

LV No. 13
Faculty Senate Minutes
March 31, 2021

The Faculty Senate of Southeast Missouri State University met on Wednesday, March 31, 2020 via Zoom. Attendance was not taken.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for February 10, 2021 (55.10) and February 24, 2021 (55.11) were approved.

Old Business

Senator Cropp explained that there were minor edits made to *Resolution 21-X – Faculty Senate Bylaws* that was presented at the previous Senate meeting. Senator McFarland explained the changes made. Senator Louie moved to approve the resolution; Senator Hatcher seconded; and *Resolution 21-1 – Faculty Senate Bylaws* was approved.

Senator McFarland explained the edits made to bill *21-A-X – Preamble* per the suggestions from the last Senate meeting. Senator Louie moved to approve the bill; Senator Hand seconded; and bill *21-A-4 – Preamble* passed.

New Business

Senator Fluegge introduced bill *21-A-X – 5-Year Academic Calendar*. She stated the Academic Affairs Committee updated the calendar to include academic year 2024-2025 and that the start of the year would be August 19th. Senator Fluegge moved to suspend the rules to approve this bill; Senator Hatcher seconded; suspension of rules was approved. Senator Hatcher moved to approve this bill, Senator Cropp seconded; and bill *21-A-5 – 5-Year Academic Calendar* was approved.

Reports

Chair Wood informed the Senate that the student evaluation bills are still in discussion with the President. She stated that it was mentioned that the President is wanting the language of these bills to reflect that the evaluations be reported to tenure and promotion. With that, the President is also wanting Senate to draft changes to the language of the Faculty Tenure and Promotion section of the Faculty Handbook.

Chair Wood reported that the Faculty Senate Executives discussed and present to the Student Government a proposal of removing liaisons. She stated that it is difficult for the Senate to find a liaison to attend Student Government meetings, and the Student Government Liaison attending an entire Senate meeting is a waste. They suggested that having the Student Government Executives meet regularly with the Faculty Senate Executives would be better and the Executives could report to each group what was discussed. The Chair asked the Governance Committee to look through the Faculty Handbook for language that would need to be changed to make this happen.

Provost Godard reported that the administration continues to work on the Academic Prioritization Process. He stated that there are still a few programs being considered, but he is

working hard with the Academic Councils to get everything ready for the Board of Regents meeting in May.

The Provost also reported that the University continues to navigate through ways in which opportunities can be provided for faculty to take advantage of Affordable Open Educational Resources (AOER). He stated that last week there was a discussion with Senator Hallam, Kent Library; Faculty Senate Execs; and Kris Baranovic, Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), to look for opportunities to engage faculty on AOER, and ways in which those can integrate with campus. It is active on campus now. Senator Hallam stated that we currently have 60 faculty members that are using AOER.

Lastly, Provost Godard reported that there was another Steering Committee meeting yesterday regarding the Strategic Action Planning process. He stated that Chair-Elect Hatcher and Senator Hallam are both on that committee along with representatives from each college. The website is live and active with a dedicated email and contains all the documents that are currently being worked on. There are five general themes to consider, so the committee split up into five subcommittees: Strategic Enrollment Management, Student Success, Diversity and Inclusive Excellence, Financial Sustainability, and Academic Strategy Program Management. He reported that at yesterday's meeting they did a general exercise and discussed who we are and where we are going as a University. They then moved into the subgroups to discuss goals, reconvened to report back on those goals, and then went into preliminary discussion about what actions that can be taken to get to those goals. He stated that the subgroups are working on what data they need to gather and will meet again within the next ten days. The Provost stated that he hopes to have something to share within the next 3 weeks.

Legislative Committee Reports

Academic Affairs – No report.

Compensation – Senator Parry reported that the committee has been working with other compensation groups on campus. She stated that they proposed a 1.4% raise increase based on the CPI for 2020 with no objections, but there is no guarantee on this because the budget for the next year still hasn't been set. Senator Yaskewich reported that the Benefits Subcommittee met and they discussed the proposition of the Motion program being cut and the cafeteria plan being cut from \$250 to \$200; and those funds being diverted to the reserve pool for self-insurance. He thanked the Senate for their feedback on the matter and reassured that he too voted against the proposal.

Documents – Senator Hand reported that the committee has been working on edits to the Johnson Faculty Centre section of the Faculty Handbook and will have a resolution to present to the Senate soon.

Governance – No report.

Professional Affairs – Senator Fulton reported that the committee has been working hard to organize, edit, and add language regarding the evaluation of chairs in the Faculty Handbook. She stated that they should have a bill to present soon.

Membership – Senator Louie reported that the Documents Committee is working on a request to remove a non-Senate member from the committee and will be presented at the next Senate meeting. She also stated that she has sent out a call to fill positions on the GRFC and Grievance committees for those members whose terms are ending.

Non-Legislative Reports

Johnson Faculty Center – Chair-Elect Hatcher reported that Facilities Management is working to fix a rotting hole in the ceiling of the porch.

RNTT AdHoc – No report.

Adjournment

Chair-Elect Hatcher moved to adjourn; Senator McMurry seconded. The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:26 p.m.