



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, 20 January 2026

[VIEW THE MEETING](#)

Leadership present: Chair Edward Dauterich; Secretaries Therese E. Tillett, Joanna Liedel, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Amy Nuesch, Christa N. Ord, Kristi M. Kamis

Administrators present: Associate Provost Scott C. Sheridan; Deans Peggy Shadduck, Deborah F. Spake

Faculty present: Professors Luke Armour, Jen Cunningham, Robert D. Jewell, Karen L. Mascolo, Hyunjoo (Gerrey) Noh, Helen Piontkivska, J K. Vick; Associate Professors Brian R. Barber, Bethany G. Lanese, Abe G. Osbourne, Sue Wamsley; Assistant Professors Abdelhakim Al Turk, Tianyuan Guan, Jason Lorenzon, Janet M. Reed; Senior Lecturers Kingsly T. Berlin, Shelley K. Marshall; Lecturer Olivia B. Krise

Faculty not present: Professors JD Ponder, Steve N. Rugare; Associate professor Vanessa J. Earp

Students present: Jordan Lytle, Iyanuoluwa Ogunmiluyi

Guests: Mandy Anderson, Christina Bloebaum, Kelly Cichy, Frank Congin, Alicia Crowe, Chris Dorsten, Kelly Dragomir, Susan Emens, Marcello Fantoni, Amir Jabbari, Versie Johnson-Mallard, Benjamin Kwasa, Miriam Matteson, Paulo Mussi Augusto, Liz Piatt, Mary Scott-Toepfer, Kathy Spicer, Jennifer Walton-Fisette, Deirdre Warren, Sharon Wohl, Kathy Zarges, Cathy Zingrone

Chair Dauterich called the meeting to order at 3:20p.m., on Tuesday, 20 January 2026, via Microsoft Teams.

I. Approval of Minutes

A. Meeting on 15 December 2025

Associate Professor Barber made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Wamsley seconded the motion.

With no questions, comments or corrections, the item passed unanimously.

II. Academic Unit Proposals Review

A. Action Items

College of Aeronautics and Engineering

1. Digital Engineering Design Center—Establish center

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Assistant Professor Kwasa presented a proposal to establish a university-wide Center for Digital Engineering and Design, expanding the existing college-level initiative. He explained that the center aligns with the college's emphasis on globally recognized leadership and the integration of aeronautics and engineering, and builds on steady enrollment growth in engineering, engineering technology and aeronautics programs despite national enrollment declines. He noted that faculty teaching and research across the college align with four core areas: smart, sustainable, safe and secure and accessible systems and that the proposed center would provide a holistic framework to integrate these efforts. He emphasized the importance of Northeast Ohio's manufacturing base, which ranks third nationally, as a strong foundation for workforce development, applied research and industry partnerships. Assistant Professor Kwasa described the Digital Engineering and Design Center's origin through a partnership with the National Center for Defense Machining and Manufacturing (NCDMM), supporting Department of Defense priorities in digital engineering, additive manufacturing and model-based systems engineering. He defined digital engineering as lifecycle system development conducted digitally from concept through production, reducing waste and shortening time to implementation. He reported that NCDMM has invested approximately \$1.4 million in the first two years of the initiative, including grant funding and infrastructure support, and that the center is positioned to receive up to \$3 million in anticipated federal funding, with minimal additional university investment required. He highlighted partnerships with America Makes, Siemens, Rockwell Automation and regional industry partners, which provide advanced software, equipment and training opportunities. He concluded by noting positive student outcomes, including internships, job offers and graduate assistantships, and stated that elevating the center to a university-wide initiative would expand access for students and faculty, strengthen research capacity and enhance industry partnerships across Northeast Ohio and the state.

Assistant Professor Lorenzon made a motion to approve, and Senior Lecturer Marshall seconded.

Dean Bloebaum clarified that the proposed Digital Engineering and Design Center would be a college-wide center, not a university-wide center. She noted that, while administratively housed in the college, the intent is for faculty to collaborate across the university.

With no further questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

College of Arts and Sciences**2. College of Arts and Sciences—Revise name to College of Sciences and Humanities (fall 2026)**[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Dean Warren explained that the proposed name change is a result of recent university-wide restructuring and program changes. She reported that the college completed extensive consultation, including a college-wide survey of students, faculty and staff, as well as members of the two schools joining the college. Additional consultation occurred through departments, the college advisory structure and outreach to other colleges. She noted that College of Sciences and Humanities emerged as the most popular option and is the name being proposed.

Professor Cunningham made a motion approve, and Associate Professor Barber seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

College of Education, Health and Human Services**3. School of Foundations, Leadership and Administration—Inactivate school (fall 2026)****4. School of Health Sciences—Inactivate school (fall 2026)**[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Interim Associate Dean Walton-Fisette explained that the EHHS was assigned responsibility for completing all required program relocations by fall 2026. This required all programs, minors and certificates at every level to be moved out of the two affected schools and reassigned either within the college or to other colleges. She noted that many of these moves have already occurred, with additional proposals forthcoming in the coming weeks. She concluded that, once all relocations are completed, there will be no remaining programs, minors or certificates in the two schools, necessitating the inactivation of both schools.

Senior Lecturer Marshall made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Barber seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

Graduate College and University College**5. Graduate College and University College—Merge Graduate College and University College to become University College (fall 2026)**[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Provost Sheridan noted that feedback has been received regarding possible names for the new unit and that alternative naming options remain open for discussion but emphasized that the presentation focused on the merger itself rather than naming. He reminded the council that conceptual approval for merging the two colleges was completed in the previous year as part of broader non-degree-granting college restructuring, alongside related changes involving the Honors College. He explained that the foundational blueprint for the merger emphasizes advising, curriculum and student success as the primary functional areas. Associate Provost

Sheridan stated that the missions of University College and the Graduate College are closely aligned, with both focused on supporting student exploration, engagement and success within degree-granting programs, creating strong synergy between the units. He described the current Graduate College structure as limited due to attrition, noting that its core functions include a Graduate Student Success Manager, advisory bodies and interim leadership. He explained that under the proposed structure, all Graduate College functions would be retained and integrated within the new University College. Advisory bodies would continue in function, reporting to an Associate Dean of University College, who would assume many curricular responsibilities currently held by the interim Graduate College dean. He also noted that the Graduate Student Success role and a Professional Development Specialist position currently being refilled would be incorporated into the new structure. He concluded by emphasizing that Graduate College responsibilities are fully mapped into the proposed model and that integration planning is already underway in collaboration with University College leadership.

Interim Dean Piatt described the mission of University College as centered on student success and graduation and explained that the proposed merger extends this focus across the entire student lifecycle, bringing undergraduate and graduate student success efforts together within one unit. She explained that the Student Success Manager position would be housed in the Student Success Programs department and aligned with existing graduate student support functions. She noted that initiatives such as graduate orientation and teaching support align with current undergraduate success efforts including Flashes 101 and the Peer Success Academy. She added that University College programs such as TRIO Student Support Services, centralized university advising, the Academic Success Center, tutoring services, Career Exploration and Development and KSU Navigate would remain in place while expanding support for graduate students. Interim Dean Piatt stated that all Graduate College responsibilities would be maintained under the new structure, including advising and support through existing councils and programming. The Professional Development Specialist would continue to support graduate teaching in partnership with the Center for Teaching and Learning, and the Associate Dean would assume graduate curriculum responsibilities along with oversight of University College curriculum. She outlined the proposed structure for a new College Advisory Committee consisting of seven members with both graduate and undergraduate faculty representation and the Associate Dean serving ex officio. She noted that separate undergraduate and graduate curriculum committees would continue to address curriculum matters. She also explained that Graduate College courses created in 2024 would be transferred to University College as part of the merger. She concluded by reviewing the timeline, noting that an Associate Dean has been hired, consultations with advisory councils have occurred, approval is anticipated at the March board meeting, and the new University College would be officially established on July 1.

Professor Cunningham made a motion to approve, and Senior Lecturer Marshall seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed with one abstention.

Honors College**6. Honors College—Merge Honors College and Office of Global education to become College of Honors and Global Education (*fall 2026*)**[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Vice President Mussi Augusto presented the proposal to merge the Honors College and the Office of Global Education (OGE) as part of the T28 transformation. He explained that the merger follows the same timeline as other T28 changes, with approval from EPC, the Senate in February and the Board in March, and an effective date of July 1, 2026. He stated the goal is to create a distinctive academic entity, the College of Honors and Global Education, which hosts both units while providing new opportunities for students and faculty to enhance global experiences. He emphasized administrative efficiencies through combining overlapping functions in recruitment, admissions and advising and strengthening both domestic and international student support. The merged unit will focus on student success and expand learning opportunities for the entire Kent State community, not just honors or international students. Initiatives include a global hub, global citizenship programming, pathways of distinction and a global competence requirement for honors students. He noted that the proposed name was developed through consultations, focus groups and approval by the College Advisory Committee and College Executive Council and will be officially presented as College of Honors and Global Education.

