

Great Basin College
FACULTY SENATE 2025-2026
Friday, September 19, 2025
9:00 am

Elko –GTA 130; Ely – GBC 118; Pahrump- PVC 122; Winnemucca – GBC 123/124.

AGENDA

1. **Roll Call:** Tim Esh, Dean Straight (Proxy for Steven Hrdlicka), Robert Cowan, Morgan Roberts (Proxy for Travis Macias), Norm Whittaker, Christopher Salute, Madison Arbillaga, Dorothy Callendar, Stacy Crouch (Proxy for Jamie Carlson), Merrick Mildrum, Jennifer Puentes, Daniel Murphree, Fred Nalyanya, Stephanie Davis, Olivia Rice, Tiffany Ross, Gail Rappa, Kimberly Noah, Tim Beasley

Other Members Present: Oscar Sida (Chair), Donald Jones, Ping Wang, Shemayne Pitts, Dave Sexton, George Kleeb, Norm Whittaker, Trina Castonguay, Ethan Hawkley, Carrie Meisner, Jennifer Stieger, Michelle Beecher, Jenny Ahlvers, Sheila Staszak, Amy Smith, Laura Debenham, Sadie Crabb, David Antonini, Jim Dahl, Erica Salazar, Xunming Du, Amber Cannon, Rebecca Hawkley, Jason Brick, Adrianna Mendez, Heather Mitchell

Others Present: President Amber Donnelly, VP John Evans, Dean Karl Stevens, Kimberly Myers
2. **Call to Order: 9:07AM**
3. **Approval of May 16, 2025 Minutes - For Possible Action**

A motion to approve the minutes for May 16, 2025 was by Daniel Murphree, seconded by Dorothy Callendar. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **Senate Chair Verbal Report:** Chair Sida wanted to mention the NSHE Chair meetings for the policy updates and revisions. They are open to input, and even invited FSA to the meetings, which is constructive. The more transparency and communication we have, the less friction and conflict will follow. The meetings involve brief discussions that result in good compromises.

President Amber Donnelly would like to thank everyone for their support! She also extends her gratitude to everyone who assisted with the Board of Regents meeting on our campus. It was a lot of work, and Carrie Meisner was a tremendous part of that effort, so thank you! President Donnelly received many compliments. Everyone was impressed with GBC.
 - As Chair Sida mentioned, there will be many items coming through Faculty Senate this year. Please take time to be informed. The information will be largely tied to budget changes, budget requests, fees, and fee requests. There will be conversations about how these items will directly impact our budgets, our students, and every one of our institutions. President Donnelly encourages everyone to attend/ watch and read all the material of the BOR Special Board meetings, and especially the BOR December meeting. Voice your concerns to Chair Sida.
 - President Donnelly would like to continue the momentum of our inspiring collegiate spirit. Fridays are our days to show our GBC pride! Wear GBC green or something with the GBC logo. Shout out to the Wellness Warriors! Stephanie Davis, Laurie Walsh and their team have devoted their time to encourage all of us to be a healthier community and institution. Find the Wellness Warriors on their Facebook page.
 - Professional Development will be increased. Education is important for everyone - even us!

- The search for the VP of Student Services will commence next week. Our budget had an extra \$1.2 million, which we are using for hiring the much needed faculty and staff. Student enrollment is up 20% since 2023, so more students means more faculty and support.
- One more thing to plug in: we are looking to be more innovative, so share your ideas! Madison Arbillaga had a fantastic idea that will help our students and grow our institution. You all have great ideas, so please share!

5. Elect the Faculty Senate Parliamentarian for 2025-2026 Academic Year – For Possible Action

Dean Straight nominates Donald Jones with Norm Whittaker seconding.

No other nominations.

A motion to approve Donald Jones as the Faculty Senate Parliamentarian for the 2025-2026 Academic Year was by Dorothy Callendar, seconded by Norm Whittaker. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Standing Committee Reports:

- a. Academic Standards & Assessment..... **No Report**
- b. Bylaws..... **No Report**
- c. Compensation & Benefits..... **No Report**
- d. Curriculum Review..... **No Report**
- e. Instructional Technology..... **No Report**
- f. Gen Ed Committee..... **No Report**
- g. Personnel..... **No Report**
- h. Policy Review Committee, ad hoc **Verbal Report**

i. Expedited Policy Review Procedure – For Possible Action

There are 37 policies that need to be updated before the accreditation meeting coming up in October. It will take way too long if they continue to update all of them through the traditional way. The process is lengthy, but this new procedure is an effective solution. If the policy impacts the senate, then the committee will bring it forward, but for all other policies, the committee will push them through. If it impacts us as a senate, then we will bring them forward, but for all others that will not impact, the policy committee will push them through. The process of items going through Senate is lengthy, so this procedure is an effective solution.

If the policy doesn't impact you, then it won't go to you. Any policy change that is sent to you is only for review. The committee is not asking for anyone to make changes. 10 days is the expected time for the turnaround.

A motion to approve the Expedited Policy Review Procedure was by Dorothy Callendar, seconded by Daniel Murphree. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Unfinished Business: None.

8. New Business:

i. Proposed "ad hoc committees":

ii.

Tiffany Ross proposes the creation of a new ad hoc for recruiting - The members would consist of Tiffany Ross, Olivia Rice, and some guest members. The Deans and/or coordinators of programs would come and present highlights of their programs to the committee so they would have a better knowledge base of those programs to pass onto students. The recruiters are a lot of times their first point of contact, so they would like better training to guide students to classes and programs.

A motion to create the ad hoc committee for recruiting was by Christopher Salute, seconded by Dodi Callendar. Motion carried unanimously.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Accessibility Advisory Committee - Three basic things - first, promoting wider accessibility knowledge and understanding, second, expedite the process of updates, and third, have better discussions of what can be done to make it work for the student. This would be a soft launch into an eventual standing committee, however, they are not looking for action right at this moment - for future action.

Enrollment and Retention Advisory Committee – Discussion did not take place.

9. Information Items:

i. OnBase Faculty Evaluation Forms – Dodi Callander

Updates for the Faculty Performance Review - this form is live on OnBase on Monday. Everyone will get the form. Save the link. If you have any documents, they can be uploaded. Dodi continues to explain the form. Once you submit it, it will go straight to your Dean.

ii. Curriculum Updates Reminder for the 2026-2027 Catalog – Feb 27th, 2026

iii. ADA Update – Arysta Sweat

Arysta Sweat sent out an email regarding pdfs, and asked YuJa to help. They basically said we needed an add-on to fix the pdf issue, so GBC now has that feature. Arysta demonstrated the process. Within Canvas, you can upload your document, “apply those changes”, and the ADA process should fix it now. They also have a new feature called “AutoPilot”. Click on the “autopilot” and it will make recommendations where you can one-click for it to fix them.

10. Announcements: None.

11. Good of the Order: None.

12. Motion to adjourn by Daniel Murphree. Adjournment: 9:54pm.