EXECUTIVE BOARD

Minutes of 26 June 2026

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Executive Board was called to order at 10:30 a.m. on 26 June 2026, at Ellsworth Hall, room 3201 and via Webex, by Janet Hahn, president.

Roll Call

Members in Attendance: Matthew Dumican, Lofton Durham, Wanda Hadley, Janet Hahn, Decker Hains, Amy Naugle, David Rudge, Daniela Schroeter, Laura Teichert, Andre Venter

Members Absent: David Szabla

Guests: Laura Dinehart, Dean, College of Education and Human Development

Recording Secretary in Attendance: Sue Brodasky, Administrator

Quorum

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

Agenda

[***MOTION***] It was moved by Durham, seconded by Rudge, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

[***MOTION***] It was moved by Naugle, seconded by Hadley, to approve the 12 June, 2026 meeting minutes as provided. With one abstention, the motion carried

Action Items

Acceptance of Council/Committee Year-end Reports

[***MOTION***] It was moved by Naugle, seconded by Rudge, to accept the Professional Concerns Committee and Graduate Studies Council year-end reports. The motion carried.

Curriculum Proposals

SCYS-Educational Specialist in School Psychology

SCYM-Master of Arts in School Psychology

Dean Dinehart reported that, in response to the statewide shortage of school psychologists, the State issued a grant opportunity for the development of new preparation programs. Western Michigan University applied for and was awarded the grant, supporting the establishment of a long-needed school psychology program at the University. Although enrollment is expected to remain relatively small, there are already prospective applicants expressing interest. Dean Dinehart noted that approval for faculty lines will also be required, with the initial positions anticipated to be funded through the grant. Discussion followed regarding the proposed curriculum. There was a question about the availability of clinical psychology courses that are currently offered only every other year and whether alternative options had been identified. Questions were also raised regarding whether the proposal creates 13 new courses. Dean Dinehart clarified that the curriculum will utilize a combination of existing courses and newly developed program-specific courses. She further explained that not all courses will be offered each year or concurrently. In accordance with the grant requirements, each student cohort is expected to enroll approximately 15 students. Discussion was held.

[***MOTION***] It was moved by Teichert, seconded by Rudge, to approve proposals SCYS-Educational Specialist in School Psychology and SCYM-Master of Arts in School Psychology. The motion carried.

Reports of Officers

President Hahn reported that she has not met with the President or Provost since the previous Executive Board meeting. She noted that she presented to the Board of

Trustees the previous day and will again serve as master of ceremonies for the upcoming commencement. President Hahn also reported meeting with the Chair of the Board of Trustees, along with leadership from the Western Student Association (WSA) and Graduate Student Association (GSA). During that meeting, she reminded Chair Turfe of the Faculty Senate's evaluation of the University President. He confirmed that the next evaluation should be conducted in spring 2027. It was suggested that both the Board of Trustees and the President be provided an opportunity to review the evaluation instrument prior to its administration.

Vice President Rudge reported that, in light of the recent early retirement program, the Emeriti Council is exploring the possibility of hosting a special reception to recognize the retiring faculty taking advantage of the program.

New Business

President Hahn led discussion regarding planning for the Executive Board retreat and reviewed the proposed agenda. To improve efficiency, she recommended streamlining the annual charges review process by assigning each Executive Board liaison to present the proposed charges for their respective council or committee, followed by discussion and feedback from the full Executive Board. President Hahn noted that the amount of time available for planning will depend on the length of the discussion with the Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Executive Board developed a preliminary list of discussion topics for the Provost during the retreat. Topics include the impact and implementation of the Huron recommendations; delays in filling faculty positions resulting from Presidential Cabinet review; enrollment trends and strategies, including increasing faculty participation in student recruitment and retention, understanding why prospective students choose not to attend Western Michigan University, strengthening graduate student recruitment and retention, and graduate assistant funding; the Provost's academic priorities and initiatives and opportunities for Faculty Senate collaboration; and the ongoing academic review process. The annual evaluation of the President and Provost was removed from the proposed agenda. Discussion was held.

Unfinished Business

President Hahn reviewed the draft agenda for the first academic-year meetings of Faculty Senate councils and committees prepared by Brodasky.

Council and Committee Reports

None.

Announcements

It was announced that at the recent Board of Trustees meeting President Kavalhuna's contract was extended an additional three years.

Adjournment

President Hahn adjourned the meeting at 11:42 p.m. The Executive Board will meet next on 10 July 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at The Colonel's Kitchen.

Approval

Submitted Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator

Minutes were approved 10 July 2026.