Associate Professor Wamsley made a motion to approve, and Dean Shadduck seconded.

Secretary Tillett asked for confirmation that the items on the last slide were aspirations.

Associate Vice President Mussi Augusto said, "yes."

With no other questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

III. Policy Proposals Review

A. Action Items

Office of the Provost**1. American Civic Literacy Requirement—Establish policy for the new undergraduate university requirement (*fall 2026*)**[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Secretary Tillett reported that, in accordance with Senate Bill 1, Kent State University now has an American civic literacy requirement currently fulfilled through two approved courses. She explained that a policy has been developed to outline the stipulations and conditions for meeting this requirement. The policy largely reflects the language of Senate Bill 1, now codified in the Ohio Revised Code and has been adapted to the Kent State format with FAQs, resources, definitions and historical context.

Senior Lecturer Marshall made a motion to approve, and Professor Cunningham seconded.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

IV. Program Proposals Review

A. Action Items

College of Applied and Technical Studies

1. Imaging Assistant – Undergraduate Certificate—Establish program (*fall 2026*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Senior Lecturer Dragomir presented a proposal for an Imaging Assistant A2 semester certificate with a planned start in fall 2026 and expected cohort completion in May 2027. She noted that the medical imaging field is experiencing a prolonged staffing shortage across areas such as radiologic technology, MRI, CT, sonography and mammography, which is being compounded by technological advances, expansion of outpatient facilities and an aging population.

She explained that imaging assistants are currently informally trained personnel who support technologists in specific areas. The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) is launching a formal imaging assistant credential in fall 2026, initially focused on MRI, which establishes a structured scope of practice for non-imaging tasks and is expected to expand to other modalities. This credential addresses emerging trends such as remote MRI and CT scanning where support staff are needed on-site to prepare patients. She emphasized that employment outlook and wages for imaging assistants are expected to grow as the role becomes formalized. The proposed certificate would expand Kent State's program offerings, strengthen recruitment for associate and bachelor degree programs in radiologic technology and enhance partnerships with clinical sites. Senior Lecturer Dragomir outlined four pathways the certificate offers students: an alternative for those not accepted into competitive imaging programs, fulfillment of bachelor degree elective requirements, online learning options for professional career development without full-time commitment and foundational knowledge to strengthen applications for imaging programs. The certificate will be 17 credit hours over two semesters, delivered 100% online with options for instructor interaction. Clinical experience will be completed through employers. Existing and new courses will be supported by adjunct faculty, with oversight by the current CT and MRI program director and advising support from the dedicated radiologic technology academic advisor. No new full-time faculty or accreditation is required, and no additional costs are anticipated.

Senior Lecturer Marshall made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Wamsley seconded the motion.

Senior Lecturer Marshall inquired whether all coursework in the certificate would apply toward the associate degree and, if so, whether students would enter the second-year cohort or be required to complete bridge coursework.

Senior Lecturer Dragomir clarified that the certificate coursework will fulfill requirements for bachelor degree options such as sonography or radiation therapy. She noted that only a limited number of courses will transfer into the associate degree because the certificate is currently specific to the MRI imaging assistant focus.

Professor Mascolo asked for clarification on the specific role and responsibilities of individuals completing the imaging assistant certificate, particularly regarding direct patient care tasks such as IV insertion and medication or contrast administration. She expressed concern about how and

where hands-on clinical skills would be taught and supervised, noting differences from clinical training models used in nursing education.

Senior Lecturer Dragomir explained that imaging assistants would serve in a support role to imaging technologists and in some cases work with remote scanning models where technologists are off site. She stated that students would receive foundational patient care instruction through coursework and complete required competencies through an internship model aligned with employer-based clinical experiences. She noted that this approach mirrors existing CT and MRI internship courses that have been in place for several years. Senior Lecturer Dragomir further explained that many facilities already train staff on the job for these tasks with little or no formal education and that the certificate is intended to formalize and strengthen training in response to emerging workforce needs. She noted that clinical expectations vary by facility and must align with individual institutional policies and protocols. Senior Lecturer Dragomir added that the ARRT is in the process of developing the imaging assistant role and that healthcare systems including Mayo Clinic and regional hospitals are moving toward more formalized imaging assistant positions but are limited by the lack of structured educational pathways.

Secretary Tillett asked if the program will be expecting to and can accommodate students from other states or regions of Ohio.

