

Minutes
The University of Toledo Board of Trustees
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting
December 15, 2025

The meeting was conducted virtually via WebEx. Committee members Ms. Lidia Ebersole, Mr. Steve Ciucci, Mr. Adam Levine, Mr. Zac Issac, Mr. Matt Kripke, Mr. Patrick Kenney, and Ms. Eleanore Awadalla were present. Student Trustee Mr. Nate Boley was present. National Trustee Mr. Thomas Wakefield was present. Others in attendance were Mr. Saad Andalib, Mr. Tomer Avidor-Reiss, Dr. Dan Boden, Mr. Tony Bourne, Dr. Chuck Callahan, Dr. Frank Calzonetti, Ms. Carrieanne Campbell, Ms. Meghan Cunningham, Ms. Katie DeBenedictis, Dr. Mohammed Elahinia, Dr. Melissa Gregory, Dr. Renee Heberle, Dr. James Holloway, Dr. Mitchell McKinney, Dr. Scott Molitor, Ms. Anegla Paprocki, Dr. Barb Ritter, Mr. Terence Romer, Ms. Janelle Schaller, Mr. Matthew Schroeder, Ms. Rebecca Schneider, Ms. Ira Snahoshchenko, Dr. Marc Seigar, Dr. Jerry Van Hoy, and Ms. Bethany Ziviski.

ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by Committee Chair Ebersole. Ms. Katie DeBenedictis, Secretary to the Board, recorded the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Ebersole mentioned that all stakeholder reports were shared in the board packet and reviewed by trustees prior to this committee meeting. She invited representatives from each group who submitted a report to present highlights. The full reports are included with the minutes.

STAKEHOLDER REPORTS

Ira Snahoshchenko, Student Government Report – Attachment 1.

Saad Andalib, Graduate Student Association Report – Attachment 2.

Dan Boden, Graduate Council Report - Attachment 3.

Tomer Avidor-Reiss, Faculty Senate report - Attachment 4.

Trustee Ebersole said there were no discussion items for the meeting.

Trustee Ebersole requested a motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the September 22, 2025 committee meeting and approve them as written. A motion for approval was provided by Trustee Awadalla, seconded by Trustee Levine and approved by the committee.

ACTION ITEMS

Dr. McKinney presented a recommendation for emeritus faculty honors for 9 retired faculty members. Emeritus status is an honor to recognize the outstanding services of retired faculty members. Trustee Ebersole requested a motion to approve the recommendation and forward to the consent agenda of the next Board of Trustees meeting. A motion for approval was provided by Trustee Awadalla, seconded by Trustee Isaac and approved by the committee.

**EMERITUS
FACULTY**

Dr. McKinney presented a recommendation for new faculty tenure for Dr. Grace Bochenek in the Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. Dr. Bochenek is joining UToledo as Vice President for Research in February. Trustee Ebersole requested a motion to approve the recommendation and forward to the consent agenda of the next Board of Trustees meeting. A motion for approval was provided by Trustee Levine, seconded by Trustee Kripke and approved by the committee.

**NEW FACULTY
TENURE**

Dr. McKinney presented a recommendation for two posthumous degrees for undergraduate students who passed away in a tragic car accident. First, a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering for Noah Jones and second, a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering for Keegan Walborn. Trustee Ebersole requested a motion to approve the recommendation and forward to the consent agenda of the next Board of Trustees meeting. A motion for approval was provided by Trustee Kripke, seconded by Trustee Isaac and approved by the committee.

**POSTHUMOUS
DEGREES**

Dr. McKinney presented Resolution No. 25-12-37: Advance Ohio Education Act. Per legislation, the board must approve the following policies (via this resolution) and submit to the Chancellor of ODHE by December 31: Workload, Faculty Annual Performance Evaluation, Post-Tenure Review, Tenure, and Retrenchment. Trustee Ebersole requested a motion to approve Resolution No. 25-12-37 and forward to the consent agenda of the next Board of Trustees meeting. A motion for approval was provided by Trustee Levine, seconded by Trustee Awadalla and approved by the committee.

