

Robert Holland Faculty Senate

August 2025 Summary

Meeting called to order for the August 2025 Faculty Senate meeting

- Adoption of minutes from April 11, 2025.
 - Motion made, seconded, and approved.
 - No major edits suggested.
- No guest introductions – Dr. Shaw absent from this meeting.
- President's Report
 - Welcome back remarks; acknowledgment of summer and new semester.
 - Staffing update: long-time staff member Dinah Jenkins retired; replacement starting September 8.
 - Three senators left over the summer → elections needed for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences/Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, the College of Architecture, Art, and the Design, and the College of Engineering.
 - Nominations close Aug. 27; elections held Aug. 28 – Sept. 8.
 - Assignments made for standing committees and university committee representatives.
 - Appreciation expressed to Senator Banik for prior service; he will serve as parliamentarian.
 - Summary of committee meetings attended:
 - Academic Deans Council (Aug. 11): reviewed AOPs on class attendance, course limits, and credit for prior learning.
 - Design Review Committee (Aug. 7): discussed Wise Center renovations.
 - Executive Council (July 28): operational policy updates.
 - Fall Convocation is scheduled for Aug. 26, 6 PM, Humphrey Coliseum.
 - Parking & Traffic Committee: discussed new parking changes.
 - United Faculty Senate Association (Aug. 14): updates from Jackson State; election of officers upcoming.
- Vice President's Report
 - Attended Master Plan and Development Committee:
 - Approval of new pickleball courts at Sanderson Center.
 - Plan for new faculty housing (four duplexes / eight units) on Maroon Drive by Fall 2026.

- Hardy Road project: converting to single-lane transit/cycling only; closure expected Oct/Nov 2025 through Summer 2026.
- Special Events & Game Day Operations Committee:
 - Changes to tailgating rules: Junction reserved for Southern Tailgating; student tailgates moved to amphitheater.
 - Other updates: B.S. Hood Road closures, Maroon Band warmups, Dog Walk timing.
- Will represent concerns in Calendar Committee (issues raised about exam grading deadlines and one-day class after Thanksgiving).
- Discussion/Q&A
 - Senators asked about role of faculty on committees → confirmed they are voting members.
 - Concerns raised about exclusive tailgating vendor (Southern Tailgating) and accountability/liability issues.
 - Questions about academic calendar quirks (grade deadlines, one-day class after Thanksgiving).
- Business Sent to Committees
 - AOP 1209: Class Attendance → Student Affairs.
 - AOP 1222: Undergraduate Course Load → Ancillary Affairs.
 - AOP 1226: Credit for Prior Learning → Academic Affairs.
- Standing Committee Reports: none significant.
- Old Business: none.
- New Business
 - Letter from Provost Shaw reviewed; motion to send to committee, passed 38-0
 - Senator M. Priddy motioned to have an election for a second representative for the UFSAM and Senator New seconded. Will elect a second representative in the Sept. meeting. Nominations will close on September 8th.
 - Discussion was had pertaining to concerns with parking, course titles in Education and CALS, and the attendance AOP 12.09.
- Senator M. Priddy motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Kundu seconded.

Amber Robinson

Robert Holland Faculty Senate Secretary