

Name	Position	Present	Absent
Christopher Walter, CHP	Past President	x	
Oleg Karaduta, CHP	President	x	
Madison Howe, CHP	President Elect	x	
Summer Khairi, CHP	Secretary	x	
Clare Brown, CPH	Parliamentarian	x	
Mauricio Moreno, COM	Member at Large		
Laura Gressler, COP	Member at Large	x	
Aaron Woodall, CHP	Member at Large	x	
Melissa Halverson, CHP	CHP Representative	x	
Lesley Jones, CHP	CHP Representative	x	
Lisa Jansen, GS	GS Representative		x
Martha Rojo, GS	GS Representative	x	
Brian Parks, CON	CON Representative	x	
Cesalie Wallace, CON	CON Representative	x	
Lara Rains, COP	COP Representative	x	
Amanda Stolarz, COP	COP Representative		x
Lian Taylor, AA	AA Representative	x	
Jordan Ford, AA	AA Representative		x
Matthew Steliga, COM	COM Representative		x
Cari Bogulski, COM	COM Representative	x	
Tiffany Huitt, COM	COM Representative		x
Rachel Hale, CPH	CPH Representative	x	
Kelsey Owsley, CPH	CPH Representative		
Collin Swafford, COM	Non-Main Representative	x	
Krista Langston, COM	NWA Representative	x	
Mustafa Mithaiwala	Post Doc Representative	x	
Chimezia Nwadinigwe, ASG	Student Government Association	x	

Guests: Wendy Ward, Tina Maddox, Kerry Evans, Layla Simmons, Caraline Annichiarico, Ron Sanders

UAMS Academic Faculty Senate Agenda
July 27, 2026; 4-5 PM
TEAMS/In-Person

I. Welcome and Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Karaduta. Dr. Karaduta discussed his professional and personal history with UAMS.

II. Approval of June 2026, minutes

The minutes were approved.

III. New Business

- A. Welcomed 3 new members:
 - 1. Non-Main Campus Representative (Swafford)
 - 2. NWA Campus Representative (Langston)
 - 3. Post Doc Representative (Mithaiwala)
- B. 2025-2026 AS year in review
 - 1. Raised >\$500 for UAMS food pantries
 - 2. Increased AS representation
 - 3. Participated in UAMS Chancellor Search
 - 4. Research committee's role in planning/executing SRD
 - 5. Advocated for ASPIRE 2033 focus group to include representatives from campus assembly
 - 6. Held/supported faculty outreach events to increase awareness of AS role and responsibilities
 - 7. Sponsored 2 faculty excellence seminar series
 - 8. Development, distributions, and analysis of faculty survey
 - 9. Consistent advocate for Academic Freedom and Evidence-Based Practice

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Faculty Affairs (Need Chair)
 - 1. Need a new chair for the committee.
 - 2. Need new committee members.
- B. Research
 - 1. The Research Committee under the Academic Senate will be discontinued. Instead, the Senate will designate a representative to serve on the larger Research Committee. The representative will report relevant updates and information back to the Academic Senate.
 - 2. Need a representative. Please let Summer or Oleg know if you are interested.
- C. Communications (Howe+Execs)
 - 1. The executive council will help with all communication regarding the Academic Senate.
 - 2. Applied for AS Instagram account.
- D. Administrative Council (Hayar)

1. Need a representative. Please let Summer or Oleg know if you are interested.
- E. Intercollegiate Faculty (Khairi)
 1. AI policy has made it to the Council of Deans for approval.
 2. AI conference is October 8th and 9th.
 3. Two new faculty receptions will occur in the fall. One in LR (September 24th) and one in NWA (September 15th)
 4. WFDC- Next Dinner is on December 1st.
- F. Academic Policy (Gressler)
 1. No Updates.
- G. Space (Annichiarico)
 1. Caraline Annichiarico will continue to attend the Space Committee as a friend of the Senate.

V.College Reports

- A. Graduate School (Rojo, Jansen)
 1. No updates
- B. College of Health Professions (Jones, Halverson)
 1. No updates
- C. College of Medicine (Steliga, Bogulski, Huitt)
 1. No updates
- D. College of Nursing (Wallace, Parks)
 1. Rearranging positions in the college, such as the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Associate Dean of Student Engagement
- E. College of Pharmacy (Rains, Stolarz)
 1. No updates
- F. College of Public Health (Owsley, Hale)
 1. 4 candidates for the Dean.
- G. Academic Affairs (Ford, Taylor)
 1. Open Position- Associate Director of the UAMS Library.
 2. ESSC Open House Fall 2026- Building Up Your Success
 - (1) September 25, 2026
 3. Educator Academy on August 26, 2026 at noon
 - (1) Register: <https://educationaldevelopment.uams.edu/educators-academy/event-offerings-and-registration>
 4. OED – Byte-sized Teaching 2026
 - (1) Register: <https://educationaldevelopment.uams.edu/byte-sized-teaching>
 5. Quality Matters – Next cohort begins in September
 - (1) Register: <https://educationaldevelopment.uams.edu/qualitymatters/about-qm>
- H. Non-Main Campus Representative (Swafford)
 1. No updates
- I. NWA Campus Representative (Langston)
 1. No updates
- J. Post Doc Representative (Mithaiwala)

1. National Post Doc Week is September 24th and 25th
2. Looking for speakers. Mustafa will send Oleg an email.
- K. Associated Student Government (Nwadinigwe)
 1. Trying to update the UAMS app.

VI. Announcements/Open Forum

- A. UAMS Faculty Speakers Bureau
 1. Let Academic Senate executive team know if you are interested in joining the speaker's bureau.
- B. AI conference (October 8-9)
 1. Abstracts due July 3
- C. Building a strong faculty community (Sept 30 at 12pm)
- D. Re-Op Committee
- E. Academic Senate is sponsoring Faculty Excellence series: August 12th, Dr. Scales
- F. Visibility
 1. Change times from 4pm to 12pm
 2. Oleg will send email to vote on time.
 - (1) Vote to move sent 8/10/2026. Move approved by a vote of 20-6.
 - (2) 12pm time effective for the August meeting.
- G. Next Meeting
 1. August 24, 2026

VII. Adjournment