

LIV No. 10
Faculty Senate Minutes
February 12, 2020

The Faculty Senate of Southeast Missouri State University met on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 in the Kem Statuary Hall in the Alumni Center. The following Senators were present: Larry Bohannon, Tamara Buck, Henry Clark, Eric Clements, Beverly Evans, Patricia Farrish, Susan Fulton, Ruben Gerding, Dena Hale, Joni Hand, Laura Hatcher, Carl Hess, Kim Louie, Belinda McMurry, Christina Ragain, Desma Reno, Kristen Sobba, David Yaskewich, Nicolas Wilkins, and Diane Wood. Provost Godard; and Robert Phillippe and Reagan Tibbs, Student Government Liaisons, were also present. Mike Aide, Shannon Clapsaddle, Lisa Essmyer, Missy Nieveen-Phegley, and Nick Kenney were present as alternate. Ziping Liu was not present and didn't have an alternate present.

Mary Harriet Talbut, Senior Instructional Designer for the Center of Scholarship Teaching and Learning, was present as a guest.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from November 13, 2010 (54.8) and January 29, 2020 (54.9) were approved.

Guest

Mary Harriet Talbut joined the Senate to discuss Learning Management System (LMS). She stated that the university is bringing in three alternative Learning Management Systems for faculty and students to learn about, try, and give feedback on each of them. She stated that faculty and student can visit https://semo.edu/it/AcaTech/lms_review_home.html to watch demos on the three LMS, see what process has been followed so far, and to give feedback on each of the systems. The university will be taking the feedback into consideration when choosing one of the new systems or staying with Moodle.

Old Business

Senator Evans discussed the *Student Evaluations Policy* and *Procedures* bills. She stated that there is still some discussion to be had with the deans and that three factors are still being discussed: when the evaluations are valid and should be seen; if the deans should always be able to see the evaluations; and if the evaluations are required for dossiers for promotion and tenure. With this in consideration, she moved to table the bills; Senator Hatcher seconded. A vote was taken, and the bills were tabled.

Reports

Chair Wilkins reported that the Academic Council changed the course approval review time frame from 30 days to 10 business days and asked that the change be implemented into the *Faculty Handbook*. There was discussion on how the process for this change should have been done. Senator Wood moved to suspend the rules and approve this change; Senator Buck seconded. After a vote, with one abstention, the change passed.

Provost Godard reported that he continues to make his way to each department to discuss academic prioritization. He stated that he went to meeting last week and one of our colleagues

from Western Kentucky University gave a presentation on “Shared Governance Approach to Adjusting the Academic Portfolio of a Regional Comprehensive Institution”; and upon asking them to send him the presentation, they offered to come and discuss this with us. He stated that he sent the presentation out to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, deans, and Chair Moderator.

Senator Ragain reported that the AAUP is have a Valentine’s Day event on Friday, February 14 at 2:30 p.m. in Kent Library 311. They will be discussing “What is Academic Freedom?”.

Robert and Raegan reported that the Student Government met the previous Monday. They approved three new Senators and worked on a resolution to remove a by-law.

Legislative Committee Reports

Academic Affairs – Senator Evans reported that the committee met with Sonia Rucker, Assistant to the President for Equality & Diversity, to discuss voluntary/involuntary leave for students who are at risk for mental issues or high crisis situations.

Compensation – Senator Reno reported that the first Budget Review meeting is Friday, February 14. She stated that at this meeting they will discuss overview and process and will bring forward more information as it comes.

Documents – Senator Bohannon reported that there was a concern brought up about the letters faculty are to include in their dossiers. Discussion about this took place.

Governance – Senator Hess reported that the committee has been working to draft policy and procedures bills for the *University Standing Committees and Councils* section of the *Faculty Handbook*.

Professional Affairs – Senator Hatcher reported that the committee met, they have been working with Academic Affairs on the student evaluations bills, and that they are still gathering feedback from some investigations they have going on.

Membership – Senator Hand reported that the committee is working to fill positions for Senators whose terms are ending this session.

Adjournment

Senator Wood moved to adjourn; Senator Hatcher seconded. The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be Wednesday, February 26, 2020 in the UC Redhawks Room from 3-5 p.m.