
EXECUTIVE BOARD
Minutes of 22 August 2025**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Executive Board was called to order at 10:32 a.m. on 22 August 2025, in Ellsworth Hall room 3201 and via Webex, by Amy Naugle, president.

Roll Call

Members in Attendance: Kimberly Buchholz, Anthony DeFulio, Wanda Hadley, Janet Hahn, Amy Naugle, C. Dennis Simpson, Laura Teichert

Member Absent: Osama Abudayyeh, Kieran Fogarty, David Rudge

Parliamentarian in Attendance: Decker Hains

Recording Secretary in Attendance: Sue Brodasky, Administrator

Quorum

A quorum was present with seven members in attendance, of the six needed to establish quorum.

Agenda

President Naugle added a New Business Item to appoint the public safety oversight committee representative.

[MOTION] It was moved by Simpson, seconded by Hadley, to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by DeFulio, seconded by Simpson, to approve the 8 August 2025 minutes as provided. The motion carried.

Reports of Officers

President Naugle reported:

- Attended and presented at the new faculty orientation regarding the Faculty Senate.
- An email had been received from the incoming chair of the Research and Creative Scholarship Council Lofton Durham, asking if it was necessary to have the AAUP sign-off on MOA-25/07: Renaming the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund. President Naugle conferred with the Director of Academic Labor Relations and Contract Administration Matthew Mingus, who stated that the MOA does not affect the AAUP agreement and therefore does not require an additional signature. Mingus followed up with RCSC chair Durham.

Vice President Simpson reported on his meeting with Interim Provost Cheatham:

- Cheatham asked the Senate to consider revising the necessary credits required for graduation from 122 to 120. This issue was raised by the Western Student Association. It was acknowledged that such a charge will be added to the Undergraduate Studies Council 2025-26 charges. Discussion was held.
- Simpson provided details to Cheatham regarding the recent meeting with the Emeriti Council leadership. Simpson noted that he attended the Emeriti Council breakfast, along with two other Executive Board members. The breakfast was well attended and included another request to reinstate the Annual Faculty Retirement Dinner.
- When asked for an enrollment update Cheatham said that beginning and international students are down, but second year retention is up. There is confusion regarding that that senior retention is down.
- Cheatham will be developing a transfer student task force to enhance WMU's appeal to transfer students and eliminate barriers to enrollment of transfer students.

Buchholz joined the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

New Business

Vice President Simpson opened discussion regarding topics for the Presidential Listening Session for the Executive Board. President Naugle stated that it is a “by-invitation-only” meeting but that everyone in attendance is encourage to speak on any subject. Additionally, a Slido will be available to submit comments anonymously.

President Naugle led discussion of the creation of an Ad Hoc Emeriti Council Course of Action Committee.

- Membership – President Naugle will distribute inquires and invitations for service on the committee to the following:
 - Three Executive Board representatives (Hains, Hahn, Simpson)
 - Three Emeriti Council representatives (Lagerwey, and two other Executive members)
 - Advancement representative
 - Provost office representative
 - President office representative
 - Faculty Senate Administrator
- Charges
 - **Develop a Preliminary Mission and Purpose Statement**
Craft an initial statement that articulates the mission and overarching purpose of the Emeriti organization, reflecting its intended role and value within the institution.
 - **Define Functional Scope and Responsibilities**
Outline the core functions of the Emeriti organization and compile a preliminary list of tasks and activities it may undertake to fulfill its mission.
 - **Propose Organizational Structure and Oversight Model**
Identify and evaluate feasible models for the organization’s oversight, reporting lines, and administrative support. Specifically, assess potential affiliations with existing entities such as the Faculty Senate, Provost’s Office, Office of Advancement, or President’s Office. Recommend a leadership and governance structure for the Emeriti council.

- **Establish Decision Criteria for Evaluating Structural Options**
Develop a set of criteria to guide the evaluation of proposed organizational models, ensuring alignment with institutional goals, sustainability, and operational effectiveness.
- **Conduct Comparative Analysis and Provide Recommendations**
Compare the proposed models using the established criteria and present a set of possible recommendations to the Faculty Senate Executive Board for consideration.

[MOTION] It was moved by Hahn, seconded by Buchholz, to approve the creation of the ad hoc committee as defined. The motion carried.

[MOTION] It was moved by Simpson, seconded by Hadley, to accept the defined charges. The motion carried.

President Naugle provided direction in defining strategic plan topics to be featured at each Faculty Senate meeting. She will review them with the administration before they are finalized.

Parliamentarian Hains volunteered to serve once again on the public safety oversight committee representative for the Faculty Senate.

[MOTION] It was moved by Simpson, seconded by DeFulio, to appoint Hains. The motion carried.

Unfinished Business

President Naugle postponed review of the Executive Board 2024-26 Action plan to the next meeting.

President Naugle reviewed the drafted council/committee charges. Discussion was held and edits were made.

[MOTION] It was moved by Simpson, seconded by Hadley, to approve all charges as amended. The motion carried.

Reports of Councils and Committees

None.

Announcements

Simpson announced that there have been discussions out of Lansing regarding merging state colleges and universities.

Hains reported on his participation with the bargaining of the Professional Instructors Organization (PIO). An agreement has been reached and is expected to be ratified. Hains provided details of the amended articles. Discussion was held.

Adjournment

President Naugle adjourned the meeting at 11:52 p.m. The Executive Board will meet next on 5 September 2025 for the council/committee leadership training at 9:30 a.m. in the Student Center, room 2211/2213 in-person only.

Approval

Submitted Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator

Minutes were approved 12 September 2025.