

**LIX No. 6**  
**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**October 9, 2024**

The Faculty Senate of Southeast Missouri State University met on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, in the Redhawks Room of the University Center. The following Senators were present: Michael Bezushko, Larry Bohannon, Abram Book, Christopher Bradley, Eric Clements, Jenny Cropp (Chair), Corrie Dudley, Erin Fluegge, Pam Gershuny, Haley Love, Kelly McEnerney, Jenna Moore (Chair-Elect), Joe Murphy, Josh Newth, Tomoaki Nomi, Peter Oman, Anthony Scherer, Kyle Schneider, Robin Smith, Mike Taylor, and David Yaskewich. Interim Provost Doug Koch and SGA representative, Sophie Martin were present. Barbara Lamont and Sophia Scott were not present or represented by alternates. The following alternates were present: Ziping Liu, Kevin Sargent, and Arika Wiggins. The following proxy was present: Samantha Washington.

Chair Cropp called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. and asked for approval of minutes from the September 25th meeting. No corrections were needed, so the minutes were approved as circulated and will be posted on the webpage.

Chair Cropp then introduced Dr. Debbie Below, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Success. Dr. Below discussed the 4-week census data, the enrollment transformation task force, the new strategic plan, and student outcomes. She said that the goal of the university is to have 10,000 students. She noted growth in the following areas: new first-year students up by 7% and new transfer students up by 7%, international students up by 8%, and web majors are up by 5%. Overall, enrollment declined by 2%. Dr. Below also provided an update on the new strategic enrollment plan which was approved by the Board of Governors. The new SEP has five goals and marketing plays a huge role in branding and student recruitment. Print outs were distributed among senators and Chair Cropp also emailed the information before the meeting.

**Chair's Report:**

Chair Cropp gave the senate report to the Board of Governors on October 4. She also attended two of the listening sessions and the orientation with the search firm. Dr. Shields called a budget review meeting for November 7.

**Interim Provost's Report:**

Dr. Koch encouraged senators to talk with chairs and deans about new constructions projects for the coming year because the timeline to submit requests will be starting soon. He also said that plans are underway to move offices out of Brandt Hall and to redesign classrooms (Rhodes 121, Johnson 200).

**SGA Report:** Guest speaker at last meeting encouraged more student attendance at athletic events; fundraising projects for the Gibson Center, homecoming preparations and four funding requests.

**Academic Affairs:** Met and worked on charges; also met with Dr. Odegard and Dr. Koch; also, initiatives to promote response rates for SMART evals.

**Compensation:** Have not met; will have a budget review committee meeting on November 7 with Dr. Shields.

**Documents:** Met and shared documents spreadsheet with broken links; need to identify who will update the spreadsheet; they are also becoming familiar with the Microsoft Teams documents folder.

**Governance:** Met and will continue to move forward with policy and procedure for standing and ad-hoc committees.

**Professional Affairs:** Did not meet; waiting to receive feedback from departments on faculty designations.

**Membership:** One of the SGA liaison positions has been filled; there are still 2 SGA meetings—a sign up sheet was passed out—Chair Cropp signed up for one. A new call will soon be sent out for SGA liaisons for Spring 2025.

**Johnson Faculty Centre:** No report

**Announcements:**

**Moore:** Faculty Social Hour, Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 5 to 7 pm at Ebb & Flow Oklahoma! November 14, 15, and 16 and 17 at 7:30 at the Rust Flexible Theatre and on November 16 at 2pm; also, She Kills Monsters October 10, 11, and 12 at 7:30 pm at the Rust Flexible Theatre

**Smith:** Encouraged senators to compete in the chili cook off at Homecoming and participate in the judge's tasting panel

**Murphy:** Night sky observation on October 23 at the observatory—begins at 7 pm and again on October 26 in Wehking Parking Lot at 9 am

**Book:** Weis Lecture, October 22, 6 to 7 pm at Dempster 247 (food and beverages at 5 pm in the atrium). Lecturer is Dr. Natasha Rascon.

**Adjournment:** Chair Cropp called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Taylor made the motion; seconded by Senator Moore. The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

**The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 23, from 3-5 pm in the Ballroom B of the University Center.**