

Faculty Senate Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 2026, 3:30pm

Martinelli Boardroom

Dr. Lee Bidwell called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The following members were present:

Dr. Bill Abrams	Dr. Kris Paal	Dr. Ronda Walker
Dr. Dale Beach	Mr. Cam Patterson	Dr. Haley Woznyj
Dr. Lee Bidwell	Mr. Adam Paulek	
Dr. Chris Bjornsen	Dr. Jeannine Perry	
Dr. Roger Byrne	Dr. Ron Pike	
Dr. Jennifer Gerlach	Dr. Phillip Poplin	
Dr. Carl Harvey	Ms. Sarah Reynolds	
Dr. Jennifer Hutchinson	Dr. Brent Roberts	
Ms. Rosemary Jesionowski	Dr. Dawn Schwartz	
Ms. Whitney Kallenbach	Dr. Larissa Smith	
Dr. Roland Karnatz	Dr. Shawn Smith	
Dr. Melissa Kravetz	Dr. Ben Topham	
Dr. Evan Long	Dr. Javier Fernández Urenda	
Dr. Angela McDonald	Dr. Yulia Uryadova	
Dr. Dan Michael	Dr. Sarah Varela	

Mrs. Sherry Reynolds,
Recorder

Also present were – Mr. Josh Blakely, Dr. Audrey Church, Ms. Susan Hines, Dr. Chris Kukk, Ms. Ashley Leslie, Ms. Ashley Long, Dr. Carl Riden, Dr. Shannon Salley, Dr. Madeline Schutt, Dr. David Shoenthal, Dr. Sarah Tanner-Anderson, Dr. Pamela Tracy

The [March 5, 2026, minutes](#) were approved as submitted.

[EPC Report](#) – Dr. Davis Shoenthal

➤ **a. [Economics, BS](#) (program closure)**

Due to declining enrollment trends, the BS Economics program does not meet SCHEV enrollment standards and the program needs to be closed. (Currently only three students are enrolled and one is graduating this year.)

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

➤ **b. Nursing, BSN (credit change)**

The BSN program will be increasing the degree by one to two credits.

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

Proposal to amend the structure of the PEC (Professional Education Council) – Dr. David Shoenthal

- The proposal is based on PEC members' feedback after the recent CAEP reaccreditation visit and changes the structure of PEC to have leadership of both administrators and faculty to have more faculty interaction. The Executive Committee will consist of the deans of CCCAS and CEHHS; the Director of Teacher Preparation; and three faculty members, one from CEHHS, one from CCCAS, and one representing an advanced-level program. The PEC committee voted yes to the proposal with one abstention. The floor was opened for discussion.
- Dr. Bill Abrams expressed concern on behalf of his department that the faculty member will be doing more work and should therefore be compensated. Provost Larissa Smith responded that during this last reaccreditation period there was course release and compensation made available. Dr. Abrams expressed there was still concern about more responsibility falling on the faculty. Dr. Shoenthal did confirm that yes, there would be more work for faculty in the leadership role but is the same amount of work for the committee.
- Dr. Bidwell confirmed with the group that they were ready to vote on the proposal.

Outcome: Approved; all in favor, no opposed, 1 abstention.

Proposal to add accessibility statement to syllabi – Provost, Dr. Larissa Smith

- The accessibility statement change is a first step as compliance begins with the updated Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requiring all state and local government agencies to provide for digital accessibility.
- Longwood has initially been working mostly on public accessibility (website). Dr. Madeline Schutt (ARO) will be heading a group to make determinations about compliance "behind the digital doors" on campus.
- The updated syllabus statement will be housed under the Academic Affairs website where the current statement lives. The primary purpose of the statement is to make students aware there is a way they can address any challenges they may be facing by reaching out to the professor. Faculty are encouraged to send accommodation letters through the AIM system. The floor was opened for discussion.
- Dr. Chris Bjornsen, on behalf of a department member, asked if this should be given to all students even if they are not receiving ARO services. The title and first paragraph of

the proposed change look like it is for all students. Who does the accessibility apply to? Provost Smith responded that digital accessibility should be for all students and this would also be a good opportunity to embrace incorporating “Universal Design for Learning” principles in courses that can help all students learn, regardless of whether they have a disability.

