



University Faculty Council

Meeting: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 - 4:00-5:00 PM

Location: G-204 | <https://neomed.zoom.us/j/97164904258?pwd=o497jt1rAjGMfe2t2EPPsvEwhcNbbs.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), 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

Administrative Support: Deborah Loyet

4:00 p.m.- 4:05 p.m.	1	Welcome <i>Jeff Mellott, Ph.D., Chair, University Faculty Council</i>	Dr. Mellott opened the meeting at 4:02 p.m.
	2	Approve previous UFC minutes 04.07.2026 (Approved minutes located on NEOMED website)	Dr. Galazyuk moved to approve the minutes; Dr. Gardner-Buckshaw seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.
	3	Executive Management Team Notes 2026 Executive Management Team Spring 2026 meeting sign ups Executive Management Team Fall 2026 meeting sign ups	The Fall sign-ups (beginning July) have been updated to the One-Drive folder. The council members were asked to sign up for at least one meeting per semester.
4:05 p.m.- 4:10 p.m.	4	Ohio Faculty Council <i>Petrea Cober, Pharm.D., Ohio Faculty Council Representative</i>	Dr. Cober reported that the OFC is interested in developing a white paper on shared governance. She noted that governance structures at NEOMED are quite different, and there was discussion of various policies currently being considered across universities. Representatives expressed concern regarding the recently passed House bill. The next OFC meeting will be in August. Dr. Mellott is developing a two page summary outlining how shared governance functions at NEOMED.

4:10 p.m.- 4:15 p.m.	6	Provost Notes and UFC Committee Representation Updates <i>Jeff Mellott, Ph.D., Chair, University Faculty Council</i>	Dr. Mellott shared the following general updates: General topics from Jeff: • Members whose terms are ending in June are asked to inform the group if they do not plan to continue (for COGS). • Dr. Gardner-Buckshaw is being nominated for Vice Chair. Dr. Mellott asked if there are any other issues to be shared or raised with the Provost. Dr. Cober said there is classroom technology that is being updated. Dr. Faison shared last month that testing services policies are being reviewed and revised.
4:15 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.	7	Open Forum and Department updates from Council members <i>Group Discussion</i>	Dr. Mellott informed the council members it was likely there would not be a UFC meeting in July. Dr. Cober moved to adjourn; Dr. Gardner-Buckshaw seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 pm.

Upcoming Agenda Items

June 6 – working meeting

MANDATORY TRAINING:

FERPA Compliance Training 2026-2028 to be completed between May 4, 2026, and June 12, 2026.

UPCOMING FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

May Sessions offered by ITE

May 1, 2026: Accessibility Drop-In Hour (Zoom)

Friday, May 1: 12:00 – 1:00 pm | [May 1 Zoom Link](#)

Drop in online and work alongside an ITE staff member for quick one-on-one assistance with accessibility tools in Microsoft and Panorama to make your PowerPoint or Word documents digitally accessible.

May 11, 2026: Accessibility Drop-In Hour (In-Person)

Monday, May 11: 12:00 – 1:00 pm | ITE Office Suite (L238)

Bring your own PowerPoint or Word document and stop by in-person to work alongside an ITE staff member for quick one-on-one assistance with accessibility tools in Microsoft and Panorama.

May 21, 2026: Global Accessibility Awareness Day

Thursday, May 21: 1-2 hours midday with short sessions offered by different university areas

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