

WFU Faculty Senate Agenda – February 18, 2026
Farrell Hall, Room A17

Call to Order – 4:00p

1. Approval of January 21 2026 meeting minutes - Approved

2. Announcements

- a. Campus Memorialization Steering Committee Plan
 - i. Board of Trustees has approved plan for [Campus Memorial Project](#)
 - ii. Will be located in Lot F
 - iii. Plans will be shared widely at Founders Day and in the President's blog post
 - iv. Thank you to José Villalba and the committee
- b. Elections
 - i. Nomination solicitation email has been sent
 - ii. There are tentative candidates for the officer roles, but please self-nominate or encourage colleagues; committee will resend nomination email
 - iii. Elections will be held at the March meeting
- c. Military Tuition Assistance for Graduate Level Programs
 - i. Sec. Hegseth has created a list to withhold military tuition assistance to 30+ institutions (of which WFU is one).
 - ii. This would most impact graduate and professional programs, especially Law and Medicine
 - iii. Pres. Wentz and V.P. Villalba exploring possible impacts. This focus is on active-duty service members' tuition, not undergraduate ROTC program.

3. Old business

- a. Presidential Search Update
 - i. Targeting the end of April
 - ii. Chair of the search committee indicates that it is proceeding along a successful path and some initial conversations with top candidates have occurred
- b. Enrollment growth
 - i. ExComm continues to work with Administration: What information can ExComm run down about latest developments?
 - ii. Q: Impact to current students around housing, support, general atmosphere? Hearing from students—not enough room in the Pit, residence halls (mandate to live on campus but not enough space), etc.
 - Jackie Krasas and Chris Kiwus would be able to field those questions – they would probably be happy to come to one of our meetings
 - Looking at enrollment by class – bodies by students as well as credit hours by students
 - Will report more later
- c. Senate Statement regarding the next Provost (forwarded separately) – will be forwarded to Pres. search chair Whitman
 - i. Senate approves to send to search committee

4. Current business

- a. Senate President Report
 - i. Recap of recent presentations, focusing on SPS presentation by Dean Iacovou; share feedback on presentation format and future possibilities
 - Could next presentation(s) invite Shea Kidd-Brown and/or Eric Maguire to discuss enrollment growth impacts?
 - First announcement about Charlotte undergraduate programming (internship

End notes

Executive Committee Membership:

- Steve Virgil (Law) - President
- Katherine Shaner (Divinity) - Vice President
- Ryan Shirey (College/English/Writing Program) - Secretary and Chair
- Bret Nicks (Medicine) - Member-at-large
- Saylor Breckenridge (College/Sociology) – Past President, Co-chair, College Senators
- Amanda Kaufman (Library) – Chair, University Integration
- Ellen Kirkman (College/Mathematics) – Chair, Fringe Benefits
- Kendall Tarte (College/French Studies) - Co-Chair, College Senators
- Rodrigo Castro (Library) - Chair, Capital Planning
- Mark Evans (Business) - Chair, Salaries
- Jason Parsley (College/Mathematics)- Chair, Athletics
- Michael Cartwright (Medicine) Chair, Medical School
- Sarah Morath (Law) - Chair, Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility

Future Spring Meeting (Farrell Hall Room A17 @ 4:00

March 18, 2026

April 15, 2026