

## Faculty Association Minutes

February 24, 2026

Library Room 401 & Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 12:32 PM

1. Welcome from Faculty Association Chair, Professor Donald Ross (BIT)
2. Staff Award
  - a. Presented to Zach Austin, Math Lab Supervisor & Astronomy Club Sponsor
3. Approval of January 2026 meeting Minutes
  - a. Passed with the following votes:
    - i. Yay – 13 (in-person) + 12 (Zoom)
    - ii. Nay – 0
    - iii. Abstain – 0
4. Treasurer Report (Paul Buckelew)
  - a. Membership – 62 paid members currently
  - b. Balances
    - i. MidFirst Operating Fund
      1. \$9631.40
    - ii. Endowed Fund: \$14,896.08 (9/30/24)
      1. Updated Expendable (Scholarship) Fund: \$11,924.43
  - c. Approval of Treasurer Report
    - i. Yay – 13 (In-person) + 12 (Zoom)
    - ii. Nay – 0
    - iii. Abstain – 1 (Zoom)
5. Scholarship Committee
  - a. Spring Fundraiser: “Trailblazer Walk & Taco”
    - i. April 21 (Tuesday)
    - ii. Pre-sale of “passports” at slightly discounted price; walk around campus with stops at each Division with “passport” to get swag, stamp, and visit with others; and pick up a walking taco at the end of the walk. Completed “passport” is turned in and entered into a drawing for a grand prize.
    - iii. A sign up will go out soon (via email) to help purchase various ingredients and volunteer.
    - iv. Anyone with suggestions for grand prize, please share with Sarah Baker (Scholarship Committee chair).
6. Chair Report
  - a. President Meeting (2/23/26)

- i. April 24 – Grill & Chill planned
  - ii. Bookstore: Textbook adoption process will be updated and streamlined. Date to be announced.
- b. Board of Regents (2/9/26)
  - i. Scholars Day (Fall 2025) – 103 participants; \$2000 in scholarships & \$7000 in tuition waivers; multiple participating in national conference in April
  - ii. Save the Date: Rosewood Gala – September 17, 2026
  - iii. Engineering Tech Applied Associates moved to Certification to meet industry needs and enrollment; Child Development Associates moved to certification; Community Public Health removed entirely
  - iv. Compared to last year, enrollment is up 2% and credit hours are up 5.6%.
- c. VPAA Meeting (2/05/06)
  - i. Service Year Recognition
    - 1. HR is working on updating this process for faculty, as years of service can be out of alignment with fiscal year.
  - ii. Night with Regents
    - 1. Process has been set and discussed with VPAA Largent. Presented to Dr. Jones for final approval.
  - iii. Mid-term grades
    - 1. VPAA Largent is investigating the value and efficacy of continuing midterm grade submission.
  - iv. OCCC Food Pantry Drive
    - 1. Focusing on hygiene products: deodorant, hair care/shampoo/conditioner, menstrual products, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes
    - 2. The drive will run until March Faculty Association meeting. Division representatives are asked to bring all filled boxes to the FA Meeting on March 24. A photograph will be taken, and then the boxes will be delivered to the Food Pantry.
    - 3. Each Division has boxes to fill with hygiene products. Each filled box will result in one entry into a drawing for a Division prize.
  - v. Campus Closure Notifications
    - 1. A request has been made to improve the clarity of campus-wide announcements regarding inclement weather closures or shifting to virtual learning.
  - vi. President Recognition

