

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2026
1:00 – 3:00 PM
In-person only – Downtown Campus, Amethyst Room

Attendance

Officers Present:

- Dr. Kelly O'Keefe, President (Workforce Development & Lifelong Learning)
- Dr. Dennis Just, President-Elect (Sciences)
- Vivian Knight, Vice President (Business, IT, Hospitality Leadership)
- Sarah Abbott (Kirchoff), Governing Board Representative (Applied Technology)
- Jane Hall, Secretary (Business, IT, Hospitality Leadership)

Senators Present:

- Ally Stacey (Math)
- Rita Lennon (Health Professions)
- Sarah Robinson (CRSS & Education)
- Makyla Hays (PCCEA President)
- Caroline Torres (Math)
- Anna Nedlin (Communications)
- Diane Lussier (Math)
- Emily Besich (Library)
- Greg Loumeau (Arts)
- Sol Gómez (Library)
- Dr. Elliot Mead (Communications) (proxy for Maggie Golston)
- Patrick Moore (Workforce) (proxy for Sean Mendoza)
- Liz Rangel-Arriola (PimaOnline) (proxy for Padma Nair)
- Alexandra Armstrong (Science)
- John Gerard (Applied Technology)
- Nikki Robinson (Health Professions) (proxy for Stacy Cousins & Christina Schemp)
- Matej Boguszak (Math)
- Michael Nolan (Arts)
- Aaron Kostko (Social Sciences & Humanities)

Senators Absent:

- Stacy Cousins (Health Professions) (proxy identified)
- Maggie Golston (Communications) (proxy identified)
- Christina Schemp (Health Professions) (proxy identified)

- Sean Mendoza (Business/IT and Adjunct Faculty Representative) (proxy identified)
- Manal Tafish (Adult Basic Ed)
- Lisa Werner (Sciences)
- Padma Nair (Sciences)
- Missy Blair (Workforce)
- Mayra Cortés-Torres (Communications)
- Cythnia Howe (Communications)
- Julie Andrews (Education)

Guests who signed in:

- Provost Dr. Ian Roark
- Dr. Josie Milliken
- David Parker
- Michael Tulino
- Ashley Coleman

1. Introductions (1:00 – 1:10 PM)

a. Welcome and introductions – Faculty Senate President Dr. Kelly O’Keefe

b. Review and approval of April minutes - Three amendments to the minutes were requested, including a correction to attendance record, a spelling correction, and clarification that Sarah Robinson represents both Education and CRSS. The minutes were approved with these amendments by quorum vote.

c. Requests for Agenda Modification/Executive Session

- No requests for Agenda Modification or Executive Session.

d. Requests for Open Forum

- No requests for Open Forum

e. Request for Faculty Engagement

- Faculty were invited to provide feedback on the draft definition of full-time faculty (FTF), with interested individuals encouraged to join the working group. A reminder was also shared that Faculty Award nominations will be accepted from September 1 through November 15, and faculty were encouraged to submit nominations.
- [Faculty Senate Engagement Request](#) (Complete if you’d like time to present at Faculty

Senate)

- [Faculty Engagement Interest form](#) (Faculty complete if interested in joining a committee)
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2. Reports (1:10 – 1:30 PM)

- a. [Provost Report](#) – Dr. Ian Roark
 - b. [President Report](#) – Dr. Kelly O'Keefe
 - c. [BOG Report](#) - Sarah Abbott (Kirchoff)
 - d. [PCCEA Report](#) - Makyla Hays
 - e. [TLC](#), [Adjunct](#) - Written Reports
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3. Business (1:30 – 3:00 PM)

- a. Professional Development Sub-Committee - Teaching Competencies

Presenters: Dr. Elliot Mead and Ashley Coleman, Co-Chairs

- [Timeline](#)
- [PDC: Philosophy & Competencies.pptx](#)
- [Poll Results - Teaching Competencies](#)
- The presenters discussed the definition of a teaching philosophy within the context of the Teaching Competencies and emphasized the need to clearly define what is meant by a shared or institutional teaching philosophy. Faculty noted that the college's teaching philosophy should reflect its identity as a community-centered institution focused on teaching, learning, and student success rather than a research-intensive (R1) institution. It was clarified that an institutional teaching philosophy is intended to serve as a shared framework and is not meant to replace or restrict individual faculty teaching philosophies or instructional approaches.

- b. Division Spotlight – Science Division

Presenters: Cori Leonetti and Jordan Clarke

- Division Spotlight - [FS Science Division Spotlight May 2026](#)
- The Science Division highlighted continued growth and impact, supported by 41 full-time faculty, more than 100 adjunct faculty, and dedicated lab staff. Updates included new full-time hires in Food Science & Nutrition and Engineering, ongoing recruitment in Physics, and expanded sustainability initiatives through new courses and community

events such as Climate Community Day. Since 2020, enrollment has steadily increased, reflecting strong student interest in the division's programs. The division also emphasized the expansion of Course-Based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs), including projects such as Tiny Earth, bee research, iNaturalist data collection, and Seafood Forensics DNA testing, which have enhanced student engagement and scientific identity. Dual enrollment programs continue to show strong outcomes, with ongoing efforts to expand early college access and strengthen STEM pathways.

