



University Senate Minutes

September 4, 2025, 4:00–6:00 PM
AF 202

Present: Barry Althouse, Allan Back, Lorin Basden Arnold, Scott Bastedo, Christopher Bloh, Colin Bolger, Briana Zdradzinski for Cheryl Brattley, Mario Cardozo, Philip Cavalier, Kaoutar El Mounadi, Robert Flatley, Lisa Frye, Cade Herndon, Caecilia Holt, Julia Hovanec, Loriann Irving, Eric Johnson, Tracy Keyes, Mahfuzul Khondaker, Yoon Mi Kim, Eric Laub, Steve Lem, Padraig McLoughlin, Amy Pfeiler-Wunder, Megan Rutter, Leslie Sotomayor, Jennifer Schlegel, Dylan Schwesinger, Greg Shelley, Michelle Sims, Georges Sirrakos, Myung Song, Honey Svoboda, Lisa Weckerle

Absent: Patricia Brenner, Diana Ebersole, Sue Kong, Todd McFeely, Juliet Njoroge, Megan O’Byrne, Shawn Riley, Marci Scheuing, Norm Sigmond, Tiffany Stasiunas, Veronique Vlaun, Todd Walker, Todd Williams

Guests: Alex Darlington, Jacklyn Downing, Erin Kraal, Lisa Kowalski, Karen Rauch, Douglas Scott, Carl Sheperis, Troy Vingom, Gabby Wilson

I. Call to Order

II. Announcements

- Reminder: A nametag marked with an image of Old Main indicates you are a voting member.

III. Introduction of Senators

- All senators introduced themselves.

IV. Guest Speakers

A. Phil Cavalier – Welcoming remarks.

- Shared positive updates about the university.
- Focus on fundraising, alumni relations, enrollment, and financial aid.
- Awaiting state budget decisions and their impact on the fiscal year.

- First Town Hall: **September 23, 11:00 AM in MSU 218** for faculty and staff.

B. Carl Sheperis – AI Task Force Update.

- Task Force began ~9 months ago with ~30 members.
- Conducted focus groups and prepared reports on AI-related topics.
- Exploring curriculum updates, digital literacy, and workforce readiness.
- Coursera partnership: ~300 AI courses available for free (faculty can integrate into courses).
- Emphasis on change management, ethics, academic integrity, and infrastructure.
- KU is ahead of many institutions in forming an AI Task Force.
- Discussion highlights:
 - AI and environmental concerns.
 - KU AI webpage (forthcoming).
 - State considering a supercomputer project.
 - Importance of critical thinking and ethical use.
 - Need for policies on data governance and AI co-pilots.

C. Erin Kraal – CEL AI Retreat Summary.

- See CEL PowerPoint (available in Senate SharePoint folder).

V. Approval of the Minutes from May 1, 2025

- **Approved.**

VI. Reports

A. Senate President – Lisa Frye

- Expressed appreciation for Senate Executive Committee.
- Reviewed senator responsibilities.

B. Senate Vice President – Greg Shelley

- “Willingness to Serve” document is available in Senate SharePoint folder.

C. University Provost – Lorin Basden Arnold

- Celebrated KU’s **field hockey victory**.
- Faculty handbook is available online.
- Policy Register: General Policies 8, 9, 10, and 11 – review on website.
- Supplemental Travel Fund and Professional Development Grant are available through the Provost’s Office.

D. Student Government Board – Cade Herndon

- Student elections underway.
- This year's focus: safety, accessibility, diversity, and mental health.

E. Assessment / Middle States – Karen Rauch

- Assessment reports due next Friday.
- Program reviews will trigger packet distribution.
- **MSCHE Self-Study document:** final version available on MS website.
 - Site visit: **October 5, 2025.**
 - 10 visitors expected from Middle States.

VII. Standing Committee Reports

- **Research Committee** – written report (SharePoint).
- **Professional Development Committee** – written report (SharePoint).
- **IRB Committee** – written report (SharePoint).

VIII. Unfinished Business

(None)

IX. New Business

A. ASPC Policies – Presented by Brian Kronenthal, ASPC Chair

1. **ACA-029: Change of Major, Minor, or Academic Advisor (revision)**
 - Amendment to wording in Sections 3 & 4 – moved by Steve Lem, seconded by Pdraig McLoughlin.
 - Motion: Change D.3. to read “Requests to change an academic program during registration periods up to the last day to add a course at the beginning of any given semester (the end of the add/drop period) are effective for that term. Any requests submitted after this period will be reflected in the records for the following semester.” and change D.4. to read “Requests to change an academic advisor are effective when approved and processed by the Registrar’s Office.”
 - Passed unanimously.
 - Amendment to Section 5 wording for clarity – moved by Jennifer Schlegel, seconded by Pdraig McLoughlin.
 - Motion: Change D.5. to read “Students making an academic program change request in regard to financial aid or”
 - Passed unanimously.
 - Final motion passed unanimously.
2. **ACA-XXX: Certificates and Stackable Certificates (new)**

- Motion to postpone – moved by Brian Kronenthal, seconded by Padraig McLoughlin.
- **Postponed.**
- 3. **ACA-XXX: Undergraduate Enrollment in Graduate-Level Courses (new)**
 - Motion to postpone – moved by Jennifer Schlegel, seconded by Megan Rutter.
 - **Postponed.**

B. Academic AI Policy – Discussion led by Lisa Frye

- Consideration of a KU Academic AI Policy.
- General policy exists, leaving discretion to faculty.
- Motion by Steve Lem to refer Academic AI Policy to **ASPC** for review in **Spring 2027**, seconded by Padraig McLoughlin.
- Motion passed.

X. Good of the Order

- Request by Padraig McLoughlin:
 1. Report from Kenneth Hawkinson regarding Maxatawny Township putting in a sidewalk to Giant. Can we get an update on this?
 2. Report on enrollment and faculty changes from 2010 to present. (Note: Much of this data is in the Middle States Self-Study.) Padraig will email Lisa Frye a request for data not included in the Middle States Self-Study.

XI. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Mahfuzul Khondaker, seconded by Amy Pfeiler-Wunder.
- **Meeting adjourned.**

September 2025 folder: University Senate SharePoint Site
[Senate SharePoint](#)

Respectfully submitted,
 Julia L. Hovanec
 Senate Secretary