



Faculty Council

Thursday, February 26th, 2026

12:00 -3:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Minutes

Attending: Jorge Chavez (Chair, UCD), Diana White (Chair-Elect, UCD), Monica Yoo (Secretary, UCCS), Stephen Cass (Anschutz), Katie Sparks (UCB), Jay Detrick (SYS), Greg Kinney (Anschutz), Wendy Bolyard (UCD), David Paradis (UCB), Kathy Shaw (Anschutz), Michael Lightner (SYS), Anne Fleming (SYS), Ravinder Singh (UCB), Tony Kong (UCB), Jeffrey Schrader (UCD), Rhonda Glazier (UCCS), Karin Larkin (UCCS), Suzanne Cook (UCCS), Anthony Villano (UCD), Katy DiVittorio (UCD), Gordon Stringer (UCCS), Deborah Kenny (Anschutz), Anna Kosloski (UCCS), Madiha Abdel Maksoud (Anschutz), Tom Beck (UCD), Sasha Breger Bush (UCD), Sherry McCormick (UCCS), Avedan Raggio (UCB), Emily Mooney (UCCS), Joanne Addison (UCB), Andrea Hutchins (UCCS), Maureen Durkin (SYS), Gwendolyn D'Elia (SYS), Carlos Reali (UCD), Kay Weaver (UCB), Norah Mazel (UCCS), Carey Candrian (Anschutz), Troyann Gentile (UCD), Scott Munson (SYS), Leonard Dinegar (SYS)

1. 12:00 p.m. Call to Order & Approval of January Faculty Council (FC) Meeting

Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes (Approved)

2. 12:05-12:30 p.m. Faculty Council Chair's Report—Jorge Chavez

- FC Retreat: March 6th (10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.) at 445 Broadway, Denver. In-person meeting only. Key focus areas include: future structure and responsiveness of FC; strengthening faculty voice across campuses; academic freedom and shared governance; and faculty belonging and cross-campus collaboration.
- HR Leadership Search: Faculty representatives met with finalists for VP & Chief Human Resources Officer. Strong applicant pool (~270 applicants). Final decision pending.
- Policy Review Process Concerns: Short turnaround times limit meaningful faculty input. Insufficient shared governance involvement. Need broader distribution of policies to all committees. There will be a meeting with administration to revise process.
- Budget and Board of Regents Update: Federal funding outlook: relatively stable. State budget outlook: negative with projected shortfalls for multiple years.
- Collective Bargaining Policy: Initially proposed by Regent



Hood but is now being “paused/reset.” Moving forward there will be additionally shared governance consultation and broader campus discussions.

- AI/ChatGPT Implementation Concerns: System-wide rollout announced with minimal faculty input. It lacked shared governance involvement; unclear implementation process; intellectual property concerns, etc. Proposed actions: compile campus-level concerns and form ad hoc AI committee.
- FC Elections and Nominations: Upcoming elections (April 23rd) for FC Chair-Elect and FC Secretary. Send nominations to Monica Yoo, FC Secretary. Candidates should submit a statement and bio.
- FC Awards: Three awards open for nominations: Leadership in Public Higher Education; Distinguished Service Award; Administrator of the Year.

3. 12:30-12:35 p.m. Faculty Senate Grievance Committee Member Vote -Stephen Cass, Chair

- a. Nominee (UCCS)
- John Herner, Professor, Geography and Environmental Studies, College of Letters, Arts & Sciences, UCCS; Term: AY2025/26 – AY2027/28 (July 2025 – June 2028)
 - Result: approved unanimously.

4. 12:35-1:00 p.m. Academic Affairs Update -VP Michael Lightner

- a. Concurrent Enrollment Bill
- A bill (supported by CU) aims to expand the role of 4-year institutions in concurrent enrollment programs.
 - Recently passed Education Committee; moving to Appropriations.
 - Concern: a large fiscal note could threaten passage in the current budget climate.
- b. Transfer & Pathways Initiative:
- A statewide effort through Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE).
 - Focus is on improving transfer pathways across post-secondary education (2-year, 4-year, workforce, re-entry).
 - Potential for major restructuring of transfer systems statewide.
 - Increased involvement of CU in pre-collegiate and pipeline programs.
 - Budget constraints may limit legislative success.
- c. University Affairs (March 31 Meeting Preview):