Senior Lecturer Dragomir explained that the year one clinical experience would be structured as a clinical internship to avoid the need for affiliation agreements, including out of state agreements. She noted that this approach aligns with existing online CT and MRI programs that successfully serve out-of-state students.

Secretary Tillett confirmed that affiliation agreements or memoranda of understanding would not be required for practicum sites under this model. She then asked how the proposed certificate differs from the existing MRI certificate.

Senior Lecturer Dragomir clarified that the proposed certificate prepares students for a non-imaging support role and excludes patient scanning. She explained that the current MRI certificate trains students to perform MRI scanning and leads to a different professional role and ARRT credential.

Associate Professor Wamsley asked for clarification on staffing and financial considerations, specifically how adjunct faculty would support delivery of the proposed courses given current budget constraints.

Senior Lecturer Dragomir explained that the program already employs three experienced adjunct faculty in the CT and MRI programs who are below their maximum load and familiar with program structure, Canvas and course delivery. She noted that existing adjuncts could adapt relevant content from current courses such as patient care management and MRI safety to support the proposed certificate. She acknowledged that there would be some cost associated with additional instructional load but stated that anticipated enrollment is expected

to offset those costs. She also noted that recruiting new faculty in the field is challenging due to high industry salaries.

Associate Professor Wamsley asked whether the adjunct faculty had the appropriate training to teach the proposed courses.

Senior Lecturer Dragomir clarified that the adjuncts currently teach upper-level CT and MRI courses and are qualified to collaborate and adapt content for lower-level courses in the certificate. She emphasized that the faculty are individually qualified, citing credentials and professional experience in radiologic technology, CT, MRI and venipuncture.

Associate Professor Wamsley asked how many instructors and instructional hours would be needed.

Senior Lecturer Dragomir responded that the proposal includes approximately ten new instructional hours, covering four courses and one credit hour review course to prepare students for the ARRT certification exam.

Professor Piontkivska asked if the clinical facilities need to be certified where students are training.

Senior Lecturer Dragomir explained that certification would not be required for individuals in this role. She noted that if a facility has a second person in the MRI department, it is typically accredited by the American College of Radiology, meaning most facilities are likely ACR accredited.

With no further questions, the item passed with 13 yeas, two nays and four abstentions.

2. Insurance Studies – A.B.A.S.—Revise degree, from Bachelor of Applied Studies to Accelerated Bachelor of Applied Studies; revise course requirements, roadmap (fall 2026)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Dean Shadduck stated that the College of Applied and Technical Studies follows a rigorous process for approving faculty qualifications based on academic credentials and professional experience in accordance with university policies. She noted that qualification processes in technical fields may differ and offered to provide further explanation if needed. She then discussed a proposed update to the Bachelor of Applied Studies in Insurance Studies. The program remains under review by the Ohio Department of Higher Education and new state guidance now requires reduced credit hour bachelor's degrees to include the term accelerated in the degree title. As a result, the program is being renamed the Accelerated Bachelor of Applied Studies to comply with state requirements. She added that minor curriculum adjustments were made due to the hiring of a new lead faculty member and to better align coursework with additional state certifications. She emphasized that the primary change is the addition of the word accelerated to the degree name.

Senior Lecturer Marshall made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Barber seconded.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

College of Communication and Information**School of Media and Journalism*****Move programs to the Department of Marketing and Entrepreneurship, Ambassador******Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship*****3. Advertising – B.S.—Revise department/college, course requirements, progression requirements, roadmap (fall 2026)****4. Advertising – Minor—Revise department/college, course requirements (fall 2026)**[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Director Metzgar explained that as part of the T28 process, advertising faculty reviewed program goals and learning outcomes and held discussions with faculty in the Department of Marketing and Entrepreneurship (Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship).

Advertising faculty concluded that relocating the BS in Advertising major and minor to Marketing and Entrepreneurship would better align with their academic focus. This transition has been approved through all appropriate channels, including the School of Media and Journalism, CCI, Marketing and Entrepreneurship and ACCBE. The current request represents Phase One of the transition, which includes six course updates. These updates involve changing the course prefix from MDJ to ADV, updating the department from Media and Journalism to Marketing and Entrepreneurship, and changing the college from CCI to ACCBE. Two course titles will also be revised for better alignment with ACCBE. For the advertising minor, corresponding updates to the department and college designation will also be made. Director Metzgar noted that Phase Two will involve joint discussions between advertising faculty and Marketing and Entrepreneurship faculty to review and revise program requirements. Finally, some courses shared with the Public Relations major and minor will remain in the Media and Journalism department for now, per an existing agreement. The long-term placement of these shared courses will be addressed during phase two discussions.

