

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)
MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2024, 2:45-3:15 P.M.
MEETING LOCATION: PARKS HALL 301

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS		“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets
P	Alex Blazer (CoAS, ECUS Secretary)	
R	Cathy Cox (University President)	
P	Nicolas Creel (CoBT, ECUS Chair)	
P	Stephanie Jett (CoAS, ECUS Vice-Chair)	
P	Joyce Norris-Taylor (CoHS, ECUS Member)	
R	Holley Roberts (Provost)	
P	Lamonica Sanford (Library, ECUS Member)	
R	Rob Sumowski (CoE, ECUS Chair Emerita)	
GUESTS		
Mandy Jarriel, Interim Associate Provost of Academic Affairs & Director of The Graduate School		

Legend

Highlighted text denotes follow-up.

Bold denotes action or recommendation.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m. by Nicholas Creel (Chair).

II. Approval of Agenda: A **Motion** to approve the agenda was made and seconded. **The agenda was approved.**

III. Approval of Minutes: A draft of the 4 Oct 2024 minutes of the Executive Committee had been circulated to the meeting attendees via email. A **Motion** to approve the minutes was made and seconded. **The minutes were approved.**

IV. Reports

Presiding Officer Report — Nicholas Creel

1. **Feral Cats on Campus** Dr. Flory forwarded [an article from the Chronicle of Higher Education](#) about how university/faculty senates at other campus have worked to address the common problem of feral cats on campus.
2. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates**
 - a. State account: \$3835.20
 - b. Foundation account: \$93.75
3. **ECUS Discussion**
 - a. **Feral Cats on Campus** The committee debated whether this was an issue on campus.

Presiding Officer Elect Report — Stephanie Jett

1. **Election Oversight** Letters were sent to the Deans and Library Director on 8 Oct 2024 to start the elections process in the colleges. Election procedures will be requested from the Deans and Library Director by 1 Dec 2024.
 - a. Should Deans, Associate Deans, and Chairs be allowed to serve as EFS?
 - i. According to senate bylaws, if they are listed on the Corps of Instruction list, then they can serve as EFS.
 - ii. However, Given the extensive additional responsibilities of the aforementioned individuals as well as the power differential that exists between faculty and these CoI administrators, should ECUS/University Senate amend the bylaws to exclude them from being elected as EFS? What about serving as appointees?
2. **At-Large Faculty Senator Election** The next step for election season is to plan the at-large faculty senator election procedure preparation including timeline (completion deadline March 1).

V. Unfinished Business

1. There was no unfinished business.

VI. New Business

1. **BOR Policy Updates** ECUS discussed the Board of Regents proposed policy changes. Nicholas Creel shared a draft of his letter to the BOR, and the committee made recommendations for revision.
2. **AI Issues**
 - a. It was noted that the Honor Code (Bobcat Code) does not mention AI while the recently revised Student Academic Dishonesty Policy does. ECUS will recommend that ECUS-SCC steer revision of the Honor Code to APC.
 - b. Since AI affects the scope of multiple standing committees (Microsoft Copilot appears to be a RPIPC issue, using AI to complete assignments appears to be an APC issue, and AI grading and teaching workload appears to be a FAPC issue), ECUS discussed the creation of a two-year ad hoc committee, constituted by members of appropriate standing committees and other relevant campus stakeholders, which would be devoted to recommending policy related to AI issues across the university.

VII. Open Discussion

1. In accordance with recent ECUS practice, the Chair Emeritus will review the University Senate Handbook for possible revision, and the Secretary will draft the Governance Calendar.

VIII. Next Meeting

1. **Calendar**

- a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, 15 Nov 2024, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, 10 Jan 2025, 2:45 p.m., Microsoft Teams
 - c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, 10 Jan 2025, 3:30 p.m., Microsoft Teams
 - d. University Senate Meeting – Friday, 24 Jan 2025, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
2. **Tentative Agenda:** Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. **Nicholas Creel will ensure that such items (if any) are added to the agenda of a future meeting of ECUS or ECUS-SCC.**

IX. Adjournment

1. As there was no further business to consider, a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. **The motion to adjourn was approved and the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.**

X. Supporting Documents

1. There are no supporting documents.

Distribution: First, these minutes will be sent to committee members for review; second, they will be posted to the Senate website.

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)
COMMITTEE OFFICERS: NICHOLAS CREEL (CHAIR), STEPHANIE JETT (VICE-CHAIR), ALEX BLAZER (SECRETARY)
ACADEMIC YEAR: 2024-2025

AGGREGATE MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR:
“P” denotes Present, “R” denotes Regrets, “A” denotes Absent

Acronyms	EFS = Elected Faculty Senator CoAS = College of Arts and Sciences; CoB = College of Business; CoE = College of Education; CoHS = College of Health Sciences										
Meeting Dates	9/6	10/4	11/1	1/10	2/14	3/7	4/4	P	R	A	
Alex Blazer <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Secretary</i>	P	P	P					3	0	0	
Cathy Cox <i>University President</i>	R	R	R					0	3	0	
Nicholas Creel <i>EFS, CoBT ECUS Chair</i>	P	P	P					3	0	0	
Stephanie Jett <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Vice-Chair</i>	P	P	P					3	0	0	
Joyce Norris-Taylor <i>EFS, CoHS ECUS Member</i>	P	R	P					2	1	0	
Holley Roberts <i>Provost</i>	P	P	R					2	1	0	
Lamonica Sanford <i>EFS, Library ECUS Member</i>	P	P	P					3	0	0	
Rob Sumowski <i>EFS, CoE ECUS Chair Emerita</i>	P	R	R					1	2	0	