

CU SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Meeting Date: April 10, 2025

Session: AY 2024-25, Meeting 4

Time: 4 pm

Location: Zoom: <https://commonwealthu-edu.zoom.us/j/91273045994?pwd=r9KO5aoyi6J9FF9cKpDGyvqItnerh4.1&from=addon>

Participants: George Agbango, Sarah Segraves, Ben Franek, Heidi Warner, Michael McFarland, Kristi Getty, Christopher Lapos, Deana Campbell, Rebecca Baker, John Evans, Hunter Hartford, Barb Rossi, Mark Decker, Robin Rockey, Rachel Probst, Jill Scott, Nicholas Delaney, George Rusczyk, Alyson Sharkey, Nicholas Paesano, Bashar Hanna, William Kluge, Kimberly Harris, Cori Myers, Michelle Lockwood, Nichole Lefelhoc, Suzanne Williamson, Jennifer Raup, Doug Spatafore, Michelle Kiec, Emmy Borst, Atika Benaddi, Amanda Sanko, Matt McKeague, Rick Goulet, Terina Oman, Carina Howell, Stacy Wagner, Asa Kelley, Nichole Book, Erik Evans, Gretchen Osterman, Jason Genovese, Christopher Cummings, Peggy Carl, Tess Fosse, Karri Verno, Brad Lint, Erin Kennedy, Trinity Werstler, Dan Knorr, Jeanine Page, Lam Nguyen, Kenneth Hall, Lisa Weaver, Eric Hawrelak, Kim Hulslander, Robert Green, Jeanne Kagle, Karinne Force, Rick Lilla, Jennifer Turnbough, Xia Zhou, Doreen Jowi, Lynda Michaels, Sherry Moore, Jess Heid, Todd Hoover, Peter Campbell, Eric Foster, Dawn Wooster, Carrie Winship, Jessica Bentley, Amy DeLozier, Mary Feeney, Curtis Grenoble, Kimberly Johnson, Bob Thorn, Andrea Swain, John Gradel, Yvette Ingram, Heather Feldhaus, Stanley Berard, Brooke Harlowe, Taylor Tyczka, Pamela Kathcart, Adrianne McEvoy, Eric Lippincott, Rachel Shaffer, Aaron Russell, Nikki Keller, Tracey Cummings, David DeVallance, Elizabeth Dickinson, Erin Heidlauf, Barry Minemyer, Kelly Foran, Kara Workman, Taylor Donahue, Maegen Borzok, Bryson Purcell, Blair Brown, Monica Johnson, Gretchen Sechrist, Ethan Krupp, Rosana Campbell, Nicholas Delaney, Jessica Bentley, Patrick Long, Rebecca Willoughby, Albert Jones, Kathleen Heitzman.

- I. Call to order: Meeting called to order by Mark Decker, ((CU Senate President and Department Chair) at 4:00pm.
- II. Announcements: Mark Decker announced that the former CU Senate Presidents will be meetings over the summer to become an assessment committee and to look if they can help with any improvements.

Middle States Recap

Policy Review Spreadsheet Released to Senate Website

III. Approval of Minutes (February 20, 2025 meeting) : Approved by acclamation.
<https://www.commonwealthu.edu/documents/draft250220cusenateminutes>

