

LVII No. 2
Faculty Senate Minutes
May 4, 2022

The Faculty Senate of Southeast Missouri State University met on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, in the Redhawks Room of the University Center. The following Senators were present: Mike Aide, Eric Billington, Larry Bohannon, Marcus Bond, Vera Campbell-Jones, Shannon Clapsaddle, Eric Clements, Jenny Cropp, Erin Fluegge, Susan Fulton, Stephanie Hallam, Laura Hatcher, Monica Kearney, Andy Liu, Kim Louie (Chair), Hayley Love, Jenna Moore, Josh Newth, Pam Parry, Tim Schmidt, Sophia Scott, Songyon Shin, Mike Taylor, Haohao Wang, David Yaskewich, and James Youn. Provost Mike Godard was also present. There was no SGA representative. The following alternates were present: Belinda McMurry.

Chair Louie called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting of Session 56 on April 27. A motion was made by Senator Clapsaddle and seconded by Senator Bohannon. The minutes were approved. Chair Louie then asked for a motion to approve minutes from the first meeting of session 57 on April 27. A motion was made by Senator Taylor and seconded by Senator Moore. The minutes were approved, and all will be posted on the webpage.

After the minutes were approved, Chair Louie asked for a motion to approve the chairs of the legislative committees. Senator Schmidt made the motion to approve the chairs, including vice-chairs, and co-chairs; seconded by Chair -Elect Fluegge. The chairs, co-chairs, and vice-chairs were unanimously approved. Senator Schmidt made a motion to table the remaining committee positions until Fall; seconded by Senator Hatcher. Chair Louie called for a vote and the motion to table the remaining committee positions was unanimously approved.

Senator Aide then discussed the role of the facilities management planning committee. There is a backlog of unfunded projects. Committee membership was reviewed. He said that the committee's goal will be to identify, with limited resources, what can be addressed that benefits the greatest number of people. Senator Schmidt commented that there is a need for transparency regarding what projects are funded and those that are not. The provost added that the committee will be helpful to disperse information—that the intention is not to slow things down. Before moving forward on plans or projects, some things have to be worked out until procedures are in place.

Chair's Report:

Chair Louie said that she did not have a report—has been working on getting committees put together. She also talked about the new Faculty Senate email. Meeting materials and other communications will be shared using that email account.

Provost's Report:

Friendly reminder about final exams which should be given at the scheduled time during final exam week. The provost announced that the College of Humanities and Social Sciences hired a permanent dean—Dr. Eric Bain-Selbo. Bain-Selbo will begin on July 25th. Dr. Odegard will return as chair of Psychology and Counseling on July 1st. The provost will be the contact for the college between July 1 and July 25.

President Vargas updated the Faculty Senate on the status of Mineral Area College's request to offer two-year degrees in Cape Girardeau. Mediation will occur on May 24-26 in St. Louis at a member of the CBHE's office. Dr. Vargas discussed a previous study that found a community college was not feasible in Cape Girardeau. He commented on the community's lack of understanding of how the University operates and all of the misconceptions surrounding A+ programs and the A+ scholarship. Dr. Vargas told the Senate that the impact on Southeast having a community college operate independently will be significant. He said that in order to deal with Mineral Area operating as a community college, Southeast will have to separate from the community college and show what we offer here and why students should attend Southeast. Mineral Area will not have the resources and support structure to offer what students have here. Emphasize the differences in support and identify the areas where Southeast offers things students cannot get from Mineral Area.

Dr. Vargas said he hopes they can work together. He mentioned two scenarios: SEMO continues to offer lower division courses while Mineral Area offers technical courses; or share the revenue and expenses in offering lower division courses. There is also a community misconception that there is difficulty in working with two institutions.

Dr. Vargas answered questions and at the end, informed the Senate that if Southeast and Mineral Area cannot reach an agreement, then the CBHE will make the decision. He said that he will keep everyone informed.

Chair Louie reminded everyone that at the beginning of Fall semester, calls go out to fill roles on standing committees—those requests will happen now. The provost said that committee work gets delayed. The provost added that filling the committees now will allow the work to begin in the Fall and there will be no downtime.

Reminder that final exams will be 1 hour and 45 minutes

Announcements:

Moore: Celebrate the Arts May 5th 5:30 p.m. 518 S Fountain

Schmidt: Spring 2023 new natural science course offering

Schmidt: Remind colleagues that students can purchase software and access codes for courses from the Bookstore; students do not have to purchase from the Bookstore, but it is an option

Senator Hallam provided an update on the Open Educational Resources initiative

Adjournment: Chair Louie called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Senator Schmidt and seconded by the floor. The Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 31 from 3-5 p.m. in Ballroom B of the University Center.