

LIX No. 7
Faculty Senate Minutes
October 23, 2024

The Faculty Senate of Southeast Missouri State University met on Wednesday, October 25, 2024, in Ballroom B of the University Center. The following Senators were present: Michael Aide, Michael Bezushko, Larry Bohannon, Abram Book, Eric Clements, Jenny Cropp (Chair), Corrie Dudley, Erin Fluegge, Barbara Lamont, 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 Misty Tilmon. Interim Provost Doug Koch was present. SGA Liaison Sophie Martin was not present or represented by an alternate. The following alternates were present: Arika Wiggins, Alisha Ortiz, Belinda McMurry, and Chen Wu. The following proxies were present: Junaid Shuja (Computer Science).

Chair Cropp called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and asked for approval of minutes from the October 9th meeting. No corrections were needed, so the minutes were approved as circulated and will be posted on the webpage.

Chair Cropp introduced Dr. Missy Nieveen-Phegley, University Assessment Coordinator, who spoke about assessment. (Dr. Melissa Odegard, Interim Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, was also in attendance.) Dr. Nieveen-Phegley emphasized that assessment is required by the HLC, and departments should continue collecting data by assessing Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) in Canvas. Data from the spring and summer semesters is now available, and department chairs (and some program coordinators) can access this data through PowerBI. Departments are encouraged to discuss the data and ensure these discussions are documented, as this is also required. A template for meeting minutes, specifically for when assessment is discussed, is available on the mySEMO assessment page under University Assessment Resources. Additionally, a "Canvas Outcomes Do's and Don'ts" file is available on the same page, offering guidelines for completing outcome assessments. Program reports are due by April 1, 2024, and will be reviewed by the assessment committee using a rubric. Programs wishing to modify their PLOs can find the PLO change form on the University Assessment Resources page in mySEMO. An assurance report was submitted to the HLC, and they are scheduled for an on-campus visit in 2029–2030. Dr. Nieveen-Phegley also stressed the importance of each department and program emphasizing the completion of assessments.

New Business:

Resolution 25-X – SGA Liaison was introduced by Senator Murphy, who explained that it is essentially the same as previous versions from earlier semesters, with the addition of allowing adjunct faculty to be eligible for this role. Discussion of the resolution included concerns that this change might lead to adjunct faculty being required to perform unpaid service. Additionally, there was a suggestion that more senators might be interested in filling this position if the SGA meetings were not scheduled so late. Senators are encouraged to distribute this resolution to their departments for feedback and review.

Chair's Report:

Chair Cropp mentioned that she and Senator Fleugge attended a session by Archer Education, and Chelsea McNeely (Director of Early College Programs and Online and Graduate Services) will be a guest of the Faculty Senate on November 6th to discuss Archer Education. She also

reminded senators that HR open enrollment has begun and must be completed by October 30th; please reinforce this deadline within your departments.

Additionally, we are awaiting details on the new rewards program as UMR sunsets the current one. The new program, Healthy Reward\$, will still offer the same \$60 per month but will have different requirements and submission procedures. Unlike the current program, the rewards will not be credited to an HSA account but will be paid directly and therefore taxed. However, this can be offset by scheduling a corresponding HSA contribution for the expected reward amounts. Chair Cropp also mentioned that we should be on the lookout for focus group requests from the HLC accreditation committee. She will be attending the Dean's Council meeting tomorrow. Lastly, she shared that she has entered the homecoming chili cookoff as the Faculty Senate's representative.

Interim Provost's Report:

Interim Provost Koch reported that he will be presenting the request to fill Patsy Seabaugh's vacant position as the administrative assistant of the Faculty Senate to the University Administration tomorrow and expects it will be approved. He also noted that Archer assessment meetings have been completed, and they will soon begin discovery meetings for six verticals: business, education, healthcare, social sciences, technology, and other.

SGA Report: The SGA liaison to the Faculty Senate was not in attendance to deliver a report.

Academic Affairs: Senator Love reports that they will have a meeting next week to discuss the curricular process of other institutions, she will be meeting with Mary Harriet Talbut and Floyd Lockhart to discuss options for SmartEvals and that a reminder for SmartEvals will be added to Canvas to remind students to complete them.

Compensation: Senator Fluegge reports that compensation will meet next week, they plan to look at the sick leave policy. CTS shared a longevity salary proposal with her that was passed by CTS. University Budget Review will meet on November 7th and the format is currently the full group. This includes all the members of the compensation committee and all the members of the executive committee, all of whom should make every effort to attend.

Documents: Senator Bohannon reports that they met via email last week and discussed the current charges.

Governance: Senator Newth reports that they met and produced a draft proposal for a process for selecting nominees for University Standing Committees, they have forwarded this draft to the membership committee for review.

Professional Affairs: Senator McEnerney reports that they did not meet but did receive three responses to the question regarding faculty RNTT designation, they are still accepting more responses but will meet next week to discuss. Senator McEnerney also provided a copy of those responses to the senators.

Membership: Senator Murphy reports that he has received the draft from the Governance Committee and will be forwarding it to the members of the membership committee for review.

Johnson Faculty Centre: Chair-elect Moore reports that she toured the JFC suites and that the JFC committee will be meeting to discuss increasing the rates from \$30/night to \$50/night. She also encourages departments to use the JFC as it is a very economical option.

Announcements:

Moore: Faculty Senate Happy Hour will be on Friday November 15th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Ebb and Flow

Moore: Lanford Wilson Short Plays will run Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Rust Flexible Theatre

Taylor: (parliamentarian) Suggest that introducing a new resolution is new business and would require a motion in the future.

Aide: This is the time last year that a Senate photo was taken, Chair Cropp will look into arranging for a photographer.

Murphy: ACS chapter program this evening at 6:00 p.m. in Johnson 200

Murphy: Night sky observation on October 23 at the observatory starting between 6:30 and 7 pm

Murphy: Solar observation on October 26 at the Wehking Hall during the homecoming parade starting around 9:00 a.m.

Ortiz: tasked with asking a question:

“Our department has been asked to accept changes to our curriculum that we didn’t initiate and don’t believe are best for our students or our program. Does Faculty Senate know if this is allowable under university policies and/or where can our department faculty look for additional information about this situation?”

Chair Cropp suggested that this be tasked to Academic Affairs and the senators should be prepared to discuss this during the AA report at the next meeting. She suggests that the senators read the curriculum process in the Faculty Handbook starting on p. 87 before the next meeting

Adjournment: Chair Cropp called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Aide made the motion; seconded by Senator Moore. The Faculty Senate adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 6th, from 3-5 pm in the Redhawks Room of the University Center.