
**PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
Minutes of 18 February 2026 Meeting**

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Professional Concerns Committee was called to order at 12:32 p.m. on 18 February 2026, via Webex virtual conferencing by Michael Kahwaji, Chair.

Members Present: Jennifer Foster, Thomas Gorczyca, Michael Kahwaji, Mariana Levin, Richard Meyer, Marian Tripplett, Amy Zufelt

Members Absent: Matilda McLean, John Miller

Advisory Members Absent: Joe Erskine; Eric McConnell

Ex Officio: C. Dennis Simpson

Quorum

A quorum was present with eight members attending of the six needed to establish a quorum.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Levin, seconded by Meyer, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Foster, seconded by Levin, to approve the 21 January 2026 meeting minutes as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Kahwaji reported that the Academic and Information Technology Council has submitted a report to the Executive Board on faculty use of, and preference for, virtual meeting platforms, including exploring additional initiatives related to Artificial Intelligence and cybersecurity.

Ex Officio Simpson reported:

- The Faculty Senate approved several MOAs.
- A basic list of Artificial Intelligence resources will be made available (such materials do not represent an endorsement by the Faculty Senate).
- If syllabi do not contain guidance or parameters on AI use in the classroom, it will be assumed that students may use AI without penalty.
- Preparation should begin at the March meeting for the academic year-end report due April 2026.

Reports of University Representatives

Due to Erskine's absence, there was not a Student Rights and Responsibilities report

Due to McConnell's absence, there was not a Ombuds report.

Announcements

Kahwaji acknowledged that at the 18 March 2026 meeting, he will provide a draft year-end report for review.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Meyer, seconded by Gorczyca, to adjourn the meeting at 12:43 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Professional Concerns Committee will meet next on 18 March 2026, via Webex at 12:30 p.m.

Approval

Submitted by Marian Tripplett, Secretary

Minutes were approved on 18 March 2026