- Dr. Abrams pointed out that this is going to be extremely difficult for Math with its “images” that cannot be read and currently Longwood doesn’t have the software to do this and he suggests this issue be taken into consideration during the planning process. Dr. Abrams motioned for a friendly amendment to the first paragraph of the statement from “instructor” to “instructor and ARO”, seconded by Dr. Phillip Poplin. Dr. Haley Woznyj pointed out that there could be many issues that arise that would not necessarily involve ARO followed up by Dr. Pamela Tracy sharing concern of ARO “policing” faculty upon receiving all reports. Dr. Abrams and Dr. Poplin withdrew the motion. Cameron Patterson assured the group that an online reporting tool is being developed in order to assess issues and route them to the proper resource (ARO, DEC, etc.) to benefit all students.
- Provost Smith also reminded everyone that tools are developing as the process continues. This statement is in place for students to know that when they experience an issue in the classroom, they need to make the instructor aware. There needs to be a conversation to determine what type of help is needed, not necessarily that the instructor needs to “fix” the issue. Dr. Carl Riden suggested building a culture around accessibility and what it means. Some students may think something is “not accessible” merely because they can’t find it and this can be corrected by faculty being very clear with the students about accessibility and by using tools available to help.
- Dr. Abrams made another motion for a friendly amendment to the second paragraph of the statement changing “implementation plan” to “their plan”, seconded by Dr. Poplin. After much discussion it was decided to amend “implementation plan” to “a plan”.

Outcome: Amendment approved; all in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention

- Dr. Abrams noted, for the most part, if faculty don’t already know how to do what the student is asking, they are not going to be able to figure it out. Second, he wanted to clarify that this does not go on the syllabus statement in the FPPM. It was verified that this is not a change to the FPPM, but a link on the Academic Affairs website on Solomon.

Outcome: Amended proposal approved; all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

Proposal to amend the Student Assessment of Instruction instrument – Dr. Haley Woznyj

- Dr. Woznyj presented the proposal after receiving feedback at the last senate meeting and from student groups. The “in-class” script was shortened. The form was renamed to Student Experience & Learning Form (SELF). Some wording was changed and a section removed. Elements of course design that contributed to the learning experience was added (group work, lectures, field trips, etc.). Appendix A contained proposed changes to the section IV.R. of the FPPM. Appendix B is recommended administration not to be added to FPPM, but given out before administering the SELF.
- This will go into the new FPPM for Fall 2026 and become effective at that time.

Outcome: Approved; all in favor, no opposed, 3 abstentions.

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

- First, Dr. Roberts announced the final AI Conversations workshop will be held in Greenwood 209 on Wednesday, April 15, at 4pm with the Academic Deans. He also encouraged attendance at the upcoming, annual C.G. Gordon Moss lecture featuring Woody Holton, previous long-time Dean of Faculty and author of “Liberty is Sweet: The Hidden History of the American Revolution.” It will be held in Blackwell Ballroom at 6pm on Thursday, April 16.
- The IP policy has not been revised in over 5 years and the committee is tweaking it as AI evolves. The proposed policy changes will:
 - Clarify that IP developed independently by students at the SEED Hub retain IP rights
 - Stipulate that use of AI must be disclosed
 - Update access instructions for the IP Report form
- The edits are on page 63 of the FPPM. There are 2 edits to the actual IP Report form.
- There was no discussion. Senators were asked to share the information with their colleagues and provide feedback. The proposal will be presented for approval at the final Faculty Senate meeting on April 23.

New Business:

- Dr. Abrams inquired about current status of deposits/enrollment figures. Provost Smith stated that right now we are tracking between the last 2 years. There were a couple of delays and dates moved that may have affected numbers. There will be a Budget & Enrollment Forum on Tuesday, 4/28, in Allen 101 at which time all of the latest updates will be given. Notification will be sent out on the meeting.

Announcements:

- Provost Smith continued with announcements and reminded everyone that Spring Weekend was this upcoming weekend.
- Adam Paulek announced the upcoming Empty Bowls tradition on Thursday, April 16, at 6:30pm at High Bridge Stables. All proceeds will go to FACES food pantry.
- Senate Chair, Dr. Lee Bidwell, reminded everyone that the Google form for Senate Executive nominations has been emailed and voting will take place on 4/23 at the last senate meeting. This year a ranked choice voting process will be used to allow for a smoother process and will be explained further on that day when the incoming senators are also present.
- Dr. Bidwell also announced there are now [guidelines](#) for the committees' annual reports. The guidelines are located on the Faculty Senate website on Solomon under "Forms & Documents." An email to committee chairs will be forthcoming and will contain a link to the guidelines.
- Dr. Bidwell thanked the Longwood community for their support and condolences in the loss of her mother.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Reynolds