

**Milgard School of Business
Faculty Council Meeting Minutes**

Date: Friday, May 1, 2026

Time: 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Location: Milgard 306

Attendees: Arindam Tripathy, Juliet Cao, Altaf Merchant, Stephen Norman, Marion Eberly, Jinlan Ni, Evy Shankus

Absent: Howard Smith

1. Approval of FC Meeting Minutes

- The Faculty Council meeting minutes were approved.

2. Discussion of Non Voting Topics

A. Dean's Updates (Altaf)

- Altaf reviewed recent school and community engagement events. The CSR competition included 23 teams and MSB placed second. VITA had another strong year, completing approximately 280-290 tax returns and returning about \$500,000 to the community. The Business Plan Competition, three career fairs, Dress for Success, Husky Hacks, and the Business Leadership Awards were also noted as successful engagement activities.
- Fundraising remains a priority, particularly for the Success Center and Entrepreneurship Center. Recent gifts have been received and a school fundraising committee is being developed, though broader campaign calls have been paused until next calendar year at Advancement's request.
- Altaf and Juliet reported on the China trip, including conversations with three universities about possible 2028 study abroad, faculty-to-faculty collaboration, and AI/robotics opportunities. Visa and geopolitical constraints remain important considerations.
- AI was discussed as an increasingly important area for faculty, students, curriculum, and operations. Altaf is exploring workshops and tools related to Copilot, AI agents, and AI governance.

B. Associate Dean Updates (Juliet)

- AACSB has assigned Steve Elias from the University of Northern Colorado as chair for the Spring 2027 peer review visit. Sanjay Sharma will no longer chair the visit. Juliet has sent program directors and stakeholders a draft reporting structure, with data collection expected by the end of the academic year and first drafts over the summer.
- Graduate enrollment remains active: MSBA has 52 accepted offers, MCL has 30 accepted offers. MBA has made 20 offers (9 accepted), and MSAcc has made 51 offers (30 accepted). Visa delays and broader political concerns continue to affect international student decisions, while MSAcc domestic recruiting requires continued one-on-one education about CPA-related pathways.
- MSAcc is going through a program refresh. MSBA may also need updating.
- The Essentials of Management Program (EMP) is being prepared for a Version 2.0 relaunch. Juliet summarized feedback from the MEC workshop and consultation with Christina Burns. A draft program is ready for MEC review, with a possible Spring 2027 launch.

C. Associate Dean Updates (Marion)

- Marion reviewed undergraduate enrollment. BABA currently has 145 applications, 121 offers, and 93 acceptances. Direct admit numbers include approximately 260 admitted students interested in business, with 24 acceptances so far. The undergraduate team is in a final recruitment push, including personalized outreach via Niche Engage.
- Altaf recognized the undergraduate team's coordination with admissions and noted that the related marketing campaign has generated approximately 8,800 clicks.
- The council discussed agentic AI as a possible way to support workflow efficiency and allow staff to focus on higher-impact work. A small beta group could include Faculty Council members, leadership, and area coordinators.
- Strategic planning is wrapping up its online feedback process, and draft strategic goals are forthcoming.

- The Workload Task Force is reviewing workload factors and school-level models, with a report expected from Greg in June. Potential differentiated workload tracks were discussed, including policy/code and equity considerations.
- Merit review materials are due soon, with meetings scheduled for May 15 and May 22.

D. Financial Updates

- The exact budget reduction is still not known, though current discussion suggests it may be less than 3%. The school also continues to face international enrollment uncertainty.
- Altaf noted that the school will likely need to adjust some administrative structures, share resources across centers, manage within the existing talent pool, and make better use of available staff capacity.

E. GPC and UPC Processes, Expectations, and Mentorship (Arindam)

- Arindam raised concerns about the timing and coordination of GPC and UPC work with Faculty Meetings. Members noted that when committee meetings occur only a few days before Faculty Meetings, faculty do not have enough time to review materials carefully.
- The council discussed timely agenda and minutes sharing, clearer expectations for committee chairs, and earlier Faculty Council engagement with GPC and UPC at the beginning of the academic year. Members connected these issues to the broader need for standard operating procedures.
- The council discussed balancing reduced service for newer faculty with opportunities for engagement and development. Members emphasized mentorship, lower-risk governance opportunities, and a stronger culture of sharing across programs and courses.

F. School Resources, Governance, Efficiency, and Fiduciary Commitments (Arindam)

- Arindam raised concerns about faculty engagement, service equity, and the burden created when service is carried by a small number of people.
- Members discussed the difference between committee membership and meaningful contribution or leadership. The discussion emphasized that workload and equity conversations should account for both compensated service and volunteer service.
- Altaf noted that specific concerns should be addressed through appropriate channels and that the annual review and merit process is an important venue for discussing contribution expectations. The council also discussed whether Faculty Council should consider a faculty engagement document or process to clarify expectations and support a healthier service culture.

G. Summer PTL FC Voting (Stephen)

- Stephen raised the need for Faculty Council voting over the summer for autumn quarter PTL matters. The council agreed to conduct summer votes as needed, preferably in batches, with a short Zoom meeting if discussion is required.

3. Voting Items

- None in open session.

4. Adjournment and Executive Session

- The open session concluded, and the council moved into executive session for summer PTL voting.