

Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 23, 2025, 3:30pm
Allen 101

Dr. Lee Bidwell called the meeting to order at 3:32pm. The following members were present:

Dr. Bill Abrams	Dr. Angela McDonald	Dr. Yulia Uryadova
Jensen Auman	Dr. Dan Michael	Dr. Sarah Varela
Dr. Lee Bidwell	Dr. Kris Paal	Dr. Ronda Walker
Dr. Chris Bjornsen	Mr. Adam Paulek	Dr. Haley Woznyj
Dr. Roger Byrne	Dr. JoEllen Pederson	Ms. Elizabeth Zirkle
Dr. Ken Fortino	Dr. Ron Pike	
Dr. Jennifer Gerlach	Dr. Phillip Poplin	
Dr. Scott Grether	Ms. Sarah Reynolds	
Dr. Carl Harvey	Dr. Brent Roberts	
Dr. Jennifer Hutchinson	Dr. Dawn Schwartz	
Ms. Rosemary Jesionowski	Hafsa Shoeb	
Ms. Whitney Kallenbach	Dr. Larissa Smith	
Dr. Roland Karnatz	Dr. Shawn Smith	
Dr. Melissa Kravetz	Dr. Ben Topham	
Dr. Chris Kukk	Dr. Javier Fernández Urenda	

Mrs. Sherry Reynolds, Recorder

Also present were – Mr. Josh Blakely, Dr. Don Blaheta, Mr. Tyler Bagent, Dr. Audrey Church, Ms. Ashley Leslie, Ms. Ashley Long, Dr. Laura Poe, Dr. Melissa Rhoten, Dr. Sarah Tanner-Anderson, Dr. Pamela Tracy

Dr. Bidwell welcomed the group and extended appreciation to Academic Affairs for providing the snacks.

The minutes from [September 4, 2025](#), were approved as submitted.

Dr. Melissa Rhoten then presented the items on the floor from the [EPC Report](#):

- a) [Data Science, BS](#) (new program): Dr. Ron Pike expressed concern on behalf of the College of Business and Economics of course program overlap with current business courses. Business would like to have more details on the breakdown of topics. After much discussion from both CBE and CCCAS faculty, it was decided to proceed with the motion on the table in order to meet the SCHEV timeline for new courses. The Senate

voted to approve the new program with the understanding that communication will take place between the two colleges.

- b) [Information Technology, MS](#) (new program): The new program was approved without discussion.
- c) [Social Work Minor](#) (program closure): Dr. Bidwell noted that she regretted the closing of this program. The program closure was approved with no discussion.
- d) [Civitae Pillar/Perspectives double counting requirements](#) (policy update): The policy update was approved without discussion.
- e) [Syllabus requirements for Civitae Course Outcomes](#) (policy update): There was discussion, both for and against, on this update. Numerous members opposed adding to the already lengthy syllabi, questioned the benefit of the requirement to students, and some argued the requirement implied lack of trust in faculty. Those who are, or have been, a part of the Civitae committee expressed the difficulty of reading through all of the syllabi and how this one small addition could make that process much easier and remove the guessing game for those that have to approve that Civitae is being done as it should be. Also, this requirement would help prevent programmatic drift away from Civitae requirements over time as courses are transferred to new instructors. This update would help the Civitae department assessment. This policy update was approved with 15 in favor, 8 against and 4 abstentions.
- f) [Transfer Articulation for Admitted Students with at least 60 credits](#) (policy update): The policy update was approved without discussion.

Dr. Haley Woznyj gave an update from the Ad-Hoc Committee on Student Assessment of Instruction aka Student Evaluations. The committee has developed a form and will begin creating focus groups including faculty and students to look at the draft. An email will be forthcoming with dates for the focus groups and all are invited to attend. The committee hopes to have a final form to present in the new academic year.

Dr. Brent Roberts gave an update on the Provost's A.I. Task Force which completed its mission and now has evolved into a smaller A.I. Advisory Team with himself, Dr. Pamela Tracy, Ms. Ashley Leslie, and Dr. Alecia Blackwood. The Task Force drafted a policy, held several listening sessions and submitted a modified policy to the provost. This year the Advisory Team will continue to engage in campus collaborative workshops. Susan Hines will be offering a Copilot workshop in November for the faculty. An AI @ Longwood Guide is in draft form which will come out soon and will be a good resource for faculty. Several faculty members attended an event at William & Mary and learned about an online course that they will attend as a pilot program in search of ideas around A.I. that will be helpful to Longwood. Teaching & Learning Institute next May will be on A.I. The understanding of A.I. is continually evolving. The policy as of right now would require each faculty member to make a syllabus statement regarding A.I. There will be sample statements available. It will be the student's responsibility to know the A.I. policy as outlined in the syllabus from the faculty member. Once there is a final draft of the A.I. policy, it will go to EPC and then to faculty.

Dr. Larissa Smith continued the A.I. update from the provost's office. She has workshopped the proposed policy with deans and chairs. The process will slow down a bit. Faculty needs time to learn more as new resources become available. It is Dr. Smith's desire that the faculty feel supported and set up for success. EPC probably won't see a policy in November, but may have a version in December. Departments will be tasked with discussing and drafting program-based AI syllabus statements in the next academic year, but departments that already have begun that conversation are encouraged to continue with that work.

The question was posed if there will be a policy created for Longwood's use of information generated by the campus for use of A.I. as it pertains to partnerships with other companies, such as Canvas. Also, will there be a requirement for faculty who use A.I. in their work to disclose this to students and if so, how will it be disclosed? Dr. Smith will present the first question to the technology advisory committee and the second will be presented at the next Senate Executive meeting for discussion about the best way to proceed in addressing faculty use of A.I. in their work.

Dr. Smith was asked to speak to Longwood's position on The Trump Administration's "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education." Dr. Smith remarked that Longwood is not an R1 institution. Longwood's grant funding focuses on helping students and therefore stakes are very different for Longwood.

Dr. Smith proceeded to update enrollment numbers as of the Census date of October 15, 2025, and gave the numbers as reported to SCHEV. Longwood currently has 3,847 undergrad students (3,108 degree seeking—a 3% increase from AY 2024-25; 739 non-degree seeking) and 1,182 grad students enrolled.

Longwood's email transition to M365 has begun and comes with the advantage of no size limit on email inboxes. IT plans to move faculty emails November 1st & 2nd (after advising is complete) beginning with Cook-Cole College. There will be more details to come.

To continue the protection of academic freedom, Dr. Smith has had conversations with EML regarding the "Protecting Intellectual Property" syllabus statement. This statement has not been updated since COVID and should be revisited to refresh the language. Dr. Smith plans to speak with department chairs and Senate Exec. with plans to have a draft prepared by November to be voted on in the spring.

Dr. Pamela Tracy announced that En-light(e)ning Talks will take place on November 3 and that the Teaching & Learning Institute will be offered again in May, date TBD.

There was no new business presented.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Reynolds