UNIVERSITY SENATE MINUTES
November 6, 2025,
4:00-6:00 PM, AF 202

Present: Barry Althouse, Allan Back, Lorin Basden Arnold, Scott Bastedo, Christopher Bloh, Colin Bolger, Cheryl Brattley, Patricia Brenner, Diana Ebersole, Kaoutar El Mounadi, Robert Flatley, Lisa Frye, Cade Herndon, Caecilia Holt, Julia Hovanec, Loriann Irving, Eric Johnson, Tracy Keyes, Mahfuzul Khondaker, Soojin Kim, Sue Kong, Eric Laub, Steve Lem, Todd McFeely, Padraig McLoughlin, Juliet Njoroge, Megan O'Byrne, Megan Rutter, Jennifer Schlegel, Dylan Schwesinger, Michelle Sims, Georges Sirrakos, Myung Song, Peg Speirs (for Leslie Sotomayer), Jay Sunsay, Damaiya Turner, Veronique Vlaun, Lisa Weckerle, Luke Williams

Absent: Mario Cardoza, Yoon Mi Kim, Roseanne Perkins, Amy Pfeiler-Wunder, Shawn Riley, Marci Scheuing, Greg Shelley, Tiffany Stasiunas, Honey Svoboda, Todd Walker, Todd Williams

Guests: Lisa Kowalski, Amber Leidy, Zoey McCarter, Karen Rauch, Troy Vingom, Gabby Wilson

I. Call to Order

Lisa Frye called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

II. Announcements

None.

III. Guest Speakers

DSO – Megan Rutter, Amber Leidy, & Zoey McCarter (for McKenzie Hollenbach)

See PowerPoint presentation in the November SharePoint folder.

- 24.8% of KU students are registered with DSO.
- Most common accommodation: **distraction-free testing**.
- Continued increase in the number of students served.
- Autism Support Services now supports **60 students (up from 5 in 2016)**.

- "My Place" Resource Center serves **180 students**.
- DSO Testing Center in **205 Stratton**, staffed by three graduate assistants and supervised by the Assistant Director.
- Initiatives include sensory boxes, CEL partnerships, digital accessibility work, and more.
- Faculty may request a training session.

IT – Troy Vingom

See PowerPoint presentation in the November SharePoint folder.

- Overview of new **Digital Accessibility Policy**.
- Tools highlighted:
  - **Panorama (D2L)**
  - **DocHub** (standalone tool; helpful for those not using D2L, though D2L use is strongly encouraged)
- KU Digital Accessibility Website: https://www.kutztown.edu/about-ku/administrative-offices/information-technology/digital-accessibility.html
- Extensive questions and discussion followed.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from October 2, 2025

Approved.

V. Reports

A. Senate President – Lisa Frye

No report.

B. Senate Vice President – Greg Shelley (via Lisa Frye)

- Willingness to serve is open for **at-large staff representative for SPRC**.
- Election results: **COB – Feisal Murshed**
- COC recommended **Anne Reel** for the University Conduct Board; motion approved.

C. University Provost – Lorin Basden Arnold

- Professional Development Grant deadline: **November 28**.
- Supplemental Travel Grant continues with a **100% approval rate**.
- Three new service awards will be announced soon.

D. Student Government Board – Cade Herndon

- Wrapping up remaining elections.
- Green Dot training and homecoming events were successful.

- Spring marks the **100th anniversary of SGB**.
- Safety Walk recently completed; results being compiled.
- Working to finalize special funding for last year's expenses.
- Accessibility Roundtable underway.
- Promoting upcoming Town Hall.

E. Assessment / Middle States – Karen Rauch

- Middle States visit "went splendidly."
- Report not yet public

VI. Standing Committee Reports

A. Grade Appeal Board – Christopher Bloh

- Since Winter 2024: **six appeals** (four denied, two approved).

B. Undergraduate Academic Honesty Committee

- Written report available in the SharePoint folder.

VII. Unfinished Business

None.

VIII. New Business

A. Officer Election Committee – Colin Bolger (Chair), Amy Pfeiler-Wunder, Lisa Weckerle

- VP Greg Shelley is willing to continue serving but nominations are open.
- Send nominations to **Colin Bolger**; candidate statements to **senate@kutztown.edu**.
- Term is three years beginning in August 2026.
- Nominations accepted through **November 15**.

B. Standard Academic Technology Platforms Policy Discussion – Lisa Frye & Lorin Basden Arnold

- Policy intended to ensure secure handling of student information and avoid breaches of personally identifiable data.
- Departments encouraged to discuss and submit feedback.

C. Midterm Grade Reporting Discussion – Lisa Frye, Steve Lem & Student Success

- Discussion on the potential implementation of **compulsory midterm grade reporting**.
- Concerns included increased faculty workload and duplicate effort.
- Consideration of efficiency strategies and student benefits.

IX. Good of the Order

Thanks extended for an engaging and productive discussion.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Padraig McLoughlin, seconded by Georges Sirrakos. Meeting adjourned.

November 2025 SharePoint Folder:
Click here to access the November 2025 Folder

Respectfully submitted,
Julia L. Hovanec
Senate Secretary