



Faculty Assembly

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

CU Denver Faculty Assembly Meeting MINUTES

February 3, 2026 | 12:30pm to 2:30pm

Learning Commons, third floor *or* Zoom (<https://ucdenver.zoom.us/j/93440986999>)

Chair's Update (Wendy Bolyard)

- Welcome
 - Chair Wendy Bolyard called the meeting to order at 12:31 pm and welcomed in person and remote participants.
- Approve Minutes from December 2025- Motion to approve minutes from December. Minutes approved.
- FA representatives' expectations and voting privileges
 - [FA MEMBER EXPECTATIONS_3FEB2026.pdf](#)
 - As representatives of the faculty, it's important to honor the commitment as a Faculty Assembly member. Advising campus leadership is expected - they want to be advised!
 - Emphasis on two-way communication: FA reps should report back to their units and return to FA with feedback; meetings are open unless explicitly designated executive/closed.
 - Attendance and engagement: Bylaws allow replacement after three unexcused absences; primary emphasis is on consistent participation and proactive communication
 - A brief Qualtrics survey was launched to gauge how FA business is being discussed within units; to be re-administered later in the semester to measure change.
 - What do report outs look like back to your units?
 - Add "Faculty Assembly & Committee Report Outs" as a standing agenda item in unit meetings (formats may vary by unit)
 - How/when to share information from FA Meetings?
 - Use your discretion when sharing what you learn in FA and committee meetings. FA members do not have to wait for minutes to be posted to share information with their units.
- Upcoming FA Elections & Bylaws

- Ad hoc bylaws committee meeting (the day after FA) to finalize the spring elections process.
- Call for nominations in March; Elections in April at the monthly meeting.
- 2026 ballot will include Vice Chair and Secretary.
- Succession planning is important to the vitality of FA.
- Professional Rights and Responsibilities – a PRR Working Group draft is being presented to the Office of Faculty Affairs. This work will model what CU Boulder and UCCS have in place.
- Faculty Council updates
 - Retired faculty association
 - Retired Faculty Association (RFA): Interest is strong among CU Denver retirees to continue to support CU Denver; OFA and FA will support RFA start up, so volunteers are not working alone. Please share this opportunity with recent retirees in your units, and anyone interested may reach out to the Chair.
 - Budget update
 - Outlook remains challenging; BPC can brief as needed.
 - Personnel & Benefits announcements
 - Exploring housing benefit expansion to IRC faculty.
 - FAMLI now includes +12 weeks for parents with children in the NICU.
 - Denver reps on P&B (e.g., Jeffrey, Diana, Karen) available for questions.
 - Faculty Council representative needed: 1x Communications Committee
 - Newsletter (blog) – [subscribe](#)
 - System Sustainability Steering Committee – 2 members needed
- Additional FA Announcements
 - FA Committee chairs – let Cheryl know about your stipend amounts
 - Coming soon: Newsletter with list of roles plus what’s coming up for next year
 - State of Shared Governance report and the recommendations which are found at this link: <https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider113/default-document-library/list-of-recommendations.pdf>

FA Committees Updates | Policies Under Review

- FACAB & SB26-034 (Diana White)
 - Raised the need for course release/reassigned time when CU Denver’s rotating AHEC Board seat is held by the FACAB Chair, given the significant workload.

- Voting rights for faculty/students on the Auraria Board of Directors: cautious optimism; bill was unexpectedly read in early and referred to Senate Education Committee; request to avoid active opposition from AHEC lobbying.
- KPMG report: Initial/final reports do not recommend dismantling AHEC; emphasize internal improvements and possibly appointing an external mediator/ombuds-type role via the legislature. Diana is reviewing the ~68-page report and can return with a concise summary; circulation dependent on public posting.
- APS 6012 Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) (LETTS, EPPC)
 - Policy routed to LETTS and EPPC; schools/colleges may submit feedback via those committees or the FA Executive Committee.

Discussion Topics

- LGBTQ+ /Women's committee letter - university systems and identity
 - Beth Meyers (OIT/ISS) will coordinate cross campus/system work and provide monthly updates to FA, with a proposed plan by April.
 - Business Analysts are looking through to summarize and map out. ISS BA team is cataloging all touchpoints where names/pronouns/gender identity and related demographics are maintained (faculty/staff/students/others) to inform sequencing and ownership.
 - Reach out to Beth with other people that should be engaged/involved.
 - Immediate commitments include Service Desk training and updating help guides with the Communications arm of ISS.
- Collective bargaining
 - CU System higher ed employees currently lack collective bargaining rights; proposal is to adopt Regent policy to recognize those rights. Three Regents reportedly supportive; five votes needed. Target decision window is by June. FA may consider a resolution supporting the right to collective bargaining (neutral on any particular union) at the next meeting.
 - <https://www.cpr.org/2026/01/23/cu-regents-collective-bargaining-rights-proposal/>
 - [CU at the Table - Fact Sheet.pdf](#)
- Public employee protections and salary equity
 - Reminder that Colorado law protects public employees' rights to discuss workplace issues and engage in concerted activity without retaliation; FA may schedule a briefing on the POWER Act and related frameworks.