- Discontinuation of two Boulder degree programs (no current enrollment).
- Campus presentations on pre-collegiate programs (updates, goals, and changes across all four campuses).
- Regent Awards Policy: Prior discussion indicated potential minor process-related changes. Regents expected to lead any revisions; process flow (University Affairs vs. Governance) remain unclear. Updates will be shared once more information is available.

d. 3-Year/ Reduced Credit Bachelor's Degrees:

- Prior proposal to reduce bachelor's degree credit minimum (<120 credits) was not supported by faculty senates and did not advance.
- Recently reintroduced informally (~6 weeks ago) for discussion (e.g., 90–110 credit degrees, especially applied degrees).
- Institutional interest varies (notably between 2-year and 4-year sectors).
- No formal proposal, legislation, or coordinated faculty engagement at this time.

6. 1:00-1:45 p.m.

Campus Faculty Assembly (FA) Updates

a. Anschutz – Greg Kinney, Chair

- AI discussions ongoing; unclear faculty involvement in system decisions.
- Student engagement on AI minimal so far.
- Campus developments:
 - Purchase of hotel property (financial turnaround)
 - New Vice Chancellor appointed.
- Enrollment concerns:
 - Decline due to international student restrictions.
- Collective bargaining:
 - Faculty prefer delaying union engagement until clearer direction.

b. Boulder – Alastair Norcross, Chair

- Governance & Representation Review:
 - Faculty Assembly (FA) is evaluating effectiveness of representation across campus.
 - Engaged with recently expanded/reorganized units (e.g., Continuing Education; College of Communication, Media, and Design) to ensure appropriate representation.



- Bylaws Review:
 - Ongoing review and revisions of FA bylaws.
 - Updates aim to reflect recent and anticipated institutional changes.
- Resolution Passed (February 5th Faculty Assembly):
 - Approved resolution affirming solidarity with communities in Minnesota impacted by recent federal immigration enforcement actions (e.g., Operation Metro Surge).
- Pending Resolutions (March 5th Faculty Assembly):
 - Two notices of motion to be introduced.
 - Resolution urging Regents to support collective bargaining across the CU system.
 - Resolution calling for creation of a campus task force to explore implementation of collective bargaining in coordination with shared governance structures.
- Common Curriculum Initiative:
 - Fall-established working group completed development of an implementation plan for a campus-wide common curriculum.
 - Transition to implementation phase forthcoming.
 - Target implementation: Fall 2027.
- c. Colorado Springs – Emily Mooney, Acting Chair
 - Major issue: Budget cuts (\$11.7M planned)
 - Staff/admin cuts by mid-May
 - Academic cuts after June 30
 - Faculty concerns:
 - Lack of transparency in decision-making
 - Additional developments:
 - Vote of censure petition against leadership
 - Leadership turnover (provost on leave, key departures)
 - Positive note:
 - Alumni/student Olympic gold medal achievement
- d. Denver – Wendy Bolyard, Chair
 - AI:
 - Extensive faculty and student concerns.



- 200+ student survey responses collected. Ongoing compilation of faculty questions/comments. Document shared with Chancellor and Provost; discussion expected at upcoming Faculty Assembly meeting.
- Core Curriculum Reform:
 - Ongoing redesign: faculty vote expected at April Faculty Senate meeting.
 - Concerns about rushed timelines.
- Collective Bargaining:
 - Faculty Assembly Executive Committee passed resolution supporting collective bargaining rights. Vote will be held at Faculty Assembly meeting.
 - Plan to create task force to study models.
- Graduate Education:
 - Rebuilding centralized structure
- Immigration Concerns:
 - Immigration enforcement preparedness (ICE)
 - Need for faculty guidance/resources
- Strategic Plan:
 - Refresh underway toward 2030 vision.
 - Chancellor reaffirmed four core principles: discussion to continue at upcoming Faculty Assembly meeting.