**RESOLUTION NO.
25-12-37**

There was no need for an executive session. Dr. McKinney mentioned several informational items which were provided for trustees in the board materials. These items include information on the Science of Reading Audit, Annual Remediation Report, and the Graduate Medical Education Executive Summary Annual Institutional Review.

**INFORMATIONAL
ITEMS**

With no further topics to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Iryna Snahoshchenko

President of the Student Body

Stakeholder Report

December 15, 2025

End of 2025 Fall Semester Report

After finals and graduation, students are most excited to recharge after their hard work in the fall semester. Most feel accomplished and ready to embark on their next adventure, whether it is another semester at UT, a full-time job, or spending more time with family. In Student Government, we had a semester full of ideas and projects.

Winter break food project

This year, Student Government will continue the initiative to help 60+ students staying on campus get easier access to food when retail locations on campus are closed for winter break. Student Government, along with the help of a generous donor, the Office of the President, the Division of Student Affairs, and the Center for Advocacy and Student Experience, is preparing the following resources for students:

- Bags with ready-to-cook meals
- Community dinners on campus
- Shopping trips to a grocery store

The Office of Residence Life has been very helpful with this initiative, supporting advertising and ensuring resources are distributed among students. We hope that every student who stays on campus enjoys their holidays without worrying about food supplies.

Residence Life Committee Updates

Having an intentional connection with staff at Residence Life has been productive this semester. As a result of this committee, it has been easier to report student concerns, especially pertaining to the Greek Village.

The issues that have been thoroughly discussed in our meetings are:

- Student involvement in the decisions about the Greek Village
- Maintenance of washers and dryers

We are excited to involve even more students and have more impact with this committee next semester.

Capital Funding Advocacy

On November 12th, members of Student Government traveled to Columbus to meet with Representatives from the Statehouse and strengthen the connections between the state legislators and the university. Jordan Tracy, Antoine Washington, Armahd White, Nicholas Dewitz, and Jaden Bollinger got a chance to talk to Representatives Grimm, White, Williams, and Manning, discussing capital funding for higher education. I am hopeful that this trip is one of many, and that we continue to maintain strong relationships with representatives in the state. Additionally, our delegates met students representing Ohio University and Kent State University, who similarly advocated for issues affecting their institutions.

Elections

Our elections are going to be held in early April, the rules for which were crafted by the newly appointed election board consisting of these individuals:

- Annabelle Welch (Chair)
- Emma Konczal (Vice Chair)
- Luke Barnette
- Stephen Brown
- Lily Chaney
- Colin Guye
- Armando Rodriguez
- Angela Rosillo

Among the changes to this year's election manual is an increased number of required signatures and votes to become an elected senator.

Director Team

I would like to give an update about our director team. This fall, I was pleased to appoint two individuals to the following director positions:

- Director of Housing and Residence Life – Armando Rodriguez
- Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life – Duncan McLean

I also wanted to share the list of our current directors for the spring semester. We currently have 7/10 positions filled:

- Director of Sustainability – Faith Kern
- Director of Parking – Aesha Patel
- Director of Dining – Andrew Thompson
- Director of DEI, External – Nandi Grant
- Director of DEI, Internal – Angela Rosillo

- Directors of Government Relations – vacant
- Director of Auxiliary Services – vacant
- Faculty Senate Representative – vacant

Plans for Spring

Next semester, Jaden and I are planning to finish the projects we started in the Fall. We also have many ideas for advocacy in the Spring. I am especially excited to work on expanding reservable spaces for student activities and to serve on the General Fee Committee in the Spring. We are aiming to continue Roundtable Discussions with student organizations, making effective communication and collaboration more accessible.

A Message of Appreciation

To the Board of Trustees, President Holloway, and Chief of Staff Debenedictis: thank you for your leadership and unwavering support of the student body and student initiatives. We are deeply grateful for your trust and readiness to listen to the student voice.

