

LIX No. 4
Faculty Senate Minutes
September 11, 2024

The Faculty Senate of Southeast Missouri State University met on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, in the Redhawks Room of the University Center. The following Senators were present: Michael Aide, Larry Bohannon, Abram Book, Christopher Bradley, Eric Clements, Jenny Cropp (Chair), Corrie Dudley, Erin Fluegge, Pam Gershuny, 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, Misty Tilmon, and David Yaskewich. Interim Provost Doug Koch and SGA representative, Sophie Martin were present. The following alternates were present: Marikit Fain, Ziping Liu, and Belinda McMurry.

Chair Cropp called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. The senate wished Senator Bohannon “Happy Birthday” and Chair Cropp asked for approval of minutes from the August 28th meeting. Senator Smith had been left off in attendance and there were some typos. Pending corrections, the minutes were approved and will be posted on the webpage. Chair Cropp then introduced Dr. Richard Flotron, Director of Public Safety & Transportation. Dr. Flotron discussed his background and some new safety measures for the campus. Some senators asked about the emergency alert system and what qualifies as an emergency.

Up next, Chair Cropp asked for a motion to approve the legislative committees and the JFC committee. Senator Fluegge made the motion; seconded by Senator Bohannon. A vote was called, and the motion was unanimously approved. The legislative and JFC committees were approved. There are three at-large vacant positions which may remain vacant.

Chair’s Report:

Chair Cropp told the senate that Dr. Vargas has said that the budget review committee will continue to meet and be scheduled and led by Dr. Shields until the new VP of Finance is hired. Chair Cropp also announced that on all Windows-based University-owned computers, IT will be removing local administrative rights. This functionality will be replaced with a software package to manage those rights: ‘Admin-by-Request’, this will allow IT staff to remotely approve admin requests on a case-by-case basis for software installation that is not already on a whitelist (whitelisted software will automatically be approved). If faculty are using software that is not on the whitelist and they think that it should be, they should contact IT. Chair Cropp reported that Dr. Below, VP of Enrollment Management and Student Success will be a guest at the October 9 meeting and share the 4-week census data. She also announced the university had decided not to go with an OPM; instead, will collaborate with Archer Education, a vendor, to assist in marketing online programs. The idea is to teach faculty and staff to do their own marketing, thereby alleviating the need for the vendor. Chair Cropp told the senate that the Motion program for employees is not being renewed. There will be a new rewards program, but the details are being discussed with UMR. In the new program, an HSA will not be needed. More information will be available during Open Enrollment next month.

Interim Provost’s Report:

Dr. Koch provided an update on the searches for Dean of Kent Library (Zoom interviews are underway and candidates may come to campus in a few weeks) and the VP of Finance (interviews will begin this week and candidates may come to campus in a few weeks). He and

Chair Cropp also discussed SCRUM—a project management technique. The training is facilitated through Workplace Development. Dr. Koch gave an update on the HLC. The assurance report was submitted and is currently in the fact-checking stage. He did say that the university had received a positive draft report review of all criteria with no follow-up reports needed. The HLC did suggest that more documentation should be provided in the timeline of various reviews of programs before the next HLC evaluation. Dr. Koch also informed the senate the Title III grant has been renewed and the grant will begin its fourth year. The amount of the grant for this year is \$418,000 and comes from the Department of Education. The grant's intended use is to sustain, retain, and attract underrepresented minorities. Positions in advising for at risk students, peer advisors, and several student peer tutors, plus the data warehouse are funded from the grant. Southeast is eligible for one more year of the grant, but it must be renewed.

SGA Report: Sophie Martin is the new student SGA representative and introduced herself. She said that twelve new members and a new DEI chair had been sworn in. SGA executives went on a retreat. The SGA is working on getting student organizations approved. There are already funding requests. Also, there are several open seats.

Academic Affairs: Did not meet due to the absence of two members; will meet next week.

Compensation: The chair and vice-chair discussed the charges with one another.

Documents: Met and introduced themselves and discussed their charges.

Governance: Met online last week and discussed procedures for nominating faculty for standing committees and councils.

Professional Affairs: Emailed the committee regarding a faculty designation for the RNTT position and will meet next week to discuss ideas.

Membership: Most legislative committees are filled—one of the three SGA liaison positions has been filled. The commencement committee information will be forwarded to the registrar and names were forwarded to Dr. Vargas for the Faculty Senate Nominations for University Athletics Committee.

Johnson Faculty Centre: No report

Announcements:

Schneider: Build a Better You--a 10-week fitness and nutrition program. Email Dr. Kearney at mlkearney@semo.edu to sign up or for more information.

Cropp: Election Events: Constitution Day—Wednesday, September 18, at noon Glenn Auditorium, speaker, Dr. Jennifer Victor. Chair Cropp will email a flyer with other election events. Also, Marketing is inviting everyone to attend the next two brand presentations—tomorrow at 9:30 am in the Redhawks Room and on Friday at 9 am in the Redhawks Room.

McMurry: "Build My Future" will be held on October 8, 2024, at the Show Me Center—a construction career day.

Murphy: Observe the moon night September 17 at moon rise on the Dempster patio.

Adjournment: Chair Cropp called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Love made the motion; seconded by Senator Moore. The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 25, from 3-5 pm in the Program Lounge of the University Center.