

Faculty Senate Meeting

Thursday, April 23, 2026, 3:30pm

Martinelli Boardroom

Dr. Lee Bidwell called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. Upon opening, Dr. Bidwell explained that 2025-20026 Senators should vote on any action items during the meeting and 2026-2027 Senators should vote on the Executive Committee. The following members were present:

Dr. Bill Abrams	Dr. Roland Karnatz	Ms. Sarah Reynolds
Dr. Dale Beach	Dr. Alison King	Dr. Brent Roberts
Dr. Jennifer Beach	Dr. Melissa Kravetz	Dr. Dawn Schwartz
Dr. Lee Bidwell	Dr. Evan Long	Hafsa Shoeb
Dr. Chris Bjornsen	Dr. Alyssa Lowery	Dr. Larissa Smith
Dr. Marissa Bolin	Dr. Khawaja Mamum	Dr. Shawn Smith
Dr. Roger Byrne	Dr. Angela McDonald	Dr. Ben Topham
Dr. Ken Fortino	Dr. Dan Michael	Dr. Javier Fernández Urenda
Dr. Jennifer Gerlach	Dr. Kris Paal	Dr. Yulia Uryadova
Dr. Scott Grether	Mr. Adam Paulek	Dr. Sarah Varela
Dr. Carl Harvey	Dr. JoEllen Pederson	Dr. Ronda Walker
Dr. Jennifer Hutchinson	Dr. Jeannine Perry	Dr. Tom Wears
Ms. Rosemary Jesionowski	Dr. Ron Pike	Dr. Rebecca Wetmiller
Ms. Rebecca Johnson	Dr. Phillip Poplin	Dr. Haley Woznyj
Ms. Whitney Kallenbach	Dr. Jack Reeder	

Mrs. Sherry Reynolds,
Recorder

Also present were – Mr. Josh Blakely, Dr. Audrey Church, Ms. Susan Hines, Ms. Ashley Leslie, Ms. Ashley Long, Dr. David Shoenthal, Dr. Sarah Tanner-Anderson

The [April 9, 2026 minutes](#) were approved as submitted.

Explanation of Ranked Choice Voting – Dr. Davis Shoenthal

- Dr. Shoenthal explained the ranked choice voting process which will be used for the first time in Senate. **Ballots for Chair were distributed to all faculty members who will be serving during the 2026-27 academic year and once their selections were marked, the ballots were collected.**

Voting for next year's Senate Executive Committee was conducted during the meeting. The results are as follows: The 2026–2027 Senate Executive Committee will consist of Lee Bidwell (Chair), Haley Woznyj (Vice Chair), and Carl Harvey, Ann Bailey Yoelin, and Jennifer Beach.

Dr. Bidwell recognized the executive committee of 2025-2026, Haley Woznyj (Vice-Chair), Carl Harvey, Jennifer Hutchinson, and Ronda Walker and thanked them for their service.

Proposal for changes to the Intellectual Property policy – Dr. Brent Roberts

- Dr. Roberts asked if there were any questions regarding the proposal as presented at the April 9th meeting. There were not questions.

Outcome: Approved; all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions.

DEC Updates Presentation – Ms. Ashley Leslie

- Panopto will be going away in May. Any records needed to be kept should be downloaded before 5/30/26. This will be replaced with Canvas Studio.
- There is one more Studio Zoom training set for 5/13/26 and registration is still open.
- Packback is now available through the Follett book bundle.
- Ally is being purchased for course accessibility.
- Longwood currently has 2 AI tools of Canvas Core active with 2 more to be activated.
- Ms. Leslie will send detailed information on all that has been mentioned to Sherry Reynolds to be distributed to the faculty.

Announcements:

- **Dr. Bidwell announced the members of the 2026-2027 Faculty Status and Grievances committee:**
 - Regular members: Jake Milne, Amorette Barber, Claire LaRoche, Ian Danielsen, & Eric Hodges
 - Alternates: Adam Franssen, Jeff Halliday, Stephanie Buchert, & Shayla Walker
- **Dr. Bidwell asked the longest serving member of Faculty Senate, Dr. Bill Abrams, to motion to confer degrees.**
- **Dr. Bill Abrams, after offering words of gratitude and wisdom, moved to confer degrees upon satisfaction of all requirements of the Graduating Class of 2026. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adam Paulek and was so carried.**
- **Dr. Larissa Smith thanked Dr. Bidwell for her chairmanship on Senate.**

- **Dr. Smith noted that today is Barbara John’s Day and was the 75th anniversary of the historical walk-out that changed history in America. There will be a celebration festival later in the year.**
- **Everyone was congratulated on a job well done on Research Day with 800 students and 475 presentations.**
- **Dr. Smith asked Dr. Kris Paal to speak about the Day of Dialogue.**
 - **Dr. Paal said the pilot, using 6 sessions of Citizen 110, went well. The group of close to 100 students engaged in talking and listening to one another. He looks forward to the fall Day of Dialogue.**
- **An Enrollment & Budget Forum is scheduled for May 1 at 11 am in Allen 308.**
- **The Accessibility Compliance date has been moved from April 2026 to April 2027.**

- **Dr. Carl Harvey reminded everyone of the Teaching & Learning Institute happening on May 12th on Generative AI: A Human-Guided Approach.**
- **Ms. Sarah Reynolds announced that “Inside Higher Education” is now available and no longer limited to 3 articles/month.**

- **The Richmond Symphony will be at Longwood on April 25th for a free concert.**

- **Dean Roger Byrne was recognized for his years of service. Dean Byrne thanked everyone for their well wishes and expressed gratitude to the faculty, staff and students that make Longwood what it is.**

There was no new business.

Dr. Larissa Smith took a moment to thank Dr. Bill Abrams for all of his years of service and work on Senate and committees, especially the Educational Policy committee. There would be no shared governance as it is today without Bill Abrams and other colleagues like Bill Harbour and the late Susan May. Bill Abrams will be missed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Reynolds