

LX No. 9
Faculty Senate Minutes
November 19, 2025

The Faculty Senate of Southeast Missouri State University met on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, in the Redhawks Room of the University Center. The following Senators were present: Michael Bezushko, Larry Bohannon, Abram Book, Christopher Bradley, Jenny Cropp, Corrie Dudley, Erin Fluegge, Pam Gershuny, Arusha Ijaz, Barbara Lamont, Hayley Love, Kelly McEnerney, Jenna Moore (Chair), Joe Murphy (Chair-Elect), Josh Newth, Tomoaki Nomi, Anthony Scherer, Kyle Schneider, Mike Taylor, Misty Tilmon, David Yaskewich. Interim Provost Doug Koch and SGA Liaison Layne Collier were also present. The following alternates were present: Joseph Snyder, Hannah Kilburn, and Shannon Clapsaddle. The following proxies were present: Juefei Yuan and Henry Clark.

Call to Order

Chair Jenna Lee Moore called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from November 5, 2025, were approved without corrections.

Guest Introduction

Chrissy Rutledge, Registrar:

- Background: Previously served as the Registrar at University of South Carolina
- One month at SEMO.
- Upcoming updates:
 - **Banner Self-Service System** upgrade in December/January.
 - **Degree Works** upgrade scheduled for late February (visual changes, same functionality).
- Discussion included overrides for closed classes and potential system improvements.

Old Business

Bill 26-A-8: Textbook Rental Policy (Second Reading) Motion to approve; Senator Schneider, seconded; Senator Murphy

- Clarified as an optional pilot program for 600-level courses.
- Students retain the option to purchase textbooks.

This bill passed with a unanimous vote.

New Business

- **Resolution 26-4: Fall Graduation Resolution** Motion to approve; Senator Taylor, seconded; Senator Schneider
 - Approval of graduating students for Fall 2025.

This bill passed with a unanimous vote.

- **Bill 26-A-9: RNTT Titles and Role Definitions (First Reading)** Motion to introduce; Senator Murphy, seconded Senator Love
 - Proposed titles: Clinical Educator, Librarian, Lecturer, Artist-in-Residence, Writer-in-Residence, Teaching Artist.
 - Discussion:
 - Suggested wording change: “within certain disciplines” for clarity.
 - HR and administrative feasibility confirmed.
 - Peer institution comparison shows SEMO is an outlier with one uniform title.
 - Departments to review; second reading scheduled for next meeting.
- **Discussion: Merit and Tenure & Promotion Departmental Criteria Process**
 - Professional Affairs Committee raised concerns about clarity in Faculty Handbook:

- Current ambiguity on RNTT input when criteria are merged with tenure-track guidelines.
- Proposed clearer language ensuring RNTT involvement in merit criteria development.
- Consideration of merged vs. separate documents and voting rights.
- Feedback collected for future revisions.

Reports

- **Chair (Jenna Lee Moore):**
 - Strategic Planning Committee formed; kickoff meeting scheduled for Nov. 20.
 - Facilities Management project list updated; major deferred maintenance issues discussed.
 - Examples: Kent Library sprinkler system (\$2.6M), University Center plumbing (\$200K).
 - Angela Meyer to present at future Senate meeting.
 - Budget Review Committee prioritizing projects for \$250K–\$2M funding scenarios.
 - Grading Scale Ad Hoc Committee fully staffed; meetings to begin January.
 - Next Senate meeting (Dec. 3) may be canceled—confirmation forthcoming.
- **Administrative Liaison (Interim Provost Doug Koch):**
 - Strategic Planning timeline: completion by midsummer; broad campus input expected.
- **SGA (Layne Collier):**
 - Recent approvals:
 - Funding for Model UN trip to Chicago.
 - Thanksgiving event for International Student Association.
 - New senator for HCBC; new student org (National Association for Music Education).

- Funding for *Journey* literary publication.
- Bylaw updates for election process underway.
- One STEM senator position open.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - **Academic Affairs (Kyle Schnieder):** No meeting
 - **Compensation (Erin Fluegge):** No meeting.
 - **Documents (Michael Bezushko):** No meeting.
 - **Governance (Joshua Newth):** No report.
 - **Professional Affairs (Corrie Dudley):** Active discussion on criteria development.
 - **Membership (Hayley Love):** Reviewed faculty distribution; current Senate representation deemed appropriate.
 - **Faculty Center (Joe Murphy):** Curtain installation project progressing.

Announcements

- Theatre: *Twelfth Night* performances Nov. 20–23.
- Choir Concert: Nov. 25.
- Observatory Night Sky Viewing: Dec. 4.
- Food Drive: 1,405 items collected; Communication Disorders won departmental challenge.

Motion to enter Closed Session; Senator Murphy, seconded; Senator Schneider

- Emeritus Bill 26-A-10 passed with a majority vote

Motion to exit Closed Session; Senator Murphy, seconded; Senator Love

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn; Senator Murphy, seconded Senator Love

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15PM

Next Meeting

Tentative: December 3, 2025 at UC Redhawks Room.