

East Tennessee State University

Staff Senate

Meeting Agenda

Date: September 8, 2025

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Culp Center 311

Facilitator: Cody Morelock, Staff Senate President

Agenda Overview

1. Call to Order
 - a. Welcome new Senators!
 - b. Meet and Greet
2. Approval of Previous Minutes
 - a. [June](#) and [August](#) Approvals
3. Information Items
 - a. Brief Onboarding for new Senators
 - b. President's Report
 - c. Committee Reports
4. Old Business & Follow Ups
5. New Business
6. Announcements, *What is on your mind?*
7. Adjourn

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Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2025
2:34 PM – 3:35 PM

1. Call to Order

President David Finney called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. in Culp Center 311 with some Senators joining via Zoom.

2. Attendance

Members present: Kari Albarado, Joe Bidwell, Dan Bishop, Vanessa Canter, William Cate, Rachel Colwell, Jennifer Crigger, O.J. Early, David Finney, Joy Fulkerson, Brooke Garland, Cody Greene, Wendy Guinn, Cody Henson, Suzy Hooven, Ethan Hutchison, Rachel Kellogg, James Lively, Crystal Maupin, Eli Montana, Skylar Moore, Cody Morelock, Donna Nelson-Barnes, Melanie Peters, Debbie Roach, Katie Sellers, Brayton Siddell, Jr., Aneida Skeens, Amy Slaughter, Ben Smith, Jessimine Strauss, Elizabeth Thomas-Joseph.

Members absent: Kimberly Ferrell, Jenny Lockmiller, Stefanie Murphy (excused), Ryan Parvin, Jeremy Watson.

3. Minutes

President Finney presented the May meeting minutes for consideration. Senator Bidwell made a motion to approve the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Senator Early. The motion carried, and the minutes were approved. There was no discussion.

4. President's Report

President Finney shared the following updates from recent University Council and Executive Committee meetings:

- University Council included an update on transition to Voyager including acknowledgement of recent issues with First Horizon checks but being on track for go live on July 1, 2025 with the \$500 bonus on the June payroll. Dr. Noland asked for patience as we transition to Voyager, and President Finney shared that more training is come.
- The Mary V. Jordan Center changes are underway and expects to serve a couple hundred students with individualized student support using the Athletics model. There was some discussion of the expected changes, programs, and support offered through this center.

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- President Finney announced that the web clock requirement has been pulled back but is still available in Voyager for optional use. A Senator asked if there is a requirement to be consistent in using the web clock to record time or if there is flexibility, and President Finney committed to getting clarification.

5. Budget Model Presentation

As a member of the Strategic Resource Allocation Realignment committee, President Finney presented an overview of the budget model update and final report that was completed in February. He noted that the new model adjusted the base budgets for academic units after meeting and collaborating with Deans and through review of resources. Budgets for administrative units were also analyzed during this process with Vice President level input and discretion on spending. The new budget model formula for academic units was shared on screen with review of the metrics used to determine division of budget overage/shortfall. Each administrative unit established its own performance metrics and submitted those to the committee, which are to be presented during annual budget hearings for resource allocation decisions. He acknowledged that Facilities received a \$2 million increase to its base budget as part of this process. President Finney also shared information about the development of a new Strategic Initiative Fund, not to exceed one percent of annual revenues, where divisions can propose strategic initiatives during budget hearings, and the President determines allocations. He also presented information on new carryforward 60/40 split with 60% to central before a new cap, and that all Indirect Cost Recovery (IDC) is untaxed. He shared that student fees are now part of the cap, and there is an 8% cap on operating carry forward. Senators engaged in discussion following the presentation, and President Finney offered input and clarification where he could. President Finney committed to sharing the final report and administrative units metrics via email following the meeting.

6. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Canter provided the Treasurer's Report of current financials, and shared that the Staff Celebration event cost around \$15,000 with staff monetary awards to go out this month. There was no discussion.

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7. **Committee Reports**

Vice President Morelock called for Committee Reports.

1. Senator Thomas-Joseph, Chair of Elections Committee, shared that there have been about 23 nominations received so far, and the deadline has not passed. Elections for vacant Senator positions to be held in July.
2. There were no other committee reports.

8. **Old Business**

None

9. **New Business**

None

10. **Announcements**

- Receipts are due by June 18 for all purchases.
- Senators and their divisions are encouraged to participate in service days hosted by Office of Community Engagement with direction to contact Senator Joy Fulkerson if there is a desire to participate with another group.

11. **Adjournment**

Senator Siddell made the motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Treasurer Canter. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm

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Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2025
2:34 PM – 3:10 PM

1. Call to Order

President David Finney called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. in Culp Center 311 with some Senators joining via Zoom.

