

Faculty Senate Minutes

LXI No. 1

April 22, 2026

Attendance

The Faculty Senate of Southeast Missouri State University met on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, in the UC Redhawks Room. The following Senators were present: Frederick Adjei, Larry Bohannon, Corrie Dudley, Erin Fluegge, Jennifer Gadberry, Pam Gershuny, Amy Herren, Michael Holm, Arusha Ijaz, Barbara Lamont, Hayley Love (Chair-Elect), Joe Murphy (Chair), Josh Newth, Tomoaki Nomi, Peter Oman, Anthony Scherer, Kyle Schneider, Matt Sissom, Mike Taylor, and Juefei Yuan. Interim Provost Doug Koch was present. The following alternate was present: Marikit Fain, and Chris Haug. The following department was not represented by a senator or alternate: Leadership, Middle, and Secondary Education.

Call to Order

The organizational meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 4:01 p.m. The Chair noted that, per Faculty Senate bylaws, only organizational business could be conducted.

Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to approve.

Guests

No guests were present.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Introductions of Senators

The Chair invited all senators and alternates to introduce themselves, including their department, length of Senate service, prior leadership roles, and committee experience.

Election of Chair-Elect

The Chair opened the floor for nominations for **Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate**.

- **Nomination:** Senator Hayley Love was nominated by Senator Schneider, the nomination was accepted.
- No additional nominations were offered.

Voting members participated in a **secret ballot** election.

Outcome:

Senator Hayley Love was elected **Chair-Elect** by unanimous vote.

The Chair congratulated Senator Love and welcomed her to the Senate leadership for the 61st session.

Election of Members to the Membership Committee

The Chair explained that the Membership Committee consists of **one representative from each college/unit** and that the election would be conducted electronically using a QR-code ballot.

Senators submitted votes electronically. After ballots were collected, results were announced by college:

Membership Committee Election Results

- **College of Education, Health, and Human Studies:** Kyle Schneider
- **Harrison College of Business and Computing:** Frederick Adjei
- **Holland College of Arts and Media:** Joshua Newth
- **College of Humanities and Social Sciences:** Abe Book
- **Kent Library:** Michael Bezushko
- **College of STEM:** Arusha Ijaz

During the initial tabulation, a tie occurred in the STEM ballot. After procedural clarification and discussion, the tie was resolved following the withdrawal of a candidate.

Newly elected members of the Membership Committee were asked to briefly meet separately to select a chair.

Result:

Senator Schneider was selected as **Chair of the Membership Committee**.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

The Chair noted that a permanent parliamentarian for the 61st session had not yet been identified.

To ensure procedural continuity:

- Senator Schneider was asked to serve as **Parliamentarian** for the current meeting and for **one additional meeting** (Meeting 61.02).

Senator Schneider agreed to serve in this temporary capacity.

Reports

No reports during the organizational meeting.

No committee or administrative reports were presented, consistent with the limitations of an organizational meeting.

Announcements

- Theatre and Dance announced its spring production of *The Laramie Project*, opening April 23 and running through Saturday. Faculty were encouraged to attend and support student performers.
- Senator Murphy shared information about the most recent astronomy observatory event and noted that schedules for future observation sessions would be posted for the upcoming semester.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Senator Newth and seconded by Senator Schneider

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29p.m.

Next Meeting

April 29, 2026

3:00–5:00 p.m.

UC Redhawks Room

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