
RESEARCH AND CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS COUNCIL**Minutes of 3 September 2026****Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Research and Creative Scholarship Council was called to order at 2:31 p.m. on 3 September, via Webex by Janet Hahn, Faculty Senate President

Members Present: Onur Arugaslan, Upul Attanayake, Amy Bock, Benjamin Brady, Melinda Brakenberry, Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Christopher Cheatham, Beixi Li, Gellert Mezei, Jesse Smith, German Zarate-Sandez

Members Absent: Sally Hadden, Belinda Straight

Ex Officio Present: Lofton Durham, Andre Venter

Guests: Janet Hahn, Faculty Senate President, Decker Hains, Faculty Senate Director, Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator; Remzi Seker, Vice President for Research and Innovation; Luis Jacobo Mejia, President, Graduate Student Association; Rohullah Wahidi, Administrative Graduate Assistant, Graduate Student Association

Quorum

A quorum was present with 13 members in attendance, of the nine needed to establish quorum.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Bock, seconded by Durham, to accept the agenda as provided. The motion carried.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Durham, seconded by Mezei, to approve the 16 April 2026 minutes as distributed. With two abstentions, the motion carried.

Leadership Training

President Hahn led the training with support of Hains and Brodasky.

Officer Elections

[MOTION] It was moved by Durham, seconded by Brakenberry, to elect Amy Bocko as chair. The motion carried.

Bocko nominated Belinda Straight as vice chair. Due to Straight's absence the election was postponed to the next meeting.

[MOTION] It was moved by Bocko, seconded by Venter, to elect Jesse Smith as secretary. The motion carried.

Mejia and Wahidi joined the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Committee 2026-27 Charges

President Hahn charged the committee and gave an overview of the committee's actions should they have recommended changes.

Announcements

When asked, Vice President Seker reported that changes to the council's charges should be anticipated as a result of amended language in the Western Michigan University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (WMU-AAUP) Agreement, which is currently pending ratification. He indicated that he is not aware of the specific changes that may affect the council. Discussion was held regarding the name changes previously approved in MOA-25/07: *Renaming the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund and Comprised Programs*, however, it is currently unknown whether those changes were incorporated into the revised WMU-AAUP Agreement.

Adjournment

Chair Bocko adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m. The next RCSC meeting will be held 17 September, in-person at Walwood Hall-Connable Room-112E.

Approval

Submitted by Sue Brodasky, attending recording secretary

Minutes were approved 17 September 2026.