2. Attendance

Members present: Kari Albarado, Joe Bidwell, Dan Bishop, Vanessa Canter, William Cate, Rachel Colwell, Jennifer Crigger, O.J. Early, David Finney, Joy Fulkerson, Cody Greene, Cody Henson, Suzy Hooven, Ethan Hutchison, Rachel Kellogg, James Lively, Crystal Maupin, Eli Montana, Cody Morelock, Stefanie Murphy, Donna Nelson-Barnes, Ryan Parvin, Debbie Roach, Katie Sellers, Brayton Siddell, Jr., Aneida Skeens, Amy Slaughter, Jessimine Strauss, Elizabeth Thomas-Joseph.

Members absent: Kimberly Ferrell, Brooke Garland, Wendy Guinn, Jenny Lockmiller, Skylar Moore, Melanie Peters, Ben Smith (excused), Jeremy Watson.

3. Minutes

President Finney noted that the June minutes had not been shared prior to this meeting for consideration. Senator Strauss made a motion to table the minutes review, and the motion was seconded by Senator Hooven. The motion carried. There was no discussion.

4. Welcome to New Senators

President Finney extended a welcome to the newly elected Senators attending as guests during today's meeting. New Senator terms will begin in September.

5. Nominations for Executive Officers

President Finney provided an overview description of the Bylaws and procedures to elect Executive Officers for the 2025-2026 term, followed by a summary of each role. He announced that Vice President Morelock will assume the position of President in September leaving open the positions for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Member-at-large for nominations,

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and the Committee on Elections had requested nominations ahead of this meeting.

As Chair of the Committee on Elections, Senator Thomas-Joseph presented the current nominees as follows:

Senator Kari Albarado for Vice President

Senator Will Cate for Secretary

Senator Vanessa Canter for Treasurer

Senators Brooke Garland and Aneida Skeens for Member-at-large

Senator Thomas-Joseph then called for any additional nominations to these officer positions from the floor. Senator Henson nominated Senator Hutchinson for Vice President, and Senator Hutchinson declined the nomination and was not added to the ballot. There were no additional nominations for Secretary or Treasurer. Senator Hutchinson nominated Senator Fulkerson for Member-at-large, and she accepted the nomination and was added to the ballot. Senator Thomas-Joseph acknowledged that the races for Vice President, Secretary and Treasure are all no-contest and will not be presented on the electronic ballot. The electronic ballot for the Member-at-large race will be distributed electronically tomorrow and be available for a period of two weeks. There were no questions presented about this process.

President Finney congratulated the incoming slate of officers before moving on to his report.

6. President's Report

President Finney shared the following updates from recent University Council and Executive Committee meetings:

- University Council included an update from Athletic Director, Dr. Sander regarding Athletics as well as a positive enrollment report from Dr. Sherlin, VP for Student Life and Enrollment and Dr. Chappell, AVP for Institutional Research, indicating enrollment is to be up year-over-year by more than 350 students. They announced that ETSU will likely see a record-breaking freshman class of more than 2200 students ahead of the fee drop date. Additionally, residence halls are at maximum capacity with more than 150 over flow students being placed in hotels for the start of the semester.

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- Dr. King, VP for Information Technology and Lori Erickson, VP for HR provided an update on a number of items including Voyager transition, noting that Windows 10 will no longer be supported soon and ITS is testing an AI tool. The Huron consulting contract has been extended through October for continued support with Voyager. Lori also encourage staff to utilize Teams for meetings and requests for assistance.
- President Finney announced that absences must be submitted in Voyager, not just saved, to appropriately reflect in leave balances and payroll and that holidays are to manually entered going forward. He also announced that the email notification feature of Voyager has been disabled with no date for resolution.
- He shared that Dr. Noland announced that two appointments have been made to the Board of Trustees by Lt. Governor McNally, including Trustee Dorothy Grisham returning for another 6-year term and former state Senator Jon Lundberg. Two additional appointments are forthcoming from Speaker Sexton.
- President Finney also shared that Dr. Noland noted the uncertainty at the federal level and offered assurances that he is keeping an eye on it.
- President Finney echoed Dr. Noland and also extended his sincere appreciation to all Facilities and Grounds staff for their commitment and hard work to keep our campus looking great and running well.
- President Finney announced that Move-in Day is August 20th, and volunteers are needed to assist. He directed anyone interested to reach out to him or others for information.
- He finished the report with a summary of the discussion between the Executive Committee and Dr. Noland earlier today including items related to enrollment, Voyager transition, and readiness of the new Robertson and Mary V. Jordan Centers. He made a call for questions, and there were none.

7. **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Canter provided the Treasurer's Report of current financials. There was no discussion.

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8. Committee Reports

Vice President Morelock provided a brief update that the Staff Concerns Committee is scheduled to meet this week to review updates to the website and communications. There were no other reports provided.

9. Old Business

None

10. New Business

None

11. Announcements

- President Finney provided brief farewell remarks and extended gratitude as outgoing President of Staff Senate.
- Senator Fulkerson announced that this is the last meeting for Secretary Katie Sellers and extended appreciation for her service.

12. Adjournment

Senator Henson made the motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Treasurer Siddell. The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.