7. 1:45-2:15 p.m. Faculty Council Committee Updates

- a. Budget-Rhonda Glazier, Chair
 - State budget outlook remains uncertain/early stage. More clarity expected in March.
 - Legislative Finance Notices: presentation was provided to the committee on state “finance notices” process. Institutions assess fiscal impact of proposed legislation and report findings to the state legislature. Analysis may influence whether legislation proceeds or is revised. Budget impacts for legislation are not consistently funded by the state.
- b. Communication – Katie Sparks, Co-Chair
 - New format to newsletter and blogs. FC newsletter is transitioning to a blog format on the FC website under News and Resources. This allows more frequent updates rather than a single semester-end newsletter. Faculty Voices section will continue to collect perspectives from faculty across campuses.
 - Subscription model under development.



- End of semester roundup planned.
 - Two open committee positions: Anschutz (2) and Denver (1).
- c. CREE- Tom Beck, Co-Chair
- Expressed challenges to reaching quorum in previous several committee meetings, which has delayed setting priorities. Committee is working to adjust meeting structure (time/length) and improve attendance coordination.
 - At full membership, but operational inefficiencies remain.
- d. EPUS – Ravinder Singh, Chair
- Policy reviews discussed:
 - APS6012 – Responsible Use of AI: Systemwide feedback requested and received from Boulder, Denver, and Anschutz. Input pending from UCCS. System leadership (CIO and CISO) invited to upcoming EPUS meeting for discussion.
 - Regent Policy 13J – Generative AI Technologies: New Policy under consideration. No formal discussion yet; updates to follow.
 - APS 1046 – Degree Program Review: Update provided at February 13 EPUS meeting. Further discussion scheduled for upcoming meeting.
 - Faculty Grievance Policies: ongoing review of proposed changes (Article 5, Parts D, C.4, and E). Collaboration initiated with Faculty Senate Grievance Committee leadership. Concerns identified regarding revisions, gaps from prior revisions, and timeline. Deadline has been officially extended, and campuses are encouraged to provide input as soon as possible in April.
- e. LGBTQ+ – Troyann Gentile, Co-Chair
- Hosted Office of Equity discussion on faculty rights in research/grants due to a reported potentially discriminatory grant issue.
 - Development of a centralized LGBTQ+ resource website.
- f. Personnel & Benefits – Sherry McCormick, Chair
- CU Trust scheduled to present on Delta Dental in March.
 - Transition to bi-weekly pay for non-exempt employees. Minimal impact is expected for most faculty. Greater impact on staff and hourly employees.
 - Housing assistance program is ongoing.
 - Desire for better policy communication and transparency.
- g. Women – Anna Kosloski, Co-Chair
- Upcoming Women’s In-Person Event: March 12th from 10 am-2 pm at CU Denver. Speakers from Denver campus: Bryn Harris and Amy Farrell. Focus is on community building and engagement.



5. 2:15-3:00 p.m.

ChatGPT EDU and AI Issues- Scott Munson, CIO and Leonard Dinegar, CU System Chief of Staff

a. Scott Munson provided an overview of current status:

- AI working group (campus + system reps) evaluated GenAI policy, access, and training.
- Recommendation: adopt ChatGPT EDU (OpenAI); approved by President/Chancellors.
- System-wide rollout March 31; campuses manage their own instances.

b. Rationale for Adoption:

- ~30,000 existing ChatGPT users across CU using institutional emails.
- Existing tools (e.g., Microsoft Copilot free version) widely used but viewed as less effective.
- Risks with current usage: consumer-grade tools without safeguards; potential exposure of institutional data. Goal is to provide equitable access to a more secure, institutionally managed tool.

c. Decision Process:

- OpenAI selected due to: negotiated pricing; advanced capabilities; and institutional controls.
- External input from: InfoTech Research Group (higher ed trends) and Sloan Consulting (advisory support).

d. Training & Implementation:

- Initial rollout includes a mandatory 5-minute general GenAI training. Faculty found training insufficient. Administration noted training is part of a pilot and will evolve.

e. Major Faculty Concerns Raised:

- Security/data protection and safety/user well-being.
- Lack of shared governance and transparency.
- Mid-semester rollout timing.
- Academic impacts (teaching, integrity, workload, curriculum).
- Insufficient training.
- Student safety and mental health risks.
- Legal liability concerns.

f. Next Steps:

- Compile and share campus feedback with System leadership.
- Refine training, policies, and support structures.
- Continue discussions with FC and governance bodies.



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Faculty Council
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9. 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Next Faculty Council Meeting: April 2nd, 2026 (Zoom)