



Faculty Council Meeting
Monday, April 7, 2025, 1:00-3:00 PM
Chancellor's Conference Room
Third Floor, Quinn Administration Building
<https://www.umb.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-council/>

Agenda

Supporting documents may be found in the April folder: [1\) 2024-2025 Meeting Documents](#)

To access these documents, you must be signed into your UMB account

I. Motion to approve the agenda

II. Motion to approve the March 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes

III. Motions from the Graduate Studies Committee (**See Appendix A below**)

IV. Motion from the Executive Committee (to introduce discussion with Vice Chancellor Information Technology & CIO Raymond Lefebvre – see questions from faculty and background documents in Motions & Supporting Documents folder):

That the University revise the IT Acceptable Use Policy, along with any related supporting documents and trainings, to enhance and clarify protections against random or unnecessary monitoring, confiscation, or interference with personal devices; to enhance and clarify recourse in case of interference with personal devices; to clarify what activities count as university business on university owned devices; and to enhance and clarify recourse in case of interventions on university owned devices. Revisions should be in place by May 31, 2025.

V. Discussion of previously circulated reports from union representatives:

- Classified Staff University Representative - Alexa MacPherson, CSU President
- Professional Staff Union Representative - Michael Mahan
- Faculty Staff Union Representative - Caroline Coscia, FSU President
- Representatives from the Graduate Employee Organization – Jonathan Vega Martinez

VI. Discussion of previously circulated reports from administrators:

- Chancellor - Marcelo Suárez-Orozco
- Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs – Joseph Berger
- Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance – Kathleen Kirleis

VII. Discussion of previously circulated reports from student government:

- Representatives from the Graduate Student Government
- Representatives from the Undergraduate Student Government – Julia Olszewski, Vice President

VIII. New Business

VIX. Motion to Adjourn

Appendix A

GSC Motions for April 7, 2025 FC Meeting
All materials available for review on Curriculog

Motion #1

From: CSM

Request for a new course, BIOL 662 Ecological Genomics

Description: Ecological genomics is the use of genetic sequencing data to understand organisms and their responses to their environments. This course provides a foundation of theory and methods in ecological genomics with a focus on four scales of genomic diversity: functional genomics, population genomics, comparative genomics, and metagenomics. The course starts with a brief introduction to sequencing technologies and tools, after which students evaluate recent relevant primary literature and conduct hands-on bioinformatics analyses with real data. Students also develop an original research proposal.

Rationale: Increasingly, ecological and evolutionary research is using data and tools from genomics to address fundamental questions in biology as well as applications in fields such as conservation, agriculture, and climate change. Students in the Environmental Biology PhD program frequently incorporate these approaches in their work, but the department does not yet offer a course on the topic at the graduate or undergraduate level. This new course will serve as an introduction to this field and a bridge between ecological/evolutionary and genomic theory and applications. It also incorporates a substantial hands-on application portion personalized to each student's research goals. It was well received as a Special Topics course.