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Academic Policy Committee: No report.
- B. IT Subcommittee: Chair Matthew McKeague (Associate Professor Media & Journalism) said that they got the results back from the IT faculty survey and will be reviewing it next week.
- C. Enrollment Management Subcommittee: Christopher Lapos (Associate VP Undergrad & Transfer Admissions) stated that they will have the Transfer Policy ready to go for fall 2025 Senate review.
- D. Advancement Committee: Jason Genovese (Associate Professor Media & Journalism and Assistant Department Chair,) met earlier this month to talk about upcoming campaigns. All In Day of giving is going on now and donations can be made until tomorrow (4/11/25).
Erik Evans (VP University of Advancement) explained that there were some concerns with the In-kind policy about consulting the departments if a gift in-kind was made during the Executive Meeting, the policy was pulled off the consent agenda to make some amendments to the language. If there are additional comments or questions it can be discussed during the reading.
- E. DEI Committee: Christopher Cummings (Associate Professor Tutorial Services) said that they will be meeting with the Student Advisory board to discuss the Time, Place & Manner policy. It will be ready for fall for 1st reading as well as the ADA policy.
- F. Finance Committee: Eric Hawrelak (Professor Chemistry, Physical and Environmental Sciences) reported that they continue to get updates from Bob Thorn (Interim CFO, CU) on CU finances and Stacy Wagner, (Chief Facilities & Safety Officer, CU) on campus renovations which have been good.
- G. Student Success and Campus Life Committee: George Rusczyk (Dean of Students, CU) stated that they have 4 policies up for 2nd reading.
- H. First Year Experience Subcommittee: Jeanine Page (Associate Professor Health Science) said that they are working on staffing the first-year seminar classes for fall, reviewing proposals and going over the feedback that was provided by Middle States.

- I. Elections Subcommittee: Nicholas Delaney (Instructor) reported that the run off for Bloomsburg is complete. Results from recent Senate election will be sent out on 4/11/25.
 - J. Space and Facilities Subcommittee: Yvette Ingram (Professor Athletic Trainer Education, CU) said that they are working with a committee that represent all bargaining units on the Inclement Weather policy since it was tabled at last Senate meeting.
- V. Interim Policies endorsed by Senate Executive Committee: Heather Feldhaus (Associate Provost & Dean Graduate Education) explained that this policy was needed because realized we don't have an academic renewal policy for Commonwealth graduates. So we adopted the common practices of those other campuses within the PASSHE system and just added it to our existing policy on acceptable progress.
- A. [Graduate Academic Progress, Probation, Dismissal, and Renewal](#)

VI. Second Readings:

- A. [Financial Obligations](#): Suzanne Williamson (Chief of Staff & VP for Administration, CU) explained that this policy deals with withholding transcripts when a balance is due and that ministerial changes would need to be made to update the policy. Brooke Harlowe, (Professor Political Science, CU) made a motion to endorse. Emmalyn Borst, (Executive Director of Student Success, CU) seconded it. Motion carried.
- B. [Damages in Residence Halls](#): George Rusczyk explained this policy authorizes Residence Life staff to collect damages for folks that do things in the residence halls. This is after the fact billing. Adrienne McEvoy, (Associate Professor Philosophy, CU) made a motion to endorse. Erin Kennedy, (Professor Psychology, CU) seconded it. Motion carried.
- C. [Hazing Policy](#): George Rusczyk said that this is policy is driven by the state and federal requirements surrounding hazing. Emmalyn Borst made a motion to endorse. Michelle Lockwood, (Associate Professor, CU) seconded it. Motion carried.
- D. [Red Flag Identity Theft](#): Suzanne Williamson explained that this is a requirement to put protections in place to identify and prevent identity theft in connection with accounts with 3rd party service providers. Brooke Harlowe made a motion to endorse. Robin Rockey, (Project Manager for EM/SA, CU) seconded it. Motion Carried.
- E. [Midsemester Grades Policy](#): Brooke Harlowe made a motion to endorse. Christopher Cummings seconded. Barry Minemyer commented that he feels the word "should" in the policy is too vague and would like it to be clearer. Discussion about whether specific programs should be named in the policy for recommended language. Suzanne Williamson provided suggested new verbiage, "Faculty are encouraged to report midsemester grades in the student information system to assist with informing students of progress and support student success". Barry Minemyer made a motion to amend the policy with suggested language.

