



Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Downstate Assembly of Faculty and Professional Staff

March 26, 2025

Via Zoom

Agenda

- Presiding Officer’s welcome remarks
- Committee Reports
- Old Business
- New Business.
- Good and Welfare
- Adjourn

Meeting Called to Order: 4:32 pm Via Zoom

Present:

Allen Norin	Daniel Ehlke
Edeline Mitton	Richard Kollmar
Vikram Pagpatan	Veronika Arikian
Lori Hoepner	Mark Stewart
Ramaswamy Viswanathan	Chella Kamarajan
Natalie Ferguson	Nicholas Penington
Nkiruka Nwokoye	Joan Ritter-Teitel
Adiebonye Jumbo	Alithia Alleyne

Committee reports

PO Norin called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

A quorum was confirmed with 12 members initially present; attendance increased as the meeting progressed.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes from the February 2025 meeting were reviewed.
- The motion to approve was made by Member Penington and seconded by Member Nwokoye.
- The minutes were approved and will be posted to the Executive Committee website.

Review and Approval of Slate of Candidates

Presenter: Member Ritter-Teitel

- Member Ritter-Teitel acknowledged and thanked the Nominations Committee: Bridget Desport, John Kubie, Janet Rosenbaum, and Mark Stewart.
- She outlined the nomination process, emphasizing transparency and adherence to bylaws.

- There was a strong response to the call for nominations, which was collected via a Qualtrics survey.
- Candidates were vetted and confirmed, with communications and clarifications provided to ensure the process adhered to the bylaws.
- Candidate Slate:
 - Presiding Officer-Elect: Four nominees, including corrections and additions made during the meeting (e.g., Members Stewart and Jumbo added, duplicates removed).
 - Secretary: One nominee, Member Mitton, is running for re-election.
 - Senators initially discussed three vacancies but later confirmed that there were actually two open positions.
 - Alternate Senators: The Final slate includes three nominees.
- Corrections and Clarifications:
 - All clarified that senators are elected center-wide, not by individual schools.
 - Corrections were made to candidate names, titles, and school affiliations.
 - It was noted that even though nominations may come from different schools, senators represent the entire campus.
 - It has been confirmed that only two Senator positions are vacant.
 - Member Pagpatan was removed from the candidate list as he is currently serving his term.
 - School/college identifiers (e.g., COM, SOHP) were added for clarity, but it was reaffirmed that senators are elected at large, not by school.
 - Dr. Ritter-Teitel confirmed she has access to voting counts and can monitor the process.
- Motion to Approve Slate:
 - After reviewing and correcting the candidate list, a motion to approve the amended slate was passed.

Discussion & Next Steps:

- Member Ritter-Teitel reviewed election logistics:
 - The committee will use VoteNow for the election as it provides a professional ballot and reliable results.
 - The Spring Assembly meeting date has not been determined yet, but floor nominations will be accepted during this meeting.
 - Elections are planned for April or early May, with a report of results due to the President by May 15.
 - Elected officers will begin their terms on July 1, 2025.

Other Business

- The meeting concluded with thanks to the committee and acknowledgment of the collaborative editing process.
- The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm.