DRAFT

Fitchburg State University

Minutes

Board of Trustee Student Experience Committee Meeting

Student Experience Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday October 14, 2026 at 9:00 AM

Location
This is a virtual meeting and it will also be live streamed.

Public Live Stream:
https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/live

Committee Members Present
J. Byrne (remote), L. Barrieau (remote), Y. Morales (remote)

Committee Members Absent
D. Tiernan, M. Fiorentino, Jr.

Ex Officio Members Present
D. Hodge (remote)

Guests Present
David Weiss (remote), Franca Barricelli (remote), Jannette McMenamy (remote), K. Lundgren (remote), Matt Bruun (remote), Matt Burke (remote), Matt Lechter (remote), Michael Cloutier (remote), Pam McCafferty (remote), S. Rodriguez (remote), Stacey Luster (remote), Stefan Dodd (remote), Tim St. John (remote), Travis Chambers (remote)

I. Opening Items

A.

Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

L. Barrieau called a meeting of the Student Experience Committee of Fitchburg State University to order on Wednesday Oct 14, 2026 at 9:02 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

J. Byrne made a motion to approve the minutes from Student Experience Committee on 03-24-26.
Y. Morales seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Fiorentino, Jr.	Absent
L. Barrieau	Aye
Y. Morales	Aye
J. Byrne	Aye
D. Tiernan	Absent

II. Student Experience

A. Athletics Report

- Events & Tournaments: Brief update on the success of the recent golf tournament.
- Men’s Lacrosse: Tommy Moorshead is actively building the roster and recruiting. Currently, 5 new players have joined, and 16 applications for next fall have been received (projected target of 30–35).
- Women's Ice Hockey (WIC): Rebecca Brown is leading recruitment effort; team will operate as a club this year with scheduled ice time. Currently 36 applications received for Fall 2027.
- Academic Progress: Ineligible athletes dropped significantly from 19 to 2 this year (down from ~25 two years ago). Eleven varsity teams showed increased GPAs, with 20 student-athletes achieving a 4.0 GPA. Special acknowledgment to Laura Pierce and coaching staff.
- Priority Registration: For Spring 2027, spring athletes will receive priority registration for the first time.
- Team Highlights: Men's Basketball completed a successful trip to Germany, finishing 3–0.
- Individual Recognition: Track athlete Liam Bourassa earned All-American honors all four years, finishing 2nd nationally in javelin and 10th in hammer throw. He is completing his degree and embarking on a professional javelin career.

B. Student Affairs Report

- Campus Activities: Expressed appreciation to Trustees for attending Rock the Block (110 tables hosted) and athletic events. High engagement recorded with 119 campus events held since the start of the academic year.
- Cultural & Heritage Programming: Concluded Hispanic Heritage Month and LGBTQ+ History Month programming (~30 events). Upcoming programs scheduled for Veterans Day week.
- Military-Connected Students: Currently supporting 267 military-connected students (a 27% increase from 210 last year). This includes 95 active duty or National Guard members. Veteran Lounge usage remains high.
- Basic Needs & PantrySoft: Transitioned operations to Care and Case Management. Launched grant-funded PantrySoft system allowing students to view inventory and prepare online ordering.
- CARE Team & Student Support Services: CARE Team referrals increased by 16% due to greater campus awareness and self-referrals. Counseling Services session counts increased by 10%. Disability Services is supporting 765 students (+22%), including providing diagnostic testing.

C. Residence Life Report

- Occupancy Metrics: A presentation was delivered reviewing MSCBA and local occupancy metrics, noting that local numbers reflect actual occupancy vs. original design capacity.
- Occupancy Data: 71 more resident students living on campus this fall (1020) compared to last fall (949); a budgetary difference of $539,501.09
- Capital & Renovation Projects: Allocated $2M towards residence hall improvements (Townhouse and Herlihy flooring, Townhouse 3 & 7 boiler upgrades). Over $700K dedicated to MSCBA renovations.
- Future Initiatives: Plans underway for Cedar Street Honors Housing.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L. Barrieau