

Notes from Faculty Senate Meeting with President Oldham

Date: Feb. 16, 2026

Location: In-person in AIEB 244 and online via Teams

Present: M. Allen (Board of Trustees Faculty Rep.), M. Atkinson, J. Baier, C. Brown, S. Browning, W. Carroll, B. Carver, R. Chitiyo, S. Christen, M. Comer, M. Creter, A. Donadio, R. Hall, S. Hasan, A. Hill, C. Hill, M. Hu, A. Kalyanapu, K. Kennedy, J. Mabry, A. Manginelli, D. Mann, M. Nattrass, L. Null, B. O'Connor, J. Ojo, M. Olsen, H. Park, M. Rajabali, S. Seiler, A. Spears, L. Suters, T. Timmerman, K. Trent, S. Wendt, B. Wilson, K. Xu

Absent: K. Craven, J. Field, J. Gannod, K. Grimes, J. Jenkins, C. Killman, R. LeBorne, T. Majors, L. Null, Y. Peng, L.A. Shipley, T. Smith (Past President), D. Tennant, K. Winkle (Chair, Academic Council)

Guests: President Oldham, Chief of Staff Lee Wray, Interim Provost Liu, A. Allsup, T. Burch, S. Rippetoe, T. Pelton, Student Reporter Shepard Steadman,

1. Call to Order: 3:39 p.m.

- Brief opening comments from Dr. Oldham

2. Talon System Implementation:

- The transition to the new Talon ERP system, mandated statewide, has created significant workflow disruptions. Bookkeepers reported improper account access, inability to split expenses, and concerns about communication. The President acknowledged implementation challenges and emphasized that teams from ITS and the Business Office are actively working with colleges to correct system roles, workflows, and data security mismatches. Future changes to the student Banner system may begin this summer as it moves to a Cloud-based version.

3. Reimbursement and Compensation Issues:

- **606 Student Funds:** Significant delays in 606 student travel reimbursements were reported, as well as workload concerns for department staff. Talon's restrictions on multiple compensation entries have created delays across departments. Faculty tuition reimbursements have also been delayed despite early submission.
- **Graduate Assistant Pay Problems:** Numerous GAs experienced reduced or missing pay in January, conflicting with signed contracts. Concerns included financial hardship, incorrect payment periods, and potential legal implications for altering work dates. The President explained the shift to biweekly pay arose from staff survey preferences and broader payroll restructuring, not Talon alone. Administrators committed to investigating missing pay cases and improving communication.

4. Search Committee Procedures:

- Faculty raised concerns about inconsistencies in hiring practices across colleges. Administration clarified that hiring decisions ultimately rest with the supervisor of the open position, and committees serve primarily to identify qualified candidates. Clarification of hiring policies may be communicated campus-wide.

5. Tenure Legislation Concerns (This Closed Session, only open to current faculty and Faculty Senate members was moved to the end of the meeting):

Adjourned: 5:10 p.m. (Dr. Atkinson requested the Faculty Senate members meet briefly after Dr. Oldham left the meeting.)