

Great Basin College
FACULTY SENATE 2025-2026
Friday, November 21, 2025
9:00 am

Elko – HTC 123; Ely – GBC 118; Pahrump- PVC 123; Winnemucca – GBC 123/124.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Roll Call:** Tim Esh, Steven Hrdlicka, Robert Cowan, Travis Macias, Norm Whittaker, Christopher Salute, Madison Arbillaga, Jamie Carlson, Laura Debenham (Proxy for Dorothy Callander), Merrick Mildrum, Jennifer Puentes, Daniel Murphree, Fred Nalyanya, Ethan Hawkley (Proxy for Stephanie Davis, Olivia Rice, Tiffany Ross, Gail Rappa, Kimberly Noah, Tim Beasley

Other Members Present: Oscar Sida (Chair), Dean Straight (Vice-Chair), Sheila Staszak, Yvonne Naungayan, Scott Nielson, Tawni Crum, George Kleeb, Sheree Beard, Carrie Meisner, Jennifer Stieger, Erica Salazar, John Rice, Janelle Lemley, Toni Milano, Abel Del Real-Nava, Abigail Loya, Amber Ogle, Amy Smith, Anaa Freistroffer, Jeff Winrod, Jenn Butt, Jonathan Foster, Arysta Sweat, David Antonini, Michelle Beecher, Mike McGhee, Ping Wang, Sadie Crabb, Steven Scilacci, Susanne Bentley, Dave Sexton, Deanna Hamilton, Xunming Du, Rita Pujari, Gerardo Wence-Munoz, Adrianna Mendez, Earl Owen, Heather Mitchel

Others Present: VP Sarah Negrete, Dean Karl Stevens, Melissa Jacobo, Sharon Butterfield, Kimberly Myers

2. **Call to Order:** 9:00am
3. **Approval of October 17, 2025 Minutes - For Possible Action**

A motion to approve the October 17, 2025 Minutes was by Daniel Murphree, seconded by Madison Arbillaga. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Proposed New 90 Credit BAS Degree – For Information Only w/ Action via Email Vote**
- Presented by VP for Faculty Success, Sarah Negrete

VP Negrete summarized the 90-credit degree proposal. For more detailed information, the proposal can be found on the Faculty Senate website under “Minutes and Packets”.

This is a brand-new degree that is specialized for the industry professionals who are in search of skilled individuals for project management and other supervisory positions.

It is not exclusive to only those in the industry field. Anyone can enroll.

Northwest approved institutions to offer 90-credit bachelor’s degrees over the summer of 2025.

The GBC Catalog will need to include a fourth general education (GE) column to accommodate the 90-credit BAS.

Each department was given the opportunity to approve the GE requirements for their area.

Dean Karl Stevens adds that the 90-credit BAS does essentially cover the four categories of the GE objectives on page 79 in the current 2025-2026 catalog.

The GE requirements are not embedded into the program courses, but it is a possibility.

GE Chair Ethan Hawkley states that the Social Science department will be removing PHIL 311 from the Social Science GE requirement in the 2026-2027 catalog, as the course doesn’t meet specific outcomes.

Dean Stevens explains that the 90-Credit BAS proposal was based on the current catalog, which includes PHIL 311 satisfying the Social Science requirement. Future changes to the catalog may require changes to the 90-Credit BAS proposal.

There was a suggestion to move forward with the 90-Credit BAS proposal now and make changes later. A discussion ensued regarding general education requirements, which resulted in an amendment to the motion stating that the proposal needs to go through GE before the vote.

After everyone who wanted to voice their concerns in the matter was heard, Chair Sida reminded the Senate that ultimately this item is going to a vote, because if it isn't on the December 4th Board meeting, it will take another year.

A motion for an email vote for the Proposed New 90-Credit BAS Degree with the caveat that faculty receive notification of it passing through General Education beforehand was by Madison Arbillaga, seconded by Daniel Murphree. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE: On November 26, 2025, the result of the email vote concerning the Proposed New 90-Credit Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) Degree was approved by majority and unanimously by all actively voting Senate Representatives.

5. **Senate Chair Verbal Report:** Chair Sida emphasized the importance of the committees and their chairs and all the hard work they are doing, especially with items such as this one. He appreciates all the committee chairs for stepping up. He recognizes the reluctance to serve as chairs on certain committees because of all the everyday tasks required of us, but if no one rises to accept these responsibilities, then nothing is resolved and the whole system is defunct, so thank you.

6. **Standing Committee Reports:**

- a. Academic Standards & Assessment..... **Written Report**

i. **General Education Five Year Assessment Plan – For Information Only**

ii. **General Education Assessment Report 2025 – For Information Only**

Chair Yvonne Naungayan summarizes the assessment plan. The General Education Assessment Report is available on the Faculty Senate website under “Minutes and Packets” for November 21, 2025.

Senate Chair Sida suggests an official, updated form through OnBase.

- b. Bylaws..... **Verbal Report**

Chair Dean Straight made a statement to review the Bylaws in how new programs are pushed through Faculty Senate.

- c. Compensation & Benefits..... **No Report**

- d. Curriculum Review..... **Action Items**

i. **New/ Changed Courses to Curriculum – For Possible Action**

No one spoke on behalf of these new and changed courses to the curriculum, so they were “tabled”. These courses already go through all of the departments and requirements for approval. For them to go through Senate is merely a formality.

ii. **Proposed New Technical Writing Skills Certificate – For Info Only w/ Action in January**

- e. Instructional Technology..... **No Report**

- f. Gen Ed Committee..... **Written Report**

i. **Written Report – For Information Only**

Chair Ethan Hawkley makes a motion to have the Gen Ed committee comprised as the Bylaws states – one representative from each of the following: Social Sciences, Math, Science, Technology, Arts & Letters.

Health Science, CTE, and Education. Currently, Gen Ed includes multiple people from a couple departments, resulting in some programs lacking representation.

g. Personnel..... **Written Report**

i. Report – Information Only

h. Policy Review Committee, ad hoc **Action Items**

i. Professional Recruiting Policy – For Possible Action

Chair Straight stated that the committee only updated some of the wording. They don't make any changes to the policy's meaning or purpose; they only improve clarity.

A motion to approve the Professional Recruiting Policy was by Steven Hrdlicka, seconded by Madsion Arbillaga. Motion carried unanimously.

ii. Financial Aid Policy – For Information Only

Chair Straight noted that this policy would be pushed through as an information only item, because it was a 150+ page legal document that couldn't be altered.

i. Continuing Education Advisory Group **Written Report**

i. Written Report – For Information Only

j. Library Advisory Group **Action Item**

i. Library Advisory Group Name Change – For Possible Action

A motion to approve the Library Advisory Group Name Change was by Norm Whittaker, seconded by Ethan Hawkley. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Unfinished Business: None.

8. New Business: A member suggests that we move Faculty Senate to HTC 123 in Elko permanently. There was an amiable discussion on the matter, but no one moved it forward.

9. Information Items: The CTE department Chair Abigail Loya brought up a question about Equipment requests. There wasn't a clear answer, since the committee chair wasn't present, but a committee member said they are working on figuring out the budget and will hopefully be sending out emails soon.

10. Announcements: None.

11. Good of the Order: None.

12. Tim Beasley moves to adjourn: 10:00AM