

# **ALVSCE Faculty Council**

## **December 6, 2024 Meeting Agenda and Minutes**

### **Meeting Agenda**

#### **ALVSCE Faculty Council meeting: 2:30 to 3:30pm**

1. Faculty Senate update: Duarte Diaz, Melanie Hingle
2. Faculty Council update: Kathleen J. Kennedy
  - Strategy Working Group motion, Q&A
  - Instructional Faculty Practices Program
  - Spring 2025 Faculty and Staff Social Hours
3. Dean's Update
4. New business

January meeting: Jim Hunt has been invited to attend this meeting. We will focus on some questions about instructional workload equity, new academic program approvals, and related topics.

### **Subcommittees**

The main work of the Faculty Council is to advocate for our faculty and advise the Dean on key policy areas. To do this in an efficient way, we will work in subcommittees on the four top priorities selected by the council and confirmed in the recent faculty survey:

1. **Faculty Workload Policy Recommendations**  
See Equity-Minded Faculty Workload document located in the Box folder.
  - Kathleen J. Kennedy
  - Maria Plant
  - Todd Schlenke
  - Ramin Yadegari
2. **Annual Performance Reviews and Promotion Equity and Fairness**  
Links to Faculty Development and CATE (for instructional workload)
  - Tauhidur Rahman
  - Rosie Stewart
  - Jen Teske
  - Chi Zhou
3. **Faculty Wellbeing and Work-Life Balance**  
Links to the ALVSCE DEI Committee
  - Kerry Cooper
  - Anne LeSenne
  - Cory Quailles
  - Rachel Mitchell

#### 4. **ALVSCE Budget and Resource Allocation Policies and Practices**

Links ALVSCE Mission and Strategic Planning Process)

- Kevin Bonine
- Kerry Cooper
- Katerina Dontsova

Our faculty senators have not been assigned to a subcommittee.

#### **Meeting Minutes**

1. Faculty Senate update. Faculty Senate members were not in attendance, but Ramin Yadegari attended the previous Faculty Senate meeting and shared some of the information that was discussed. In particular, he shared following document that describes changes in spending on the university level, pointing out that during the year there was a decrease in payroll spending on faculty, staff and particularly graduate students (largest relative decrease of 19%) and increase in administrative payroll (8% increase). <https://arizona.app.box.com/file/1745734489376>. He also mentioned that University President and Provost were not present at the Faculty Senate meeting.
2. Faculty Council update: Kathleen J. Kennedy
  - a. Strategy Working Group motion, Q&A

A motion is available on-line and Faculty council will be asked to approve by a simple majority.

##### b. Instructional Faculty Practices Program

Kathleen J. Kennedy announced that the January meeting will be attended by Jim Hunt and will discuss instructional workload equity, new academic program approvals, and academic freedom.

##### c. Spring 2025 Faculty and Staff Social Hours

Kathleen J. Kennedy reported that the three social hour meetings during the Fall semester were a success and were well attended (72 faculty and staff at the 1<sup>st</sup> joint meeting, and 47 and 28 faculty at the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, respectively). Next meeting is scheduled for February in ENR 2.

3. Dean's Update. Dean Burgess joined at 3:05 pm. He mentioned that the status of Cooperative Extension (CES) funding did not change and asked to keep a rolling spreadsheet of the effects of funding restrictions on the Cooperative Extension mission. He mentioned that a new, incentives-based, budget model may be introduced in 2026, with possible investments in new areas, such as quantum computing and data science. He reported that ALVSCE was able to have 4 new hires approved by the University. Problems with access to startup funds for a new assistant professor, Paulina Maldonado, were brought up and Jean McClain responded that this should not have happened as new professors were expected to be able to access startup funds after submitting a spending plan. Dean Burgess asked for this information to be forwarded to him, so he can address it.

4. Meeting Adjourned.

## Attendance

<b>Faculty Representative</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Present</b>
Tauhidur Rahman	Agricultural & Resource Economics	X
Bobby Torres	Agricultural Education, Tech & Innovation	
Kerry Cooper	Animal & Comparative Biomedical Sciences	X
Dr. Chi Zhou	Animal & Comparative Biomedical Sciences	
Dr. Armando Barreto Munoz	Biosystems Engineering	X
Todd Schlenke	Entomology	X
Katerina Dontsova	Environmental Science	X
Kathleen J. Kennedy	Human Ecology	X
Cory Quailles	Human Ecology	X
Rachel Mitchell	Natural Resources & Environment	X
Kevin Bonine	Natural Resources & Environment	X
Jennifer Teske	Nutritional Sciences and Wellness	X
Maria Plant	Nutritional Sciences and Wellness	X
Ramin Yadegari	Plant Sciences	X
TBD	Plant Sciences	
Anne LeSenne	Pinal County Cooperative Extension	X
Rosie Stewart	Santa Cruz & Cochise Counties Cooperative Extension	X
<b>Faculty Senators</b>	<b>Unit</b>	
Duarte Diaz*	Animal & Comparative Biomedical Sciences	
Melanie Hingle*	Nutritional Sciences and Wellness	
Bobby Torres*	Agricultural Education, Tech & Innovation	
Katharine Zeiders **	Human Ecology	
<b>Administration</b>		
Shane Burgess	ALVSCE Administration	X
Jean McClain	ALVSCE Administration	X