Associate Professor Osbourne made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Wamsley seconded.

With no questions or comments, the items were approved unanimously.

College of Educational, Health and Human Services**School of Foundations, Leadership and Administration****5. Internationalization of Higher Education – Graduate Certificate—Inactivate program; admission was suspended spring 2025 (fall 2026)**[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Interim Associate Dean Walton-Fisette stated that this inactivation is due to faculty retirement and low enrollment.

Dean Shadduck made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Barber seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

Move programs to the School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences

- 6. Qualitative Research – Graduate Certificate—Revise department (fall 2026)**
- 7. Research, Measurement and Statistics – M.Ed.—Revise department, outcomes, course requirements (fall 2026)**
- 8. Research, Measurement and Statistics – Ph.D.—Revise department, outcomes, course requirements (fall 2026)**

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Interim Associate Dean stated that the proposals are to move the programs to another school and update and clean-up program information.

Senior Lecturer Marshall made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Barber seconded.

With no questions or comments, the items passed unanimously.

Move programs to the College of Public Health

- 9. Long-Term Care Administration – B.S.—Inactivate at Stark Campus; revise college, outcomes, course requirements, roadmap (fall 2026)**
- 10. Nursing Home Administration – Graduate Certificate—Revise name to Nursing Home Administration/Health Services Executive; deactivate at Stark Campus; revise delivery to fully and mostly online (in addition to in person); revise college, outcomes, description, course requirements, course requirements, progression requirements, graduation requirements (fall 2026)**

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Interim Associate Dean Walton-Fisette described the proposed changes as T28-adjacent, noting that while they are not part of the formal T28 curriculum process, they are similar in nature. Due to ongoing organizational shifts, the Long-Term Care Administration program determined that its best long-term fit is within the College of Public Health and Health Sciences. As a result, the degree program and certificate on the Kent Campus will be moved to that college. The program has been deactivated at the Stark Campus. In addition, the program completed cleanup activities, including updates to learning outcomes and related program materials.

Associate Professor Barber made a motion to approve, and Senior Lecturer Marshall seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the items passed unanimously.

School of Foundations, Leadership and Administration***Move programs to the School of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Studies***

- 11. Career and Academic Advising – Graduate Certificate—Suspend admission temporarily (spring 2026); revise department, outcomes (fall 2026)**
- 12. Community College Leadership – Graduate Certificate—Revise department (fall 2026)**
- 13. Disability Studies and Community Inclusion – Minor—Revise department, course requirements (fall 2026)**

14. Educational Leadership K-12 – M.Ed.—Reopen admissions; revise delivery from in person to online only; revise department, accreditation, outcomes, description, admission requirements (fall 2026)

15. Ohio Superintendent’s Licensure – Graduate Certificate—Reopen admissions; revise department, accreditation, outcomes, application deadlines, course requirements, graduation requirements (fall 2026)

16. Online and Blended Learning – Graduate Certificate—Suspend admission temporarily; revise department, outcomes (fall 2026)

17. Principal Grades 4-9 Licensure Preparation – Non-Degree—Reopen admissions; revise delivery from in person to online only; revise department, accreditation, outcomes, application deadlines, graduation requirements (fall 2026)

18. Principal Grades 5-12 Licensure Preparation – Non-Degree—Reopen admissions; revise delivery from in person to online only; revise department, accreditation, outcomes, description, application deadlines, graduation requirements (fall 2026)

19. Principal Grades PK-6 Licensure Preparation – Non-Degree—Reopen admissions; revise delivery from in person to online only; revise department, accreditation, outcomes, description, application deadlines, graduation requirements (fall 2026)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Interim Associate Dean Walton-Fisette explained that the proposals involve moving programs from a school that was recently approved for inactivation to another school within the same college. Most items in the proposal involve programs with previously suspended admissions; items 11, 12 and 13 involve the temporary suspension of admissions. Items 14 through 19 involve reopening admissions for programs that had been suspended. These programs have completed the required ODHE process, and reopening admissions requires transferring them to a different school within the college.

Professor Cunningham made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Osbourne seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the items passed unanimously.

With no further questions or comments, Chair Dauterich concluded the meeting at 5:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christa N. Ord

Christa N. Ord
Operations and Special Projects Coordinator, Curriculum Services
Office of the Provost