Graduate Student Association Stakeholder Report
Prepared by Saad Andalib, Graduate Student Association-President
Monday, December 15, 2025

1. 2025-2026 Executive Board

- a. President: Saad Andalib, College of Engineering
- b. Vice President: Rema Ahmad Awethe, College of Health & Human Services
- c. Treasurer: Justin Rose, College of Health & Human Services
- d. Secretary: Md. Faisal Karim, College of Engineering
- e. Communications Specialist: Vacant

2. Fall 2025 Semester Recap:

A. Fall 2025 General Assembly Meeting Attendance:

Date/Time	Location	Attendance
Wednesday, September 17 th , 6 pm - 8 pm	Main Campus Memorial Field House 2100	53 Students
Wednesday, October 8 th , 6 pm – 7:30 pm	Health Science Campus Howard S. Collier Building 1050	55 Students
Wednesday, November 12 th , 6 pm – 7:30 pm.	Main Campus Ingman Room, Student Union	52 Students
Wednesday, December 3 rd , 6 pm – 7:30 pm.	Microsoft Teams	48 Students

B. Research Travel and Conference Registration Reimbursement Program

- i. The Graduate Student Association is pleased to report that it has been able to provide funding for a total of 48 students to date for the Fall 2025 semester including:
 - a. 25 conference presenters
 - b. 4 Students for academic competition
 - c. 19 conference attendees

C. Social and Professional Development Programming

- i. GSA arranged social programming for graduate and professional students including a Trivia Night hosted on Tuesday, November 18th with a total attendance of 26 students.

D. Graduate Research Awards

- i. The 2025-2026 GSA Graduate Research Awards Application is now open on InvoNet through January 30, 2026.
- ii. Our Graduate Research Awards are small grants to fund graduate student research. This academic year, we anticipate awarding five graduate students.

3. Spring 2026 Activities:

A. General Assembly Meetings for Spring 2026:

Date/Time	Location
Thursday, January 22nd, 6 pm -7:30 pm	Main Campus TBD
Thursday, February 26 th , 6 pm – 7:30 pm	Health Science Campus TBD
Thursday, March 26 th , 6 pm – 7:30 pm.	Main Campus TBD
Thursday, April 16 th , 6 pm – 7:30 pm.	Microsoft Teams

B. Midwest Graduate Research Symposium | Saturday, April 11th, 2026

- i. The Graduate Student Association is pleased to announce that it will be holding its 17th Annual Midwest Graduate Research Symposium on Saturday, April 11th, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on The University of Toledo Main Campus in Memorial Field House.
- ii. The Midwest Graduate Research Symposium is an annual academic gathering hosted by the Graduate Student Association consisting of plenary sessions, seminar sessions, and poster sessions showcasing the research and field work of graduate and professional students. This year, sessions will include a keynote panel, professional development sessions, seminars, lightning talks, and poster presentations.
- iii. This year’s symposium theme, “**Authenticity and Integrity (AI).**” This symposium will feature a conversation exploring how artificial intelligence is transforming higher education.

C. Social and Professional Development Programming

- i. The GSA is planning multiple social events for Spring 2026 including a sports tournament and trivia night.
- ii. The GSA is planning monthly presentation labs to provide students with the opportunity to practice upcoming presentations and receive feedback from peers.

Graduate Council Report to Board of Trustees
Academic and Student Affairs Committee, December 15, 2025

prepared by Dr. Daniel Boden,
University of Toledo Graduate Council Chair, 2025-2026.

This report includes the activities of Graduate Council (GC) since our last report on September 22nd, 2025. During the Fall 2025 term, GC has continued to meet regularly, to conduct regular business, hear presentations from guest speakers, and address new business brought forth by members.

GC has approved numerous applications for new and renewed graduate faculty status, which enables individuals to teach graduate courses and serve in various capacities on graduate advisory committees, mentoring graduate students as they complete their degrees. Our Curriculum Committee is populated and continues to review and approve proposals for new and modified graduate programs and courses.

