

Faculty Senate Policy Committee
Meeting Notes
December 3, 2025
11:45 am – 1 pm
Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Eve Espey, Subramanian Iyer, Grace Murphy, Megan Murphy, Karen Patterson, and Caitlin Wells

Members Absent: Ezra Depperman, Michele Head, and Svetlana Poroseva

Ex-Officio Members Present: Nancy Middlebrook, University Secretary and Brandon Toensing, Office of University Counsel

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Rebecca Sanchez, Interim Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Akshay Sood, Interim Director of HSC Faculty Affairs

Staff Present: Vivian Valencia, University Secretary Emerita, HSC Academic Affairs

Meeting called to order at 11:48 am by Chair Eve Espey. Quorum was met.

1. Approvals

The agenda was approved as written.

The meeting notes from the November 5, 2025 meeting were approved with minor edits to correct typos and the spelling of a name.

2. Information/Policy updates

Policy A63.5 “Information Technology Committee” was approved by the Faculty Senate at their November 25th meeting. The policy will be effective January 1 and the committee leadership will be notified.

E40 “Research Misconduct” was also approved by the Faculty Senate Operations Committee on November 11. Because it was a procedural/regulatory change that was the final approval needed and the policy has been updated in the Faculty Handbook, effective November 17.

E110 “Conflict of Interest in Research” was also approved by the Faculty Senate at their November 25th meeting. It has been forwarded to President Stokes for final approval. The policy is on track to be approved before January 1.

We will follow up on the issue of parental leave for post-docs in January.

3. Action/Discussion Items

Proposed Policy Committee In-Person Retreat, January 14, 2026, 8:30am – noon

Chair Eve Espey asked if people would be able to attend a longer meeting on January 14 in lieu of the January meeting to kick off the semester with snacks will be provided. After discussion, it was decided to schedule the meeting. The Roberts Room, which is located on the second floor of Scholes Hall has been reserved. A Zoom meeting option will be available. Nancy Middlebrook will send a calendar invite from the Office of the University Secretary to hold the time. A reminder and agenda will be sent after the first of the year.

E50 “Export Control”

Grace Murphy reported on her meeting with subject matter experts Deb Kuidis and Patrick Bourgoyne, from the Industrial Security Office, to ensure that any outstanding comments were adequately addressed if possible. Regarding the concern that the policy might be too broad, the regulations are over 1000 pages, and Deb and Patrick are there to help faculty determine how they need to proceed, so it was intentionally left broad to cover any situation. The changes that the committee had already incorporated were shown to Deb and Patrick and they did not have any concerns with the changes. After the meeting, Grace felt comfortable moving forward with the policy. Additional revisions were made by the committee to clarify language in the second paragraph of the Policy Statement and to make a minor edit to the Applicability Statement. A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy with the suggested changes. The Committee unanimously approved the amended policy. It will next be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for approval. The Committee discussed the value of having the subject matter experts available to answer questions and provide context for the policy, especially on new policies that are very complex.

E130 “Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs”

Svetlana Poroseva worked with Carol Stephens to do a deeper review of the policy. Suggestions from that review were reflected in the document provided in the meeting materials. Nancy walked the committee through some of the recommendations for changes that came out of that discussion as well as that were made by the Research Policy Committee. The Committee discussed some additional revisions to clarify language and to ensure that links will be live. It was also discussed that the policy should be sent back for a review by the Industrial Security Office in conjunction with sending it out for campus comments. Also, the Committee agreed that if there were comments, the subject matter experts should be invited to the meeting where the comments are discussed. A motion was made and seconded to send the policy with the proposed changes out for comment. The motion was unanimously approved. The policy will be forwarded to the Operations Committee to approve it to be sent out for comment at the beginning of the Spring Semester.

E10 “Classified Research”

The Committee briefly discussed some initial questions regarding the history of the policy and rationale for some of the struck-out language. The effective date of the current policy dates to 1973, so the policy is in need of a significant update. It was discussed that the Committee should reach out to the chair of the Research Policy Committee, Tito Busani, and any subject matter experts from the Vice President for Research areas to invite them to the January 14 meeting. The Committee did not see the need to assign a working group if we were able to have an overview from RPC and the research subject matter experts.

Other Business

For the retreat, in addition to working on E10, the Committee discussed having the list of policies so that the Committee can discuss priorities for the semester. Progress has been made on getting through many of the “E” policies. Nancy also mentioned that there is a new Faculty Senate Committee that is working on their initial charge that will be provided to the committee in the Spring. A few other Faculty Senate Committees are in the process of revising their charges as well.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.