c. Results from Teaching Competencies

Presenter: Vivian Knight

- Official vote of support conducted via ballot (92.3% in favor)

d. SOP on Class Cancellation

Presenter: Chris Caballo

- [SOP: Class Meeting Cancellation Protocol Final Draft](#)
- The final draft of the SOP addresses procedures for faculty who are unexpectedly late or delayed to an individual class meeting, noting that it does not apply to full course cancellations. The SOP was developed through a collaborative and transparent review process, with stakeholder feedback incorporated through detailed comments and tracking documents. The purpose of the SOP is to promote fairness to students by preserving instructional time while also providing guidance, accountability, and support for faculty. The document is intended to help reduce student complaints and align with broader student success and administrative priorities. The final version will be published in coordination with Emily Halverson-Otts and was developed collaboratively with Kelly O'Keefe, Raymond Ryder, and Wendy Shader-Black under the sponsorship of the Vice Provost's Office.

e. Digital Fluency Framework

Presenter: Dr. Josie Milliken

- [Pima-CC-Digital-Fluency-Framework May-1 2026](#)
- Dr. Milliken provided an update on the Digital Fluency Framework, an initiative aligned with Chancellor's Cabinet Goal B focused on defining the digital competencies students need for academic, professional, and real-world success. The framework emphasizes integrated approaches to digital fluency through programs, general education, and micro-credentials rather than a standalone requirement. A key focus is the integration of AI and cybersecurity competencies across programs by Fall 2026, including areas such as AI literacy, ethical use, cybersecurity, collaboration, and learning agility. Faculty were encouraged to review and provide feedback on the draft competencies. To support implementation, an AI for Teaching and Learning course will be offered through Percipio beginning in June to provide flexible, compensated professional development for faculty. Faculty were advised to contact Dr. Josie Milliken with additional questions.

f. Chief of Police - PCC

Presenter: Tamatha Villar

- Chief Villar presented the new body-worn camera program, which is designed to enhance transparency, accountability, and public understanding of campus police interactions. The AXON-based system operates under internal policies guided by best practices, includes safeguards for activation and data management, and balances transparency with privacy considerations. Footage is treated as a public record with appropriate redaction requirements, and special attention is given to limiting camera use in classrooms and offices unless necessary.

g. Academic Calendar Committee

Presenter: Dr. Jeff Thies and Matej Boguszak

- [Fall Break 2028-29 AY](#)
- The Academic Calendar Committee provided an update on the development of the 2028–2029 academic calendar, noting that the process is guided by AP 3.10.05 and includes additional analysis tied to cabinet goals and institutional priorities. Discussions focused on balancing instructional days across 16-week, 8-week, and shorter-term courses while accounting for holidays and closures. Two primary start date options were reviewed, along with the potential addition of a fall break to support transitions between 8-week sessions, advising, and grading. The committee is also evaluating possible enrollment impacts related to starting before the University of Arizona and reviewing enrollment and student success data to guide decision-making. Faculty were encouraged to complete and share the calendar survey to help inform final recommendations before submission to administration and the Governing Board.

h. Governance Committee

Presenter: Dr. Nic Richmond and Makyla Hays

- [Governance Group Meetings May 1, 2026.pdf](#)
- The Governance Committee provided an overview of the strategic planning process, which included extensive engagement through conferences, workshops, surveys, and data sessions that generated approximately 2,300 ideas. These ideas were reviewed and refined collaboratively by the Strategic Planning Team and Chancellor's Cabinet into four key institutional priorities: creating clear pathways to completion, advancing integrated student support systems, expanding career-connected learning opportunities, and improving access to essential resources through coordinated services. Survey results showed strong overall support for the priorities, with at least 82% of respondents indicating support or strong support. Discussion also highlighted lower-than-desired faculty participation and the need to explore strategies to strengthen faculty engagement and communication. Feedback on the engagement process will help determine whether

the plan moves forward to the Governing Board in May or is delayed until June for additional input.

i. AP/BP Review

Presenter: David Parker

- AP 2.01.02
- BP 2.06
- BP 2.07
- BP 6.05
- AP 6.05.01
- The AP/BP review for this cycle included no substantive changes, with all items reflecting routine updates. One item of note was digital accessibility, which received a minor update to reflect an extended compliance deadline issued by the Department of Justice. The new compliance target has been extended to December 31, 2026, allowing additional time to implement requirements effectively. The college plans to complete as much work as possible ahead of the official deadline to focus on more complex items later and to minimize disruption to the upcoming academic year.

j. Faculty Recognition Initiative

Presenter: Kate Schmidt, Dr. Ian Roark, Dr. Kelly O'Keefe

- The Provost introduced the Faculty Recognition Initiative, which aims to formally celebrate faculty contributions to teaching, innovation, and student success through ongoing recognition at Faculty Senate meetings and All Faculty Day. During the meeting, the First Annual Faculty Achievement in Education Award was presented to Dawn Majalca in recognition of her 18 years of service, leadership, and impact on student success, including her work advancing the Pharmacy Technology program and securing national accreditation.

4. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:06 PM by Dr. Kelly O'Keefe

Minutes submitted by:

Jane Hall, Faculty Senate Secretary and Faculty Senator for Business, IT, Hospitality Leadership