- Equal Pay: Noted the Colorado Equal Pay for Equal Work Act; members referenced ongoing litigation alleging gender-based pay inequities at CU Denver and encouraged colleagues with concerns to consult counsel independently.
 - <https://www.cpr.org/2026/01/14/female-faculty-class-action-lawsuit-cu-denver-pay-disparity/>
- Federal immigration policies and campus implications
 - Guest Speaker Antonio Farias, Vice Chancellor for Access and Campus Engagement
 - Antonio is convening an ad hoc group (Legal, University Comms, Faculty Affairs, HR, Emergency Mgmt, SCSS) at the Chancellor’s request.
 - This is a policy issue, not a political issue. We don’t currently have the infrastructure and need to develop it. Need to review policies. This effort is tied to our educational mission.
 - Immediate deliverables:
 - Publish an Immigration FAQ on the campus “Federal Updates” page (requesting FA feedback for gaps). Differentiated by audience – student, faculty, etc.
 - Develop tabletop scenarios and de-escalation training down to the supervisor level.
 - Create a wallet/badge card with a single AHEC Police number for rapid response; consider inviting the AHEC Police Chief to FA
 - Longer term: Revive an immigration research group within the new Community Engagement hub; ensure accommodations and flexibility reflect real world student/faculty constraints.

Provost Karen Marrongelle

- CFO search
 - CFO/VC for Finance Search: Priority review date: Feb 23, 2026; campus finalist visits targeted in the weeks before/after Spring Break; Sarah Fields is on the committee.
- AI fellows
 - Interviewing now to select a Spring cohort to convene learning venues and help interpret policy as system AI tools/policy roll out; future cohorts may include course release or stipend (this term stipends only due to timing).
- Research
 - Congressional budgets were good news for fed funding. Congress has underscored language that broadens participation. Doors are open for

federal funding. CU Denver is in a great position to be competitive for funding.

- Prepared updates
 - Topics include Graduate Education, Core Curriculum, CU Denver in India, CU Information System and Data Concerns, Student Success Transformation Initiative, and Research
 - [2.3 Provost FA report.pdf](#)
- Other topics
 - Classroom integrity concern: OIT/ISS will review the campus Grammarly with discount communication and report back, given concerns about academic integrity in certain courses.

Core Curriculum (Michelle Comstock, antwan Jefferson, Hamilton Bean)

- [CORE Exec Summary \(Jan 2026\).pdf](#)
- [Updated Core Recommendations Jan2026.pdf](#)
- [CORE Presentation-to-FA_Feb3-2026.pdf](#)
- Discussion Summary:
 - Challenge & Aims: Current core slows progress and lacks coherence. Proposed framing centers on three program level aims: Ethic of Awareness, Advocacy, and Action
 - Learning outcomes / durable skills: Integrative problem solving; multimodal communication; critical & creative thinking; data analysis & application; artificial intelligence (elevated to its own outcome); teamwork & collaboration.
 - Structure & Credits: 30 credit core aligned to GT Pathways; broaden composition → multimodal communication and mathematics → quantitative reasoning. Science lab would be optional (6 credits in Nat/Phys Sci & Math with or without lab) aligning with UCCS and MSU Denver; other Colorado publics generally still require a lab.
 - Thematic clusters & certificates: Delivery via integrated thematic clusters (e.g., Sustainability, A Just Society, General Skills), embedding Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives within clusters; explore core certificates (e.g., “Foundational Skills”).
 - Engagement & timeline: Consultations across February - March (FA, CCOC, councils, deans), with an April faculty vote targeted; fiscal impact analysis is being pursued. Slides and a feedback survey to be emailed.
- Feedback form:
 - https://ucdenverdata.formstack.com/forms/core_proposal_survey

- <https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/provost/academic-planning/academic-transformation-working-groups/reimagining-the-core-curriculum>

New Business None

Adjournment 2:30:59

Attendance

Joanne Addison

Cheryl Ansaldo

Peter Anthamatten

Eric Baker

Gisella Bassani

Hamilton Bean

Wendy Bolyard

Sasha BregerBush

Michelle Comstock

Maryam Darbeheshti

Dennis DeBay

Colleen Donnelly

Joni Dunlap

Miranda Egger

Nan Ellin

Larry Erbert

Antonio Farias

Sarah Fields

Rashmi Gangamma

Bryn Harris

Stephen Hartke

Amy Hasinoff

Jamie Hodgkins

Haadi Jafarian

antwan jefferson

Betcy Jose

Julia Kantor

Turan Kayaoglu

Kristin Kilbourn

Julien Langou

Jim LoPresti

Fernando Mancilla-David

Karen Marrongelle

Alejandra Medina

Katy Morman

Beth Myers

Shuyang Peng

Florian Pfender

Kate Schamu

Jeffrey Schrader

Kelly See

Vivian Shyu

Karen Sobel

Thorsten Spehn

Christoph Stefes

Rachel Stein

Alan Vajda

Kat Vlahos

Diana White

Kai Yu