

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2026
1:00 – 3:00 PM
In-person only – West Campus, Saguaro Room HG-10

Attendance

Officers Present:

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

Senators Present:

- Ally Stacey (Math)
- Rita Lennon (Health Professions)
- Robin Mayer (Adult Education)
- Sarah Robinson (EDU & STU)
- Stacy Cousins (Health Professions)
- Patricia Krebs (Health Professions)
- Maggie Golston (Communication)
- Emily Besich (Library)(proxy for Sol Gómez)
- Greg Loumeau (Arts)
- Dr. Elliot Mead (Communications)
- Mayra Cortés-Torres (Communication)
- Liz Rangel-Arriola (PimaOnline)
- Alexandra Armstrong (Science)
- Paulina Vega (Public Safety)
- Nikki Robinson (Health Professions)
- Caroline Torres (Math)
- Christina Schemp (Health Professions)
- Cythnia Howe (CMU)
- Yvonne M Sandoval (Math)
- Aaron Kostko (Humanities & Social Sciences)
- Dr. Brooke Anderson (PCCEA)
- Michael Nolan (Visual Arts)
- Eric Winkleblack (Applied Technology/Aviation)
- John Gerard (Applied Tech)
- Lisa Werner (Sciences)

- Robin Mayer (Adult Education)
- Jennifer Switzer (Math)
- Alexandra Armstrong (Science)

Senators Absent:

- Sol Gómez (Library) (proxy identified)
- Sean Mendoza (Business/IT and Adjunct Faculty Representative)
- Cora Varas-Nelson (Science)

Guests who signed in:

- Emily Halvorson-Otts
 - Jeff Thies
 - Michael Tulino
 - Amanda Abens
 - Elyse Gayada
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1. Introductions (4:00 – 4:15 PM)

- a. Welcome and introductions – Faculty Senate President Dr. Kelly Grim O’Keefe
 - b. Review and approval of Mal minutes - The minutes were approved unanimously with no amendments.
 - 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
 - [Questions for the Chancellor/Provost to be asked next month](#)
 - [Faculty Senate Engagement Request](#) (Complete if you’d like time to present at Faculty Senate)
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2. Reports (4:15 – 4:35 PM)

- a. Chancellor (Verbal) Report - Dr. Jeff Nasse - Chancellor Nasse will be meeting with Governor Hobbs to discuss financial support and provided an update on the Roadmap for Resilience and related strategic goals.
 - b. [Provost Report](#) – Dr. Ian Roark
 - c. [President Report](#) – Dr. Kelly Grim O’Keefe
 - d. [Governing Board Report](#) - Sarah Abbott (Kirchoff)
 - e. [TLC](#), No Adjunct Report - Written Reports
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3. Business (4:35 – 4:48 PM)

a. Faculty Senate Charter - Officer term Length

Presenter: Dr. Kelly Grim O’Keefe

- Dr. Grim O’Keefe discussed moving Faculty Senate officer terms from one to two years as part of the Charter revision.
- General support was expressed for two-year terms to improve continuity, allow time to learn the role, and strengthen leadership transitions and succession planning.
- It was noted that the proposal may include extending current officers’ terms, with a vote expected in September.

b. [8-Week Initiative](#)

Presenter: Dr. Gwen Schwartz

- [Naming contest](#)
- FAQs
- [Form for submission of questions](#)
- Dr. Schwartz discussed the “Ask a Question” form for collecting faculty questions, with responses shared through Faculty Senate and an evolving FAQ resource.
- Faculty were encouraged to submit naming ideas; 32 suggestions have been received, which the Faculty Senate will narrow to the Top 8 for a faculty vote.

c. SENSE Survey

Presenter: Dr. Nic Richmond

- Dr. Richmond discussed the college-wide student engagement survey for new students. Faculty are asked to encourage participation; eligible students will receive the survey directly, and classroom outreach is available through Gayle E. Bell.
 - The Foundation is providing \$300 certificates as participation incentives.
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4. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 PM by Dr. Kelly Grim O'Keefe

Minutes submitted by:

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