

FACULTY ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

2301 VOX 3:30-5:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Officers: Eric Bush, Albert Erives, Tom Arne Mitrød, Aixin Tan

Elected Group Representatives:

Present: Shawn Flanagan, John Manak, Scott Shaw, Alex Voss, Frederick Solt, David Dowling, Yasmine Ramadan

Excused: Steve Duck

Absent: Megan Knight, Jonathan Allen, Andrew Owens

Elected Committee Liaisons:

Executive Committee: Brian Lai (excused)

UEPCC: Vacant

GEPC: Drew Kitchen (present)

Unit Representatives:

DEPARTMENT	UNIT REPRESENTATIVE	ALTERNATE
American Studies/Latina/o/x Studies	Jose Fernandez	
Anthropology	Cynthia Chou	
Art, Art History, and Design		
Biology	Brandon Waltz	
Chemistry		Pere Miro
Classics	Rosemary Moore	
Cinematic Arts	Kate Hinshaw	
Communication Sciences and Disorders	Inyong Choi	Kristi Hendrickson
Communication Studies	Jordan Conrad	
Computer Science		Naimul Hoque
Dance		Eloy Barragan
School of Earth,		Marc Linderman

Environment, and Sustainability		
English	Adam Hooks	
Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies		
Health and Human Physiology		
History	Rob Roupail	
Journalism and Mass Comm	Travis Vogan	
Languages, Linguistics, Literatures, and Cultures (Rep 1)	Waltraud Maierhofer	
Languages, Linguistics, Literatures, and Cultures (Rep 2)	Elena Gavrusseva	
Mathematics	Olga Sokratova	Frauke Bleher
Microbiology and Immunology	David Weiss	
Music	Jorge Montilla Morena	Katie Wolfe
Philosophy	Gabriel Siegel	
Physics and Astronomy	Jane Nachtman	
Political Science	Seongjoon Ahn	
Psychological and Brain Sciences		Jeffrey Cockburn
Religious Studies		
Rhetoric		Anne Sand
Social Work	Aynsley Scheffert	
Sociology and Criminology		
Spanish and Portuguese	Pilar Marce	
Statistics and Actuarial Science		Joyee Ghosh

1. **Approved Agenda of this meeting (September 17)**
2. **Approved Minutes from last meeting (April 23)**
3. **Introduction of new officers**
4. **State of the College Presentation**

Presenters: Dean Sara Sanders, Dean Joshua Weiner, Dean Cornelia Lang, and Ryan Kirkey (Senior Director of Business & Financial Administration).

- **University Strategic Plan & Facilities:** Updates on [SPARC](#) and new building projects.
- **Undergraduate Education:** The college has invested in additional collegiate academic advisors so now all undergraduate programs in CLAS have professional staff advising. Additionally, the college is putting an increased effort into undergraduate program assessment and discussions about departmental majors, minors and certificates. The increased emphasis on supporting students has contributed to increases in the first to second year retention rate (as of fall 2025, this number is 90.9%). Additionally, the college has increased its 4-year graduation rate is 61.8%, an increase of 8% over the last five years. We are continuing to work on recruiting another large incoming class of first year students as the enrollment cliff begins in earnest (demographic decline in the number of high school graduates) over the next few years.
- **Budget & Finance:** Importance of balancing budget was discussed, with a goal to eliminate deficit by the end of the current FY. CLAS signed a new MOU with the Provost's Office.
- **Faculty Hiring:** About 50+ retirements per year with about 25 new hires; no increase in tenure-track hiring is anticipated, with greater reliance on hiring instructional-track faculty to support teaching needs.
- **Miscellaneous:** The importance of being mindful in challenging times and presenting the strongest possible picture with available resources.

DEOs have received training on campus recording policies. Ask them.

5. **Solicitation of Topics and Questions for Future Meetings**

- **Agenda items:** Email eric-bush@uiowa.edu at least two weeks before the FA meeting to request adding an agenda item.
- **Questions for the Dean:** Submit by 8 AM on the Tuesday before the FA meeting, when FA officers meet with the Dean.
- **Alternative option:** Questions or topics may also be raised directly during the meeting.

6. **The meeting was adjourned.**