

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: September 22, 2026

Time: 12:30 PM (CT)

Location: NTCC Campus, Humanities Building, Room 101

Presiding: Chantel Sokol

Call to Order

Vice-President Chantel Sokol called the meeting to order and welcomed members. Attendance was recorded via sign-in sheet and Teams participants were recognized.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The previous meeting minutes, posted in Blackboard, were presented for approval.

Motion: Julie Ratliff

Second: Rebecca Gardner

Vote: Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer (Doug Richey), Jackie Johnston provided the report.

- Current balance was reported at approximately \$2,100.
 - It was noted that the Faculty Senate budget had recently been increased, providing additional funds for Faculty Senate initiatives.
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Standing Committee Reports

Elections Committee - No report.

Faculty Awards - Discussion centered on increasing the faculty award stipend due to the availability of additional funds in the budget.

Motion: Jackie Johnston moved that a monetary value be established for the faculty award stipend and that the Faculty Awards Committee be charged with reviewing and recommending the new award amount.

Second: Karyn Skaar

Vote: Unanimously Approved.

Additional notes:

- Faculty Award nominations will be submitted through a Blackboard nomination form.
- The Faculty Awards Committee will review nominations on October 16.

Professional Development - Discussion included upcoming professional development opportunities:

- Information regarding an upcoming virtual winter conference will be shared with faculty.
- Faculty interested in attending should notify Dr. Johnston.
- Limited funding is available to cover the \$50 registration fee for interested participants.

Student Scholarship Awards - Julie Ratliff reported that the scholarship fund remains in need of additional financial support and encouraged continued contributions.

Safety and Security - No report.

Student Awards - No report.

Ways and Means Committee - The committee presented revisions to the Faculty Senate bylaws to align them with Board Policy.

Key revision:

- Senators may be re-elected without a mandatory break between terms.
- Rotation of membership will continue to be encouraged.

As the recommendation came from committee, no motion was required from the floor.

New Business

Committee Membership - The Senate reviewed committee vacancies and membership needs.

Open positions include:

- **Faculty Awards Committee:** 1 vacancy (Filled: Chantel Sokol)
- **Elections Committee:** 2 vacancies (Filled: James McGregor & Sara Whitfield)
- **Professional Development Committee:** Chair position needed (Filled: Jennifer Sparks)
- **Student Awards Committee:** Additional membership needed (Filled: Jackie Johnston)

Discussion included:

- Senate bylaws identify an ideal committee size with broad divisional representation; however, current membership levels make this difficult to achieve.
- The minimum committee membership requirement remains three members.
- Workforce and Health Sciences representation remains limited, requiring some senators to serve on multiple committees.

Faculty interested in serving were encouraged to volunteer.

Announcements

- Jackie reminded members that TCCTA memberships remain available.
- Dr. Richey encouraged participation in TCCTA and membership growth.
- Information regarding the upcoming virtual TCCTA Winter Conference will be distributed.
- Faculty interested in attending should notify Dr. Johnston to determine available funding assistance.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Julie Ratliff

Second: Karyn Skaar

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.