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**PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE**

Minutes of 18 February 2026

**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 no Student Rights and Responsibilities report

Due to McConnell's absence, there was no 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