
**Academic and Information Technology Council
Minutes of 20 October 2025**

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Academic and Information Technology Council was called to order at 10 a.m. on 20 October 2025 via Webex video conferencing by Katie Marshall, vice-chair.

Members Present: Brian Carnell, Jessica Cataldo, Chad Edwards, Andrew Holmes, Katie Marshall, Cara Masselink, Lochlan McElroy, Joshua Naranjro, Abena Pinamang, Geraldine Rinna, Daniela Schroeter

Members Absent: Paul Gallagher, Pavel Ikononov, Michael Kahwaji, Scott Puckett

Advisors Present: Bryon Glock

Ex Officio Present: Kieran Fogarty

Guest(s): Timothy Broadwater, Aviation; Barry Olson, Associate Vice President Student Affairs

Quorum

A quorum was present with 12 members in attendance, of the 10 needed to establish a quorum.

Agenda

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

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Marshall, seconded by Masselink, to approve the 15 September minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Cataldo did not provide a report.

Ex Officio Fogarty did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representatives

Olson reported that Student Affairs has launched an Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbot service called Buster Bot for students. Messages from the chatbot are proactively sent out to students via SMS every Tuesday, and 21% of students have already engaged with the messages.

Holmes provided the Office of Information Technology report, which included:

- Security and Privacy Officer search is underway. Two candidates have made it through initial interviews and will be brought to campus for introductions and presentations.
- The Webex phone transition is 79% complete.
- WMU's agreement with Dell to provide general laptops and desktops expired in September 2025. OIT did an RFP and selected Lenovo as the new vendor. OIT is working across academic affairs to determine budget and computer refresh cycles to coordinate future rollouts of Lenovo devices.
- The 2025 Cybersecurity Summit had 400 people in attendance, a 40% increase over 2024.
- New cybersecurity training from Ninjio will roll out beginning 28 October. Training will be made available quarterly for all faculty and staff. The Ninjio contract also includes students, and OIT is working on a plan for the best way to roll out cybersecurity training to students.

Glock reported that work is underway on a system to provide students with more detailed information and notifications about holds on their accounts that prevent course registration. Tentatively scheduled to launch later this semester.

Carnell provided the Education Technology report, which included:

- eLearning was unavailable from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on 20 October due to an outage with Amazon Web Services.
- New ADA regulations go into effect on 24 April 2026. Communications around training and required changes will begin in January 2026.

New Business

Artificial Intelligence subcommittee reported an invitation for Christopher Cheatham, Interim Provost to an Academic and Information Technology Council meeting to clarify the status of Ad Hoc report operationalization.

Cybersecurity Subcommittee reported:

- Reviewing and revising cybersecurity awareness training policy
- Exploring university password policy

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by McElroy, seconded by Naranjro, to adjourn the meeting at 12 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Academic and Information Technology Council will meet next on 17 November 2025 at 10 a.m.

Approval

Submitted by Brian Carnell, Secretary

Minutes were approved on 17 November 2025.