

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

February 13, 2026
7:30 a.m.

Members Present: Bradley Britigan, Vimla Band, Surinder Batra, Sam Bierner, Sheila Ellis, Charles Enke, Howard Gendelman, Karen Gould, Rebekah Gundry, Zahid Iqbal, Dwight Jones, Joe Khoury, Kim Latacha, Ryan Lee, Steve Lisco, Travis McCumber, David Mercer, Kody Moffatt, Andrew Patterson, Sarosh Rana, Matt Rizzo, Mark Rupp, Kari Simonsen, Mike Wadman

Ad Hoc: Nada Fadul, Howard Fox, Wendy Grant, Mike McGlade, Robert Messbarger, Geoff Talmon

1. Welcome and announcements (Dr. Britigan)
Dr Britigan welcomed everyone to the February Faculty Council Meeting
2. Approval of January 9, 2026 Minutes
The minutes were unanimously approved
3. Old Business (e.g., follow-ups, updates)
4. New Business
 - a. Topics brought forward by General Faculty Leadership
Dr Gould shared that the Collaborative Engagement Environment Committee is launching surveys for administrative and research staff to gather feedback on professional development opportunities.
 - b. Topics brought forward by Department Chair Leadership - None
 - c. Topics brought forward by COM Administration – None
5. Informational Items and Announcements (if needed)
 - Admissions and Student Affairs Wendy Grant, MD.
No Report
 - Undergraduate Curriculum Geoff Talmon, MD
Dr Talmon explained that new faculty appointments, including a pediatrician, two general surgeons, and an OBGYN, would be joining various departments, emphasizing the importance of these appointments for LCME compliance.
 - Office of Strategic Initiatives Shirley Delair, MD
Unavailable/No Report
 - GME Chandra Are, MBBS
Unavailable/No Report
 - Kearney Robert Messbarger, MD
Dr. Messbarger provided updates on faculty recruitment for the Kearney campus, noting five full-time equivalent positions had been filled or were in the process of being filled.

He also provided an update on plans to establish relationships with clinical sites across Nebraska for future integration with the Omaha campus.

- Faculty Affairs Nada Fadul, MBBS
Dr Fadul provided updates on the P&T revisions vote, which is set to conclude on Monday with 257 votes cast and 90% voting in favor. She announced the upcoming College of Medicine Education Awards, which will recognize preclinical and clinical faculty in four categories.

Dr Fadul presented proposed changes to the bylaws, including updates to committee names and language to ensure equal advancement opportunities for faculty regardless of campus.

She also shared proposed revisions to the Faculty Council's bylaws, including changes to language for compliance with university requirements and to include regional campus faculty in governance. Dr Britigan noted that regional campus faculty participation in College of Medicine governance is an LCME accreditation requirement. Dr Fadul requested feedback on the proposed changes and promised to share the document for comments.

The group discussed proposed changes to the bylaws, including a shift to majority vote for decisions rather than requiring a specific quorum participation, which was noted to be challenging to achieve. Dr Fadul explained the addition of language defining the duties of the general faculty, emphasizing engagement in governance and maintaining educational quality across all campuses. They also addressed the inclusion of volunteer faculty, clarifying their roles and participation in departmental meetings, and proposed increasing the Faculty Council membership to 14, with two additional seats for regional campus representatives. The discussion highlighted the need for further input on defining faculty responsibilities across campuses.

- Research Howard Fox, MD, PhD
Dr Fox announced the activation of Trinetics, a new tool for accessing de-identified health data, as a cost-effective alternative to ReadyCorps for student and resident projects.
- Clinical Affairs/Nebraska Medicine Steve Lisco, MD
No Report
- Pediatric Affairs/CSP/Children's Hospital Kari Simonsen, MD
No Report
- COM Business Affairs Mike McGlade
No Report

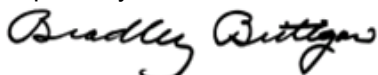
6. Other business

Dr Britigan shared exciting news about increased philanthropic support securing half scholarships for the inaugural class at the Kearney campus, with more details to be announced in the coming week.

7. Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,



Bradley Britigan
Dean, COM