
[AFS Announce] AFS in Focus: January Newsletter

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January 2026

AFS in Focus

Welcome to our first Administrative Faculty Senate (AFS) newsletter of 2026. Here's a quick look at what the Senate has been working on, and what's ahead for the semester.

Thank you for staying engaged and informed!



Did You Know?

AFS plays a vital role in the university's continuity—from budgeting and scheduling to enrollment, staffing, and compliance.

AFS regularly advocates for:

- Representation on leadership searches
- Clear, useful policy development
- Process improvements and transparency

Your feedback strengthens this work.

Senate in Action *Key Updates*



Making Headway

CIO Search: AFS supported the search; Tom Armstrong began as CIO on Jan. 9.

Provost Update: Dr. Julia Irwin shared progress on new Business Specialist roles.

Enrollment: VP for Enrollment Management Julie Edstrom reported strong fall numbers; 10,000+ students overall and a 9% rise in graduate enrollment, boosted by accelerated pathways.



What's Coming Up

Provost Search: Semifinalist interviews are scheduled for February, with finalist interviews planned for March.

University Space Committee: AFS is represented; the first meeting in January will establish the committee charter and priorities.

Bring Your Child to Campus Day – April 24: Programming is underway. Events will be age-specific; RSVP required. More details soon!



In Motion

Chancellor Chat: Discussed shared services across campuses, retention, and equity with Dr. John Maduko.

Course Scheduling: Continued discussions on Community Hour and labspace concerns.

Student Holiday Proposal: AFS offered feedback and support for expanded on-campus holiday programming.

AI Policy: AFS continues advocating for clear administrative AI guidelines.

[For full context and discussion, please see the Senate meeting minutes on Confluence](#)



We Want Your Input!

Help shape future events, professional development, and engagement opportunities by completing the Administrative Faculty Senate's Empowerment & Engagement Subcommittee survey.

Your feedback will help guide how we build connection and collaboration across campus.

[!\[\]\(cbe80b694ebd74fcfe136a095b608235_img.jpg\) Share your interests](#)

Standing Committee Highlights



- **Empowerment & Engagement Committee:** Bring Your Child to Campus planning + engagement survey.
- **Membership Committee:** Reviewing draft resolution on expanding Senate membership.
- **Policy Advisory Committee:** AI guidance and device policy updates pending new CIO.
- **Sabbatical Committee:** Revised process approved and endorsed by Interim President Bulmer; presentation from Dr. Bo Zamfir in January. One upcoming sabbatical has been approved.
- **Training & Development Committee:** Finalizing training needs survey.

AFS Spotlight



Community Shout-Out

Know someone making an impact or reaching a milestone? Shine a light on those advancing projects, volunteering their time, or celebrating wins—big or small.

[Nominate for the Next Issue](#)



Resource Spotlight

Interim Provost Dr. Irwin announced that reassigned time information is now publicly available on Confluence, part of broader efforts to improve transparency. More data tools are in development to support administrative decision making.



January: AFS General Meeting (Jan 26) – includes sabbatical presentation by Dr. Zamfir

February: Provost semifinalist interviews (Feb 10–12)

[👉 Click here to view all upcoming meetings](#)

Stay Connected

Visit our website for full meeting summaries, archives of past newsletters, and updates on ongoing initiatives.

Have feedback or ideas for future issues of *AFS in Focus*? We'd love to hear from you. Interested in shaping future events, professional development opportunities, and engagement activities? Share your input through the AFS interest survey.

[🌐 AFS Website](#)

[📄 Feedback Form](#)

[📊 AFS Interest Survey](#)

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