

Faculty Senate—August 21, 2026

Meeting called to order: 3:06 PM

Minutes from June 2026 meetings:

No objections; minutes approved

Point of Order—Quorum call: Quorum is met

President's Report—Nathan Smith

Enrollment: enrollment still trending up; partially due to Dual Credit increases

Dual Credit breakdown

FT (not embedded) 14% 169 sections

Contained in regular load 10% (124 sections)

As overload 4% (45 sections)

PT (not embedded) 19% 228 sections

Embedded faculty 67% 789 sections

There are budgeting implications with so many more dual credit sections. State is cutting monies and BOT does not want to raise tuition or taxes.

Course Sections run with <10 students

19% of all courses 791 sections

FT teaching 57%

Contained in regular load 43%

As overload 13%

PT teaching 43%

This also has budget implications and constraints.

Full-Time Faculty: 973 Full-Time Faculty going into Fall 2026; more than ever before; of the 67 new hires—86.6% were adjuncts or temporary full-time; only 9 are completely new to HCC

Program Realignment: COE's stay the same except faculty are assigned to "home colleges"; Executive Deans assigned based on former Academic Deans—just title change not promotion; Online and Coleman do not currently have Executive Deans Reporting questions: College Readiness?--unknowns, PC's?—AVC of Curriculum and Compliance

Chair Stipend: might be coming, but needs to be approved by CEC; Chair term extensions have not been decided yet

Review of Goals for Year

Treasurer's Report—Stacey Higdon

Motion to Suspend Orders of the Day (Connectivity issues for Stacey)

Hearing of Faculty Concerns:

G. Brown—concerns on academic freedom

Reports:

Standing Committees

none

Caucus Reports

Past Presidents: David White

Did meet

Chair Caucus: Mia Taylor

Will meet in the next two weeks; will need a new chair as Mia steps in as Faculty Senate President

Adjunct Caucus: no report

PC Caucus: Debra Schultz

PCs are not invited to Leader's Day—still unhappy about; all regular reports due in the Fall; will continue meeting 1st Friday and 3rd Tuesday; new PC's need to email to get added

Return to Orders of the Day

Treasurer's Report—Stacy Higdon

Reminder that Smart Financial accounts were closed and monies distributed to FT and PT Emergency grants; little change in overall numbers

Division Reports:

MVPA: Debra Schultz

Central Garage screen doors are an issue (are they ADA-compliant?)
Senate Elections—asking for the Election Committee to review how in-eligibility for nomination and serving are handled; bigger implications when only elected every 2 years and former senators must sit out for 3 years.

Unfinished Business:

By-Laws Amendments: coming out of Executive Committee

- Pertains to continuity and process
 - Creating VP Elect and Treasurer Elect—both would be serving their 1st year of the 2 year term
 - Secretary would serve in an Acting capacity until appointed by Chancellor
 - Need clarifying language for Filling Vacant Officers positions

Amendment: concerning Section 5—Filling Vacant Officer Seats

Moved by (several voiced)

2nd—Nicholas Cox

- Motion to call question on new wording—David What
- 2nd—Mia Taylor
 - Aye 31; Nay 1; Abstain 0

Motion to Vote on Entire By-Laws Amendments

Moved by Mia Taylor

2nd—David White

Motion carries by vast majority

Mia Taylor assumes position as Faculty Senate President

New Business:

Resolutions remembering Dr. Nora Jo Sherman and Dr. Robert Ford

Both pass by vast majority

[Dr. Sherman's daughter pledged \$25,000 to foundation for scholarship for Business students]

Elections of Officers

5:04--Motion to Recess while dealing with technical issues regarding election voting

David White

5:14—Return

Vice-President-Elect:

Nominations:

Dalia El Metwally

Machuria Johnson

Move to close nominations—David White; 2nd—Nathan Smith

Dalia El Metwally (elected)

Treasurer-Elect:

Nominations:

Jennifer O'Neill

Move to close nominations—Nathan Smith; 2nd—Terronica Blackmon

Jennifer O'Neill (elected by acclamation)

Secretary:

Nominations:

Debra Schultz

Machuria Johnson

Move to close nominations—Jenny Vacca; 2nd—multiple

Debra Schultz (elected—serves as Acting Secretary until appointed)

Vice Preseident:

Nominations:

Antrece Baggett

Machuria Johnson

Terronica Blackmon

Daniel Argo

Move to close nominations—Nathan Smith; 2nd—multiple

Terronica Blackmon (elected)

Treasurer:

Nominations:

Juan Crawford

Jennifer Vacca

Move to close nominations—Nathan Smith; 2nd—David White

Jennifer Vacca (elected)

President-Elect:

Nominations (remain open until September meeting)

Nicholas Cox

Machuria Johnson

Fidelis Ngang

Additional nominations prior to September meeting—send to Debra Schultz

Announcements

- Condolences to Dr. Catherine O'Brien's family
- BOA committee will meet 8/24; need new chairs
- Graduation—12/4

- BOA is 10/30 at WHI

Adjourned: 6:02 PM