



YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

1 Tressel Way, Youngstown, Ohio 44555

Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes – March 25, 2026

The Executive Committee met at 4:00 PM on March 25, 2026, virtually via Webex

Attendance:

Dr. Chet Cooper, Dr. Martha Pallante, Dr. Edmund Ickert, Dr. Brian Vuksanovich, Dr. Robert Gilliland, Mr. Ross Morrone, and Dr. Kevin Ball, John Rossi, Dr Karen Larwin.

Excused Absences:

Dr. Ron Davis, Ms. Sofia Myer.

Guests:

None

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr Martha Pallante, Chair.

i. Election of CCCA Representative to Executive Committee

Dr Martha Pallante stated that there is a vacancy on CCCA for Executive committee representation. She requested potential names and volunteers to fill this role. Dr Chet Cooper offered Francois Fowler as a possible candidate. Dr Kevin Ball suggested asking the dean of CCCA for possible candidates. Dr Martha Pallante agreed with suggestion. Dr Kevin Ball to reach out to dean for possible candidates to fill this position.

ii. At-Large senators

Dr Martha Pallante asked Dr Chet Cooper about who to contact for At-large positions. Per Dr Cooper, At-large senator positions are based on total faulty in college and then At-large numbers can be calculated once that total number is received. Dr Cooper recommended contacting the Provost's office.

iii. Senate Committee Vacancies

Dr Martha Pallante shared list of vacancies across Senate committees. Vacancies based on previous records and contacts with committee chairs. Dr Chet Cooper to call governance committee meeting. Dr Martha Pallante will send names of governance committee members for contact. Dr Brian Vuksanovich had a question about what "Discussion needed" meant on the list of committees. Dr Martha Pallante clarified that there might be committees who haven't met in multiple years and require further discussion regarding their direction. Dr Brian Vuskanovich

questioned if the committees up for discussion are still needed if they haven't met for years. Dr Pallante suggested bringing this discussion to Senate. Dr Pallante suggested the OAA office send an email to all faculty across campus about these committee vacancies. Dr Pallante also suggested Governance Committee take the lead in this process and contact only colleges with vacancies. Dr Cooper to send message out to specific colleges to respond. Mr. John Rossi asked if there was a description of the committee so that interested members can see more about what the committee does. Dr Cooper verified there was and will link a description to each committee in the email. Dr Ickert brought up that First Year Experience Committee has only 1 faculty member despite being listed as "no vacancies". Dr Pallante verified that a need might exist to fill roles on this committee and will update that need on the vacancy list. Dr Ball suggested contacting Dr Nicolette Power first before staffing to review the charge. Dr Cooper to contact Dr Power. Dr Pallante stated there are 14 committees that have been vetted (three were not). Dr Pallante to send the list to all executive committee members via email. Dr Pallante will also send Student Government a list of representation on each committee. No further questions raised. Dr Pallante will have At-large distributions by next week. Per Dr Pallante, Dr Bob Kramer reports that department senator elections have been completed for the upcoming academic year. This list will be sent to Dr Pallante.

iv. Dr Chet Cooper Resignation

Dr Cooper reminded the committee that 4/22 will be his last meeting and that he will be resigning as Vice Chair. Plan for committee to review procedures to handle the next step in the process.

v. Closing Remarks

The next executive committee meeting will be scheduled 4/8 at 4pm. Mr. John Rossi further suggested that in descriptions of committees there also be term limits for the positions on the email going out. Dr Vuksanovich suggested that the term limits be there as well. Dr Pallante stated term limits are generally 3 years on committees. Dr Vuksanovich suggested that the problem could be that no one knew when someone originally started, which made it hard to know when the limit was reached.

Dr Ickert brought up Mr. Mike Costarell's request for clarification regarding the proposed guidelines for the associate of technical studies that was presented at the previous senate meeting on 3/11/26. Mr. Costarell would like clarification from Academic Standards and General Education committees regarding specific references related to the State of Ohio requirements for English classes and the YSU requirements for English classes. Dr Vuksanovich was interested in the question as well. Discussion ensued between Dr Pallante, Dr Vuksanovich, and Dr Ball. Dr Pallante plans to research the topic further and has reached out to Academic Standards Committee regarding the question. Dr Vuksanovich has researched the topic as well and has reached out to other universities for information. Dr Ball questioned if this needed to be an agenda item. Dr Pallante plans to address this question during her Executive Committee Report.

Dr Martha Pallante adjourned the meeting at 4:52 pm

Minutes submitted by:

Edmund Ickert

Secretary, Academic Senate