Adrianne McEvoy Seconded. Motion carried to make amendment with new language. Adrianne McEvoy asked if someone could provide the reference in the CBA that says that faculty do not have to report mid-semester grades. Language was put into chat that confirms that the CBA does not contain such a statement. Meagan Borzak pointed out that she feels the name of the policy could be confusing. Stanley Berard pointed out that he would like to bring this policy to Meet & Discuss if faculty are going to be required to report mid-semester grades. Erin Kennedy expressed concerns that it might be better to send back to the committee because no one from the committee is present to speak to it. Erin Kennedy made a motion to table the policy and send it back to the committee. Adrianne McEvoy seconded it. Brooke Harlowe disagrees on the policy being tabled and feels it is fine to move forward. Suzanne Williamson suggested that changes could also be administered as an interim policy. Erin Kennedy moved to withdrawal her motion to table. Adrianne McEvoy agreed. Robin Rockey would like to see some kind of enforcement to turn in grades as she sees so many faculty that do not. Doreen Jowi feels that this part of their jobs as professors and should not be policed to do a part of their job. Nicholas Delaney asked is there is any recourse for faculty that should be reporting grades but do not? Jessica Bentley added that she did not feel that reporting midterm grades for students who are doing well is necessary. Brad Lint stated that Mansfield has been doing this for years. Adrianne McEvoy put the question on the table to call for a vote. Motion carried to endorse with amended language.

- F. [Fundraising Policy](#): The policy was introduced. Gretchen Osterman, (Academic Advisor, CU) made a motion to endorse. Lynda Michaels, (Assoc VP Alumni Professional Engagement, CU) seconded it. Motion carried.
- G. [Posting and Chalking Policy](#): George Rusczyk said that this is the balance of free expression and keeping our campus clean. Kimberly Harris, (Director of Student Involvement, CU) made a motion to endorse. Lisa Weaver, (Professor MS Mental Health Counseling LO, CU) seconded it. Peggy Carl, (Mansfield Athletic Director, CU) asked if sponsor signage applies to athletics facilities? George Rusczyk and Suzanne Williamson both confirmed it does not incorporate sponsor signs posted in athletic facilities. Ethan Krupp, (Professor Director Theater, CU) pointed out an omission in section 4.1.i that is does not have language that allows for the omission of the ADA statement and instead can include language about contacting disability services. Previous policy had this language in it so that posters do not need to contain the entire statement. Hunter Hartford, (Lock Haven President of Student Government Board, CU) pointed out a change need for section 4.2.b should read, "Exceptions to duration may apply for activities such as Homecoming, Greek Life Recruitment, and other events requiring longer periods to advertise." Mark Decker confirmed that this can be a ministerial change. Tess Foss, (Chief Accessibility Officer, CU) made a motion for an amendment to change the language of "Shall" to "Should" in section 4.1.i to address including the disability services claim on posters. Gretchen Osterman seconded the amendment. Motion carried. Vote called for motion with the amendment made, motion carried with amendment.
- H. [Tailgating Policy](#): George Rusczyk explained that this policy combines the legacy tailgating events at all 3 campuses and pulls them into a single policy. Adrianne McEvoy made a motion to endorse. Brooke Harlowe seconded it. Motion carried.
- I. [Behavioral Intervention Policy](#): George Rusczyk explained that this policy formalizes the team that has been working with National Association for Behavioral Intervention and Threat

Assessment and authorizes the work that is happening there. Debra Menzola, (Associate Professor GMC, CU) made a motion to endorse. Lynda Micheals seconded it. Nicholas Delaney has a concern that more than just behaviors should be identified in the policy and the concerns on not explicitly describing the maintenance of confidentiality. Rick Goulet made a motion to table the policy. Michelle Lockwood, (Associate Professor, CU) seconded it. Motion to table the policy is carried.

