item 2025.06.26_532_Steering) *Faculty Manual* Revisions Approval Memorandum – June 2025 (Exhibit [532A](#))

Updated manual to be posted to website 7/1/25



2. (Item 2025.06.26_533_Steering) Centers, Institutes, and Collaborative Units Policies and Procedures (Exhibit [533A](#))

K. Christian has initiated a review of the current structure and oversight of centers, institutes, and collaborative units. The goal is to bring consistency and accountability, especially regarding budgets and outcomes. The Faculty Senate will be kept informed and involved.

3. (Item 2025.06.26_536_Steering) EP 43 Update (Exhibit [536A](#))

Update on AR6o MOU requirements, accountability on progress

X. Agenda Items

A. Action Items

1. (Item 2025.06.26_534_Steering) Memo from Provost – Faculty Merit-Based Salary Increases (Exhibit [534A](#))

Motion passed; 7 Approved, 1 Reject

2. (Item 2025.06.26_535_Steering) Memorandum RE: October 2025 Faculty Merit-Based Increases (Exhibits [535A](#))

Motion endorsed; 7 Approved, 2 Reject

3. (Item 2025.05.22_527_Steering) Proposal to move Faculty Regent nominations forward – Update to Faculty Regent Position Nominations (Exhibit [527A](#), *[527B](#) updated document)

Motion passed; 7 Approved, 2 Reject

B. Discussion Items

None

XI. Constituent Concerns:

S. Bollens – Concern from CoF meeting, four (4) of the regional universities are managing to provide 3% raises to faculty despite their budget cuts. UW is offering a 2% raise, and WSU is offering a 1.5% raise, which is the lowest among the group. Faculty raises are the most common concern raised to him by constituents.

XII. Meeting Adjourned: 5:01 pm

Matthew G. Hudelson

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Associate Professor, Mathematics

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