

5/11/2026 (11:30 am)
Executive Committee Minutes

Present: Amy Brunell, Kip Curtis, Joe Fahey, Phil Mazzocco, Andrew Mueller, Agus Muñoz-Garcia, Heather Tanner, Jason Opal, Cynthia Callahan, Dawn Kitchen, Del Lindsey, Andy Kinney, Tara Strang, Dennis Shaffer, Delaney Beuchner, Kate Shannon

1. Approval of the minutes from the last Executive Committee (EC) meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the 4/06/26 Executive Committee meeting was made by Heather Tanner (seconded by Kip Curtis). The motion carried unanimously with three abstentions.

2. Dean's Updates

Dean Jason Opal reminded the updated the committee on various visits and events:

- Met with Interim Provost Trevor Brown and discussed Regional Campus priorities and contingencies. We are hoping to host a visit from the Provost in the Fall.
- Thanked the faculty for a smooth Annual Review process.
- Made an addition to the APT document: If anyone is tending towards not meeting expectations, the Dean will have a meeting with the faculty member in question at least two weeks prior to the writing of the Annual Review letter.
- Working on policies regarding Summer campus access to increase various efficiencies.
- On June 8th there will be an ice cream social on campus that will be a dual OSUM-NCSC event to celebrate and recognize various accomplishments. Political officials will attend.
- On July 24th there will be a Staff retreat in Columbus
- Question: Some faculty are having trouble contacting their Chairs to discuss their Annual Reviews. Response: Reach out to the Chair in question and cc the College Dean. In the future, there should be a formal and written list of TIU expectations.

3. Discussion on committee assignments for the academic year 2026-27

The Committee discussed the Executive Committee Assignments for 2026-27 as well as Standing Committee Assignments (see Appendix). There are more members on the Curriculum Committee than the Professional Development Committee in part because the Faculty will be asked to submit hiring priorities by discipline to be submitted to the Curriculum Committee and it is desirable to have diverse faculty perspectives from across a variety of disciplines. A discussion arose regarding how to evaluate and rank these various requests, and what kinds of criteria the Dean will use to make final decisions. In addition to servicing majors, coverage of Theme and Foundation courses will also play a role in prioritization.

There was a discussion regarding the funding of various student-scholarship awards. Faculty were encouraged to fund these awards, but it was also suggested to see if there were alternative funding routes, perhaps through the Columbus campus. A suggestion was made to discontinue the endowed McCloud award given that it is no longer being funded by the family, and is no longer self-sustaining.

4. Template for the annual Faculty Activity Report, aligned with the new evaluation rubrics

The Executive Council met on May 4th to discuss the Faculty Activity Report and evaluation rubrics. A general conclusion of the meeting was that Faculty should provide documentation of performance in the three domains (Teaching, Research, and Service) to allow the Deans with as much data and context as possible with which to make faculty evaluations and write Annual Review letters. The Executive Council discussed which metrics should be used to evaluate performance within each domain. What resulted were template documents that would provide clear criteria and expectations relating to various performance designations.

The committee engaged in a wide-ranging discussion of the priorities, criteria, concerns and contingencies in an attempt to reach consensus on these documents and the corresponding evaluative processes. One large debate centered around what average SSLE rating across classes would constitute 'meeting expectations'. The general consensus appeared to be that an course average score of higher than 3.8 would correspond with this designation and was consistent with Promotion and Tenure standards throughout the University, but others argued that 3.8 was setting the bar too low.

By the end of the meeting, it was felt that the drafts of the APT document and the Faculty Activity Report were sufficient to move forward with. Both documents will be shared with the Faculty and further discussed in the Fall.

With no further issues to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.

*Minutes taken and prepared by Phil Mazzocco, Faculty Secretary.

Appendix

2026-2027 Membership of Standing Committees

Faculty Assembly and Executive Council/Executive Committee

President	Agus Muñoz-Garcia (votes in a tie; 2026-2027)
Vice President	Kate Shannon (2026-2027)
Secretary	Kip Curtis (2026-2027)
Past President	-----
Associated Faculty Representatives (2)	Andrew Kinney (2026-2028) TBD
Staff Representatives (2)	Delaney Buechner (2025-2027) TBD
At Large Representatives (2)	Del Lindsey (2025-2027) Dennis Shaeffer (2026-2028)
University Senate Representative*	Donna Farland-Smith (2025-2027)
University Senate Alternate*	Jamison Kantor (2025-2027)
Arts & Sciences Senator*	Phil Mazzocco (2027-2030)
Arts & Sciences Alternate*	Heather Tanner (2027-2030)
Dean*	Jason Opal, nonvoting
Associate Dean*	Dawn Kitchen, nonvoting
Associate Dean for Faculty Enrichment*	Amy Brunell, nonvoting
Associate Dean for Academic Support*	Cynthia Callahan, nonvoting

** On Executive Committee but not an Executive Council position*

Program Coordinators

Biology and Natural Sciences	Carol Landry
History	Heather Tanner
Psychology	Del Lindsey
Education	Terri Bucci
English	Jamison Kantor

Curriculum and programming (minimum of three TT Faculty required)

MEMBERSHIP (all are voting members except Associate Deans and guests):

- Tenure Track Faculty (**minimum of 3**); when possible, include men and women at different career stages, from different academic areas (arts and humanities, education, math/natural sciences, social and behavioral sciences). If possible, assign faculty who are ineligible for the Excellence in Teaching award.
- Associated faculty (0-2)
- Academic Advisors (1-2)
- Students (0-2)
- **Associate Dean of Faculty Enrichment Amy Brunell, Associate Dean of Student Enrichment Cynthia Callahan, and Senior Associate Dean Dawn Kitchen** (ex officio).

Member	Mirel Caibar	Math/Sci	2026-2028
Member	Faith Wyzgoski	Math/Sci	2026-2028
Member	Joe Fahey	A&H	2026-2028
Member	Terri Winnick	SBS	2026-2028
Member	Steven Joyce	A&H	2026-2028
Member	Steven Abedon	Math/Sci	2026-2028
Member	Elizabeth Kolkovich	A&H	2026-2028
Member	Glenn Hartz	A&H	2026-2028

Assoc Fac (0-2)

Member	TBD
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Advisors (1-2)

Member	TBD
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Students (0-2)

Member	TBD
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As needed:

Associate Dean	Amy Brunell	Nonvoting
Associate Dean	Dawn Kitchen	Nonvoting

Professional Development (minimum of three TT Faculty)

MEMBERSHIP (all are voting members except Associate Deans and guests):

- Tenure Track Faculty (**minimum of 3**); when possible, include men and women at different career stages, from different academic areas (arts and humanities, education, math/natural sciences, social and behavioral sciences). If possible, assign faculty who are ineligible for the Excellence in Scholarship and Excellence in Service awards.
- **Associate Dean of Faculty Enrichment Amy Brunell** (ex officio).

Member	Sergei Chmutov	Math/Sci	2026-2028
Member	John Thrasher	A&H	2026-2028
Member	Mollie Cavender	A&H	2026-2028
Member	Ozeas Costa	Math/Sci	2026-2028
Associate Dean	Amy Brunell	Non-voting	