



University Senate Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2026

3:00 – 5:00 P.M.

Via Zoom

Attendance can be found at the bottom of the page.

Call to Order: 3:04 P.M.

- Intro Remarks: Senate President Dyana Mason
 - Acknowledgment and support for those suffering during these times of turmoil, as well as a recognition of and desire to speak in support of those who are unable to during this time, as we hold firm to voicing our values and beliefs. I remain committed to a community that values all of its people as equal participants, and continue to work towards that ideal.
 - In that vein, we will have reports from Angela Chong in Student Life and some of her colleagues to speak a little bit about ongoing federal actions, the impact on students, and steps being taken to protect our community, particularly those feeling most vulnerable.
 - We will also begin working on updating some faculty policies that are out-of-date to bring them in line with current practice, federal laws, and the UA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

- ASUO Updates; Quadrian Gill
 - Launching ASCO XORG series – ASUO partnership with different student organizations to connect their organizations with as many students as possible.
 - ASUO will be attending the upcoming legislative days to lobby for student-focused issues such as increasing and strengthening student government autonomy across the Oregon public universities.
 - Next ASUO General Assembly will be held January 27, 2026.
 - Pilot 20-hour Library access program debuted during Fall 2026 was highly successful. We will continue to hold these hours during weeks 10 and 11 each term to facilitate student study hours.

Approval of the Minutes:

- [December 3, 2025](#)

Minutes stand as approved.

UO Pres Remarks:



University President Karl Scholz

- Resent results from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center reveal higher education no longer garners the trust or respect it once did and has become an increasingly partisan issue over the last decade – with the public rethinking whether universities still serve them and questioning not only the value, but also the high tuition costs.
- Only 18% of Americans have high faith in higher ed. 74% give higher ed negative marks for tuition prices and increases.
- Nearly half of Americans believe universities are not doing an adequate job of exposing students to a wide-array of perspectives and opinions, leading to drastically changing perspectives on the value and utility of higher education. Recent results suggest more than half the country believes that higher education is unaffordable and has become a culturally restrictive system that fails to deliver on its foundational promises of intellectual and economic advancement.
- We are developing a partnership with Oregon State University to create a corridor of innovation in the Southern Willamette Valley as one method to evolve and reimagine higher education at the UO to meet the changing needs and demands of current and future generations of students.

New Business:

- Intro: [US25/26-08: Revision to Policy: Fellowships: Payment of Uncompensated Salary and Other Personnel Expenses \(OPE\) on Major Fellowships](#); Katy Krieger

Brief introduction and discussion of proposal. Motion will be brought back to a future senate meeting for a vote.

Open Discussion: None

Reports:

- Updates to faculty policies; Katy Krieger
 - Additional work this year and continuing over the course of the next 2-3 years on various out of date faculty policies, bring others into line with state and federal policy, as well as repeal ones that no longer apply. We want to compile and condense the various faculty policies into a single, easy-to-find location.
 - We are creating a handbook of policies and information for faculty not represented by the United Academics bargaining agreement, including a committee that will need faculty/Senate representatives to assist with this work. Please let me know if you are interested.
- Updates from Student Life; Angela Chong (Student Life), Jason Wade (UOPD), Justine Carpenter (Student Life)



- We are experiencing one of the most frightening and divisive times we have seen. There are members of our communities who are fearful: students, parents, community members – many of whom have been checking in with Student Life to get information.
- Our focus will be on our values, supporting our students, the transparency of our processes – and not getting lost in trying to conceptualize every possible hypothetical so as to remain focused and accessible to our students and other stakeholders as we navigate this moment in history. Sustaining safety is our paramount objective above all else – and consistent policy, protocols, and robust support systems are the tools that every institution must rely upon to fulfill our responsibility to the safety of our community.
- Student Life is providing as many personal consultations as possible, often in partnership with academic advisors, our care and advocacy program, our Basic Needs Program, our Center for Multicultural Academic Excellence, and many other units and programs on campus.
- Upcoming “Know Your Rights” webinar will be provided by an immigration attorney from the Innovation Law Lab, which is based out of Portland, Oregon – and will be available to all UO students. Information on this event will be distributed via social media, as well as the main UO website using keywords such as “immigrant” and “Dreamer,” which will take you to a registration page.
- Dreamer Ally Training – February 27, 2026.... Look for an email with more information to be circulated shortly.
- For those interested in protests and acts of civil disobedience, please familiarize yourself with UO policies, including the Student Conduct Code, so you understand what is and is not permissible so folks can practice their constitutionally protected rights and protect themselves from possible sanctions.

Additional resources:

<https://www.uoregon.edu/UOimmigrants>

<https://studentlife.uoregon.edu/student-advocacy-program>

<https://cldc.org/>

<https://generalcounsel.uoregon.edu/free-speech>

- Updates from Chief Information Officer; Abhijit Pandit

Postponed until a future senate meeting.

Notice of Motion: None

Other Business: None

Adjournment: 4:23 P.M.

Attendance:

Present: Sandy (Senate Secretary), Betina Lynn (Senate Executive Coordinator), Dyana Mason (Senate President), Edward Davis (Senate Vice President), Sarah Quesenberry (taking over



Quadrian's spot, but Prissila doing updates), Beth Harn, Chantelle Russell, Nicolas Addington, Annie Draeger, Timothy Pack, David Cosottile, Eric Corwin, Erin McKenna, Jay Butler, Cole Stevenson, Kate Mills, Katherine Donaldson, Kersey Bars, Kris Seaman, Mark Fonstad, Paula Ellister, Melynda Casement, Pedro Garcia-Caro, Spike Gildea, Prissila Moreno, Bella Hoffert-Hay, Andy Winden, Bob Choquette, Dan Tichenor, Elizabeth Peterson, John Arndt, Matthias Vogel, Yizhao Yang, Yoav Dubsinsky, Michael Dreiling, Michael Tomcal, Rachel DiNitto, Becky Crabtree, Jesus Ramos-Kittrell,

Excused:

Absent:

Guests: Karl Scholz, Angela Chong, Chris Long, Cy Abbott, Denita Strietelmeier, iPhone (245), Jason Wade (UOPD), Jimmy Howard, Justine Carpenter, Kari DeVall, Kassy Fisher, Katy Krieger, Kevin Reed, Kody Kelleher, Leslie Selcer, Maggie Bosworth, Renee Irvin, Gerard Sandoval, UAUO Staff,