- J. [Accelerated Programs and Pathways](#): Heather Feldhaus explains that this policy permits students to begin a graduate program while still completing their undergrad. Erin Kennedy made a motion to endorse. Lisa Weaver seconded. Motion carried.
- K. [Graduate Faculty](#): Heather Feldhaus asked to pull from the agenda and table.
- L. [Honorary Degree](#): Suzanne Williamson said that changes were to update names, titles and PRP names to bring the policy current. Lynda Micheals made a motion to endorse. George Agbango, (Professor Political Science, CU) seconded it. Motion carried.
- M. [Priority Registration](#): Tess Fosse explained that this policy describes what students can receive priority registration to help them be successful in their 4-year pathway to graduate. Adrienne McVoy made a motion to endorse. Hunter Hartford seconded. Kelly Foran would like to have the TRIO/SSS programs be separate registration days as part of the institutional commitment in our grant proposals to the federal government. Peggy Carl speaking on behalf of the student athletes stated that eliminating the possibility for student athletes who are not in their championship season to receive this benefit puts a strain on their abilities to continue and finish their degree in four years, which is what we want. Deana Campbell, (Senior field hockey player at Lock Haven) agreed with what Peggy said and added that to be academically eligible to play games in the off seasons they still need to be able to get into the required classes to be considered a full-time student. A large percentage of students benefit from being student athletes. Brooke Harlowe share data on priority registration. Using a cohort system can help all seniors get through on time. Gretchen Osterman made a motion to amend the policy so that TRIO/SSS will be in compliance with the grant. Adriane McEvoy seconded it. Motion carries for amendment. Kathleen Heitzman, (Associate Athletic Director at Bloomsburg, CU) stated that the NCAA set the conference schedules and students are allowed to miss class for games. That puts the burden back on the professor to make that test up. Adrienne McEvoy calls the question. Motion carries to endorse the policy with the amendment.
- N. [Dismissal](#): Brooke Harlowe explained that this is an elaboration on an existing policy. Adrienne McEvoy made a motion to endorse. Hunter Hartford seconded. Robin Rockey asked the question of students would be dismissed if they not meet the GPA requirements? Brooke Harlowe would like to strike the paragraph that talks about academic renewal since it will be its own policy. A few language updates: in the purpose, substitute struggles for deficiencies in the first two instances; in the last instance of the word deficiency substitute inability. Emmalyn Borst is afraid that what is being proposed is more difficult for students to understand than what we have currently and more students would be dismissed with this policy as it is written. Eric Hawrelak made a motion to table the policy. Maegan Borzak (Associate Professor Chemistry, CU) seconded it. Motion passes to table the policy.

- O. [Course Load](#): Tess Fosse said that this policy limits students from taking too many credits in one semester. Students need to get approval over 18 credits and have a cap of 21 credits. Brooke Harlowe made a motion to endorse. Adrienne McEvoy seconded. Motion carried.
- P. [Tuition Waiver Policy](#): Suzanne Williamson explained that this has been updated to reflect what has been negotiated in the CBA. Erin Kennedy made a motion to endorse. Stanley Berard, (Professor Political Science, CU) seconded. Nicholas Delaney pointed out section 3.B says Bloomsburg. Mark Decker confirmed that is a ministerial change that will be made. Motion carried to endorse policy.
- Q. [In-Kind University Donations Policy](#): Erin Kennedy made a motion to endorse. Adrienne McEvoy seconded. Motion carried.

VII. Consent Agenda Items: Brad Lint, (Associate Professor English, CU) made a motion to endorse. Rick Goulet seconded it. Motion carried.

- A. [Third Party Provider Policy](#)
- B. [Third Party Provider Procedure](#)
- C. [IRS Requirement to Report Cash Transactions](#)

VIII. Withdrawal

PRP 4802 Student Code of Conduct - [PRP 4802 Student Code of Conduct and Judicial Process- FINAL DRAFT- Post Trustees Aug 5.pdf](#): Brooke Harlowe asked if this was covered in the student code of conduct to ensure withdrawal would not result in a gap. George Rusczyk and Suzanne Williamson confirmed that this policy was developed based on a model policy from PASSHE and there are current requirements in place in the Code of Conduct contained in the Student Handbook. Adrienne McEvoy made a motion to endorse withdrawal. Rick Goulet seconded it. Motion carried.

IX. Remarks for the Good of the Order: Brad Lint thanked Mark Decker for all his service as Senate President for this year. Bashar Hanna offered his appreciation to Mark and to all on this process.

X. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:03pm by acclamation.