On October 16th, I represented Graduate Council at the inauguration of James P. Holloway, Ph.D., as the 19th President of the University of Toledo. On October 28th, President Holloway and Provost McKinney joined our meeting to share their vision for the university, including graduate education. Following their opening remarks, both President Holloway and Provost McKinney addressed questions from GC members about issues relevant to graduate faculty and the larger UToledo community, such as maintaining R1 status, external funding, cross-college collaboration, the impact of the federal government shutdown, graduate student recruitment, etc. Prior to the arrival of President Holloway and Provost McKinney, Nicole Harris, Deputy Athletic Director and COO, addressed GC about the midweek home football game on November 5th and encouraged GC members to attend the game if possible. On November 25th, Donald Poulson, Associate Director, Total Rewards Benefits, Human Resources, attended Graduate Council to discuss Graduate Student Health Insurance. Mr. Poulson explained to GC how current graduate students are made aware of health insurance options provided by the university, as well as the enrollment process.

Dr. Michael Weintraub, 2025-2026 Graduate Council Vice-Chair, and I continue to meet regularly with Provost McKinney to discuss issues relevant to GC and graduate faculty. Additionally, I continue to attend University Leadership Council meetings.

In addition to regular business and committee reports, Graduate Council continues to focus on several important issues that have been raised by faculty and students related to graduate affairs and academic programs. We also receive regular updates from Dr. Scott Molitor, Senior Vice Provost for Academic and Graduate Affairs, Research Council via Dr. F. Scott Hall, and the Graduate Student Association by GSA President Saad Andalib.

Dr. Daniel Boden

Faculty Senate Presentation

UToledo BOT Meeting

December 15, 2025



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TOLEDO

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee



Jerry
Van Hoy
Past-
President



Tomer
Avidor-Reiss
President



Renee
Heberle
President
-Elect



Deborah
Coulter-Harris
Executive Secretary



Robert
Steven
Ohio Faculty Council
Representative



David
Giovannucci



Andrea
Kalinoski

Health Science Campus
Representatives



Karen
Green



Yakov
Lapitsky

Main Campus
Representatives

Enrollment Crisis: Flowchart of faculty involvement in recruitment activities

1:15 meeting

UToledo Admissions
(enroll@utoledo.edu)



Inform the department
representative
(secretary, department associate
chair,...)



Inviting Individual faculty to
participate in
a 1:15 meeting

University-wide recruitment events

UToledo Admission – set up the events
(<https://www.utoledo.edu/admission/events/>)
(<https://www.utoledo.edu/admission/visit/>)



Inform the college recruitment event organizer
(Project Managers, ...)



Depends on
the college

Inform the department
representative
(secretary, department
associate chair, ...)



Inviting Individual faculty to participate in
the university-wide recruitment events



College-initiated recruitment events



Inform the departments



Inviting Individual faculty to
participate

Enrollment Crisis: CRE Designation

- In response to the Art and Science consulting company recommendation to help increase UToledo enrollment, the Faculty Senate committee led by Dr. Ashley Pryor approved the Creativity and Innovation (CRE) course designation rubric.
- Next, the ad hoc committee will be reviewing and approving courses with this designation next semester.



Dr. Renee Heberle, Faculty Senate President-Elect, is leading a committee that meets with ParkUToledo to resolve issues that impair the university's mission

The three top parking issues:

- Request to suspend ticketing for groups or individuals coming to campus to, speak, work with students, or otherwise participate in the mission.
- Request to suspend ticketing for faculty-sponsored events with proper documentation and numbers of spaces/location.
- Request to suspend ticketing during low-usage times (after 7:00 pm until 6:00 am, for example, and on weekends).

*To be the University FOR Toledo,
we must make our front door—parking—
more accessible and community-friendly.*

Three Recommended Changes to the Faculty Senate Rules and Bylaws to increase its efficiency

- BOT approval is required.
- Will be discussed in trusteeship and governance (T&G) committee meeting

Rules 2.B.3: Allowing faculty election to start early than in the past

Bylaws VIII.4: Allowing faculty to serve 2 years in FS committees

Bylaws V.1: Making FS meeting a hybrid format



Meetings with the President and Provost

We have regular productive meetings with President Holloway and Provost McKinney and we feel the collaborative spirit is strong.

We noted a positive change in the university trajectory – the opening of several positions for faculty.

Engagement with all academic units, big and small, is encouraging.



The BOT chair is invited to present at one of the spring Faculty Senate meetings

- We hope this can be arranged.