



University Faculty Council

Meeting: Tuesday, January 13, 2026 - 4:00-5:30 PM

Location: Stockdale Boardroom | <https://neomed.zoom.us/j/97164904258?pwd=o497jt1rAjGMfe2t2EPPsvEwhcNbps.1>

ZOOM Information: Connection time 3:55 PM

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Or Telephone: +1 312 626 6799 (US Toll); +1 646 876 9923 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 971 6490 4258 | Password: 583611

Members (attendees in bold): Jeffrey Mellott (chair), Petrea Cober (vice-chair), Ahmed Abdelkarim, Timothy Barreiro, Natalie Bonfine, Stacey Gardner-Buckshaw, Yeong-Renn Chen, Lukas Everly, Sheila Fleming, Alex Galazyuk, Kristen Knepp, Yong Lu, Jennifer McKay, Vahagn Ohanyan, Matthew Smith, Erica Stovsky, Alexandra Ukmar, Xinwen Wang

Speakers: President Langell, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., Nicole, Kent-Strollo, Ed.D., MSN, APRN, WHNP-BC

Administrative Support: Andrea Coard, Deborah Loyet

4:00 p.m.- 4:10 p.m.	1	Welcome <i>Jeff Mellott, Ph.D., Chair, University Faculty Council</i>	Dr. Mellott convened the meeting at 4 p.m. He informed the committee members that there would be two leadership reports today and also at the February meeting. There was no Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) meeting in December.
	2	Approve previous UFC minutes 12.02.2025 <i>(Approved minutes located on NEOMED website)</i>	There were no questions or concerns regarding the previous meeting minutes. Dr. Galazyuk moved to approve the minutes; Dr. Smith seconded. The minutes were approved.
	3	Executive Management Team Notes 2026 Executive Management Team Spring 2026 meeting sign ups	Dr. Mellott discussed the EMT sign-ups and noted that the majority of the Spring meeting dates have been filled. He shared that there is still an opening on January 26 and encouraged anyone available to sign up. He also explained the process to new members.
4:10 p.m.- 4:35 p.m.	4	Leadership Report <i>President Langell, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.</i>	The president began by asking the council members for questions and then he would share updates. Questions from UFC: <u>Partnerships and Relationships – Kent State nursing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very small relationship via NEOMED Healthcare.

The Kent State University Board of Trustees has authorized NEOMED Healthcare to run their healthcare enterprise on their campus.
Kent wants their nursing students to go there and rotate.
They will need to sign an affiliation agreement.

NIH Funding

- Will the university making changes to compensation program if faculty lose funding.
President said it is a fluid process and do not know if it will happen and do not want to get ahead of ourselves. It will take some time.

Will there be a faculty centric survey –

- At some time there will be a faculty survey.
Will work with the Provost's Office to determine when is most appropriate.
Surveys are predictable. CUPA HR – is a national company that tracks human resources across higher education and has a set of standardized metrics that can compare across different programs. There is a retention survey online that was completed by CUPA HR for 2025. It is a mixture of data and when compared to NEOMED data it is pretty much identical to national standards. Dr. Mellott stated that faculty have a tendency not to respond to general HR surveys.

Board of Trustees meeting in December

- President Langell shared that various things were signed off
Approved to enter into a lease agreement in Cleveland so that NEOMED and Miami University can have joint space to service nursing program development, including University Hospitals. The building was previously used by Chamberlain University College of Nursing and is across the street from the Cleveland Foundation.
This is included in the affiliation agreement with UH and they are paying the dollars for the space.
Board of Trustees looked at enrollment, employment and there was nothing controversial.
Have a good board of trustees

UH agreement

- Harmonized two agreements together – one was already in place and added another to it.
In process of finalizing and sending for signatures.
First agreement was for five years, additional agreements will be year to year and are regarding where the money is being spent at NEOMED.

Needs to be beneficial to NEOMED and UH.
The dollar piece is a little bit separate.

Following the questions from the faculty President Langell shared:

