



MINUTES

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee was called to order by Ken Roberts, Chair, at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2025, in French Ad. 344B and via Zoom.

Members Present: Executive Committee: K. Roberts, T. Klein, C. Horne, M. Hudelson;
Committee Chairs: (AAC) P. Buckley; (FAC) J. McDonald; (Budget) L. Xu, (GSC) R. Thomas;
(PHSC) K. Meier; (RAC) J. Firestone; (Library) T. Rotolo; (Legislative Rep) S. Bollens; Campus
Reps: (Everett) G. Taub, S. Calderone; (Vancouver) D. Grigar, S. Green-Soto; (Spokane) J. Roll;
(Tri-Cities) Y. Demissie. Absent: A&E, RAC. Others present: None

- I. Approval of Steering Committee Minutes from October 9, 2025 ([PDF](#))
Approved by unanimous consent
- II. Additions or Changes to the Agenda
None
- III. Executive Officer Updates
 - A. **K. Roberts**, Chair –
 1. (Item #2025.10.30_559_Steering) Recommendation to Return the University Requirements Petition Subcommittee under the Provost Office (Exhibit [559A](#))
Initial discussion expressed concern faculty being pulled out of this roll, want assurance faculty will remain involved.
This committee was originally in the Provost office, it is not a Faculty Senate committee, this will put the committee back where it was originally.
Move to Faculty Senate 10/30 agenda
 2. (Item #2025.10.30_560_Steering) Proposed Changes to BPPM 60-70 (Exhibits [560A](#), [560B](#))
Information item only, no need for Faculty Senate review.
 - B. **T. Klein**, Immediate Past Chair – *Will be in Pullman Nov 6th – 8th for BoR orientation*
 - C. **C. Horne**, Chair Elect – *Nothing to report*
 - D. **M. Hudelson**, Executive Secretary –
In response to the question "when was DEI language inserted into the Constitution and Bylaws"?
 1. *April 4, 2024 - Constitution and Bylaws update to Article I, Section I: Amend "women and minorities" to "diversity, equity, and inclusion". This is when the Constitution and Bylaws was merged into one document.*
 2. *1983/1984 – Washington State University Committee Manual – Initial appearance of "women and minorities" language.*



IV. Committee/Legislative/BoR Updates

A. Committee Reports

AAC – *Reviewed Major Bulletin #3, still discussing 90-credit bachelor's degree. Reviewing constituent concern being presented by ASWSU leadership representative on AAC regarding changing AR34 as it pertains to students repeating courses to achieve a better than C- or below grade.*

- *Philosophy of changing this regulation to allow students with a B or lower to repeat does not present a challenge.*
- *Operationally this will be a challenge for a few reasons:*
 - *Is the low grade a result of a student issue or an instructor issue (are there a few students in the same class applying to retake)*
 - *Students taking the course for the first time feel like they are competing against students previously in the class.*
 - *Are there students needing to take the course for the first time being pushed to accommodate returning students?*

A&E – *Not present*

Budget – *Approved discontinuing Bachelor of Arts in Hospitality Business Management at WSU Tri-Cities*

COC – *Looking for representatives for the University Grade Appeals committee, specifically someone from the medical college.*

J. Roll will represent the medical college on the Grade Appeals committee.

FAC – (Item #2025.10.9_557_FAC) Proposed Updates to Faculty Manual on Workload (Exhibits [557A](#), [557B](#), [557C](#)) updated exhibits

Looked into the constituent concern regarding contracts for less than 1-year. This appears to be a "soft money" item. Faculty put on contract with "soft money (grant funds) may be offered a contract that extends them through when the grant runs out. This is how they keep their title through the end of the project.

J. Roll – This ties to the carry forward constraints as that is how departments are able to keep those positions, they do not always have the full amount in one fiscal year so count on carryforward to supplement.

Item moves to 10/30/25 Faculty Senate agenda

GSC – [GSC Report 10.21.25](#)

(Item #2025.10.30_558_GSC) Recommended Approval of the Graduate Certificate in Prevention Science (Exhibits [558A](#), [558B](#))

Item moves to 10/30/25 Faculty Senate agenda

Two masters' degree proposals are still being considered. Requested



information from Global on enrollment projections.

Food manufacturing proposal had duplicate or possible competitive with another Food Science program. Asked Global to provide communication from Food Science program to ensure it is not duplicated.

Library – *Provided update on 10/22 email from Dean of Libraries. Library wants to stress that the library can help students who may be paying for articles or publications out of pocket. Inter-Library loan can usually locate publications for students with no out of pocket cost.*

Looking for people to help test three (3) AI tools that will be tested by the library for literature searches.

L. Xu – asked what the AI tools were, School of Business utilizes some AI tools for similar purposes.

PHSC – *Nothing to report*

RAC – *Not present*

B. Legislative Update – S. Bollens

COF Retreat report provided via email 10/22/25. Upcoming session will be shorter (60 days) and with limited budget funds, will need to focus on what is brought to legislation. CoF have the following possible priorities identified.

#1 – Faculty and staff compensation

#2 – Freedom of information act (FOIA) relief

#3 – FAFSA application completion

Please provide feedback on these priorities to Faculty Senate executive team to bring before senate.

C. BoR Report – T. Klein – *Nothing to report. Orientation November 6th – 8th, first meeting will be November 13th & 14th*

V. Information Items:

VI. Campus Updates:

A. Everett (S Calderone/G. Taub) – *At monthly RFO meeting, concern raised regarding the co-design council not having anyone from Everett or Vancouver on the committee.*

Additional Steering committee members indicated frustration with the committee selection process. There is concern that the student representation on the committee is not indicative of all students in all areas.

K. Roberts reiterated that the President indicated in an earlier conversation that the committee was not chosen by their representation (or constituents), they were selected based on their area of expertise and experience. All campuses will be involved with the process down the road.



- B. Spokane (J. Roll) – *Concern expressed with ramifications of core fund carry over restrictions. The take-away impacts departments that have been retaining research dollars in carry forward accounts to ensure research can continue in consecutive years.*
 - C. Tri-Cities (Y. Demissie) – *Nothing to report*
 - D. Vancouver (D. Grigar/S. Soto-Green) – *Had Town Hall meeting with interim chancellor and other key leadership staff. Meeting provided some relief to concerns of faculty and staff.*
- VII. Review of the draft [October 30, 2025, Faculty Senate Agenda](#)
- VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 4:57 PM

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