

**CARTA Faculty Assembly Meeting  
March 26, 2026**

Attendance List (there is a quorum with minimum 20% of voting members, as indicated in the Bylaws Article I Section D.5)

<b>Dean's Office</b>	<b>Music</b>
Brian Schriener (Dean, Non-voting) John Stuart (Associate Dean, Non-voting)	Mesut Özgen (Assembly Co-Chair) David Dolata Marcia Littley Robert Dundas Sandra Adorno Colin Williams Orlando Garcia Michael Eckroth Jamie Ousley
<b>Architecture</b>	
Alfredo Andia Katarzyna Balug	
<b>Art &amp; Art History</b>	<b>Theater</b>
Jonathan Perez Alexandra Giannell Marisa Lerer Lidu Yi Fereshteh Toosi	Anthony Galaska Chris Goslin Lesley-Ann Timlick Michael Yawney
<b>Communication</b>	<b>Guest (Non-voting)</b>
Aileen Izquierdo (Chair, Non-voting) Elizabeth Marsh Betty Eugene-King Heather Bermudez Mihaela Plugarasu Nathan Kurland Travis Cloyd	Martha Meyer, UFF-FIU Vice President Deborah Sherman, Faculty Senate IPCD Committee Chair
<b>Interior Architecture</b>	
<b>Journalism and Media</b>	
Neil Reisner Jessica Kizorek Gabriel Ramirez	
<b>Landscape Architecture</b>	
Ebru Ozer (Chair, Non-voting) Roberto Rovira	

## Minutes

Meeting commenced at 3:33 PM

- Approval of minutes from the last meeting on November 6, 2025.
- Approval of Agenda
  
- **Dean's Report, Brian Schriener**
  - Brian announced several achievements and updates during the meeting. He congratulated seven colleagues who received \$10,000 university-wide summer research stipends and highlighted the successful accreditation reports for the Interior Architecture and Landscape Architecture programs. All eight academic units in the college completed program reviews ahead of schedule, receiving positive feedback from Academic Affairs.
  - Brian also shared that the college met or surpassed all student key performance indicators, though there is room for improvement in graduate school enrollment and employment rates. He announced recent QS rankings improvements, with the School of Architecture moving to #17 and Arts and Humanities entering the top 30 for the first time.
  - The conversation ended with a discussion about AI initiatives across the college, with John Stuart mentioning upcoming CARTA Virtual AI Discussion Series, including a presentation by Garamis Campusano and a session with Albert Cheng from Meta on April 24th.
  
- **Interprofessional Cross-Disciplinary Committee Overview at FIU**
  - The founding chair of the Faculty Senate Interprofessional Cross-Disciplinary Committee Dr. Deborah Sherman from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences presented on the Interprofessional Cross-Disciplinary Committee's work promoting collaboration across campus, including upcoming events and research initiatives.
  - She explained its evolution from an ad hoc committee to a standing Faculty Senate committee with 30 members and outlined the committee's three main areas: engagement (workshops and events), education (micro-credential program with 24 current enrollments), and research (studies on interprofessional collaboration and health outcomes).
  - The committee is planning a follow-up luncheon on April 22nd and is considering moving from a single annual workshop format to multiple smaller events throughout the year to increase faculty participation.
  - Dr. Sherman invited CARTA faculty to join any of the committee's subcommittees and expressed appreciation for Dean Schriener's support of their initiatives.
  
- **UFF-FIU Report, Vice President Martha Meyer**
  - Updates on membership, bargaining, and upcoming events.
  - Martha addressed the importance of maintaining union membership, highlighting that the current density of 60.85% is precariously close to the required 60% threshold needed to retain union benefits, due to new state legislation. She explained that if membership falls below 60%, faculty would lose various bargained benefits including academic freedom, access to documents, tenure and promotion guidelines, and salary raises.
  - UFF-FIU encourages faculty to familiarize themselves with the contract, engage in union activities, and exercise their rights to union representation in meetings with supervisors.

- **Faculty Senate Report, Neil Reisner**
  - In addition to the routine senate work, including approval of courses, new majors, certificates, assessments, and dropping courses, Neil provided an update on academic freedom issues, explaining how recent legislation and Board of Governors actions led to the removal of Introduction to Sociology from the core curriculum statewide, raising concerns about broader impacts on academic freedom.
  
- **CARTA Faculty Awards**
  - The assembly chair Mesut Özgen introduced the winners of the CARTA Faculty Awards as selected by the Committee. Two awards in the teaching category and one award in research category. The winners are:
    - Teaching: Alfredo Andia, Architecture
    - Teaching: Roberto Rovira, Landscape Architecture
    - Research: Sandra Adorno, Music
  
- **Elections**
  - The returning and new nominees for the vacant positions of CARTA Senators and University Committee Representatives were elected for the next terms beginning with 2026.
  
- New Business - No new business
- Meeting adjourned at 4:38 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mesut Ozgen  
Co-Chair, CARTA Assembly

*P.S. Pending approval in the Fall 2026 Assembly meeting.*