- Representative of the legislature met with the IUC Presidents. Expects to see all medical schools in Ohio double their enrollment. NEOMED is growing in Ohio.
- Institutions are asking us to partner with them. Partnerships are growing dramatically.
- Christ Hospital is the fifth-rated hospital in Ohio and signed an agreement with NEOMED as our exclusive partner for 20 years. Planning to have 27 medical students starting in July 2026 who will do their clinical rotations in South West Ohio. We are hiring a Vice President for Regional Expansion to manage the partnerships.
- Have been approached by other hospitals asking NEOMED to partner with them. Expansion across the state is happening.
- Certified Mental Health Assistant (CMHA) program – governors' office and legislature very excited – recruiting first set of students for August 2026 start
- CAA is thriving and looking for opportunities to grow that
- NEOMED In a really good position overall. Good financial position.
- SB1 standpoint – have to submit a report by February 1. If not compliant, the distribution of the new state budget for NEOMED in July will be cut by 7.5%
- Representative Young, Chair of the House for Higher Education Committee, is pushing out an Omnibus Bill. He believes that a number of universities have not been fully transparent about their DEI offices and he is therefore implementing a stricter approach. He has a idea that the NIH distribute funding among four primary areas of medical research, such as childhood disease and cancer, and that the State of Ohio create a substantial funding mechanism to support these efforts. He estimated the annual investment would be between \$300 million and \$1 billion. Several universities could lose their R1 status due to insufficient funding for PhD students.
- A member asked about potential expansions to the Village and other buildings. The President said an RFP has been issued. A team has been selected and is currently being oriented. Master planning is underway, including considerations for retail space, another tower and recreation space on campus to create a more comprehensive campus environment.

<p>4:35 p.m.- 4:55 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Introduction and Leadership Report <i>Nicole Kent-Strollo, Ed.D., MSN, APRN, WHNP-BC</i></p>	<p>Dr. Kent-Strollo introduced herself as the Dean of Students and shared a presentation:</p> <p>Faculty Update Dean of Students</p> <p><u>Questions from faculty:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare resources for students Contact police/security for guidance Students should be aware of insurance provider • Clarification: CAPP processes are different and cannot be consistent due to accreditation Process for how letters are distributed is streamlined/consistent Working with colleges for guidance <p>Dr. Kent-Strollo told the faculty to contact her with any questions they may have.</p>
<p>4:55 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Open Forum and Department updates from Council members <i>Group Discussion</i></p>	<p>Dr. Mellott discussed the email he distributed today regarding the University Instructor and Course Evaluation Revision Workgroup. The charter asks for one faculty representative within the membership.</p> <p>Two faculty members shared an interest. Dr. Mellot said he would ask Dr. Sheridan if two faculty members could serve in the workgroup.</p> <p>He asked the faculty members to share the reason for their interest. Dr. Gardner-Buckshaw – interested because her grants have closed and she has availability for weekly meetings. Her area of specialization is program evaluation and policy analysis, a skill set she feels she has not had sufficient opportunity to use at NEOMED. She is excited to explore different approaches, evaluation instruments, and tools that could benefit faculty. Finally, the peer evaluation affects both Tenure Track and Non Tenure Track positions but also has strong impact on student achievement and success in the courses. She noted the importance of getting the process right and expressed a strong interest in using proven tools and techniques.</p> <p>Dr. Barreiro - did not respond at this time.</p> <p>Dr. Mellott said he would reach out to the representative for workgroup updates to report to the council.</p> <p>Dr. Cober provided a brief update on Courseedog.</p>

		<p>The Faculty Information System (FIS) training will start soon, still loading data. Dr. Mellott encouraged faculty to participate.</p> <p>Dr. Faison shared that a lot of information will be forthcoming regarding accessibility. Our information/materials need to be made available to people with disabilities. Federal requirement that we are required to be compliant and must show “Substantial Progress” by April 2026. Meetings are underway to get organized. The first piece we are looking at is our external-facing website. Then things that vendors provide (software). Next will be Canvas (LMS) compliance – using Panorama – integrates with Canvas. Four groups for each line of effort (web, vendor, Canvas, etc.). Will keep UFC updated. Training and tools for faculty. Ongoing monitoring.</p> <p>Dr Cober moved to adjourn; and Dr. Galazyuk seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.</p>
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Upcoming Agenda Items

February 3 – Leadership Reports from Dr. Kat Tromp, COP Dean, and Dr. Julie Aultman, COGS Dean
March 3 – Working Meeting

UPCOMING FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

January Teaching and Learning session – Rethinking Curriculum with Universal Design for Learning

Wednesday, Jan. 21 noon – 1 p.m. Training Room (AC106) in-person only

January New Faculty Onboarding Session 7: University Faculty Council

Wednesday, Jan. 28 2 - 3 p.m. Training Room (AC106) in-person only

IAMSE Winter 2026 Webinar Series: “From Hype to Reality: AI’s Rapid Transformation of Health Sciences Professions Education”

Thursdays Jan. 8 – Feb. 5 noon – 1 p.m. via Zoom webinar

Faculty may [register](#) to receive the information to receive the link and calendar invitations directly from IAMSE. Please follow the directions provided in the email response to your registration. (neomed.edu email address required for registration with IAMSE).

Watch [The Pulse](#) and <https://www.neomed.edu/faculty/> for more information! If you have any questions, please contact facdev@neomed.edu.

These events are incentivized in the Faculty Service Incentive Plan.