

MISSOURI SOUTHERN

STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

There have been a few changes to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Two members termed out of Faculty Senate altogether and have left FSEC. As of May 6, FSEC has two new members. The entire group is as follows:

President: Michael Beilfuss, Language and Literature

Past President: Jean Coltharp, Mathematics

President Elect: Nicole Shoaf, Political Science

Secretary: Amber Carr, Library

Parliamentarian: Vacant

At Large: Jill Greer, Sociology and Anthropology

Over the past year FSEC has had a good working relationship and communication with the President's Council; I'm sure this will continue into the next academic year with the new composition of FSEC.

Last year the Academic Policies Committee (APC) underwent several changes to improve the workflow of the committee. The Faculty Senate approved the changes on a trial basis. According to all reports, the year-long trial has resulted in a far more efficient workflow. At Faculty Senate's last meeting in May, there was some discussion about the appropriate protocol and timing to permanently approve the changes to what is still identified as APC in the Faculty Handbook. The Senate withheld approval until we can examine more carefully and discuss the proposed changes to the Handbook. For now, the only approved change is the committee has been renamed the Undergraduate Curriculum and Policies Committee (UCPC); the senate also extended the trial for another year. We plan to take up the discussion of the proposed changes more thoroughly in the fall semester.

After hearing from a number of constituents earlier this year about the current health insurance plan, Faculty Senate sent out a survey to request more formal feedback. Based on the results, we asked the Welfare Committee to look at health insurance coverage and costs. Welfare came back with a report that contained several recommendations – these were passed on to our representative on the Insurance Committee, who was going to bring them to the committee at the next meeting.

My apologies for not being able to attend the Board of Governors meeting on June 13, which would have been my first meeting as Faculty Senate President. I'm afraid my wife is having surgery the week of the meeting and we're not sure when she will be discharged from the hospital, plus she needs me home to help with her recovery. I look forward to attending the Board of Governor meetings beginning in the fall, and continuing the work of shared governance with the President's Council.

Please reach out to me if you have any suggestions, concerns, or comments regarding faculty!

Thank you,
Michael Beilfuss
Faculty Senate President
Assistant Professor, Language and Literature