



Faculty Senate NEWS BRIEF

The purpose of the Faculty Senate **News Brief** is to keep faculty informed about Faculty Senate meetings. Agendas and minutes of meetings can be accessed by clicking on the [Faculty Senate Homepage](#).

FROM THE SENATE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Following Chair Daigle's request during our first meeting on September 8th, most Senate sub-committees met, elected new chairs, and reported on various topics.

Executive Committee (EC): Shared its agenda items for its upcoming meeting with President Newsom on September 27. The EC plans to discuss faculty involvement in the budget process, continue past conversations regarding faculty salary and compensation, codified faculty workload agreements, updates on the Master Plan, and the status of the reports from last year's ad hoc committees and taskforces. The EC is scheduled to meet with President Newsom again on 10/25 and 11/15.

Committee on Committees (CoC): Elected Senator Randy Clark as Chair. The CoC brought forward a motion to approve changes in membership to [Distance Education Council](#) (DEC), ensuring a faculty representative from Academic Affairs as well as a recorder present during DEC meetings. This motion passed unanimously.

The CoC also plans to review the University Committee requirements listed in the APPM for electing chairs and co-chairs. The CoC wants to determine if these requirements are being followed and suggest either a change or way to ensure that the committees follow the guidelines set forth.



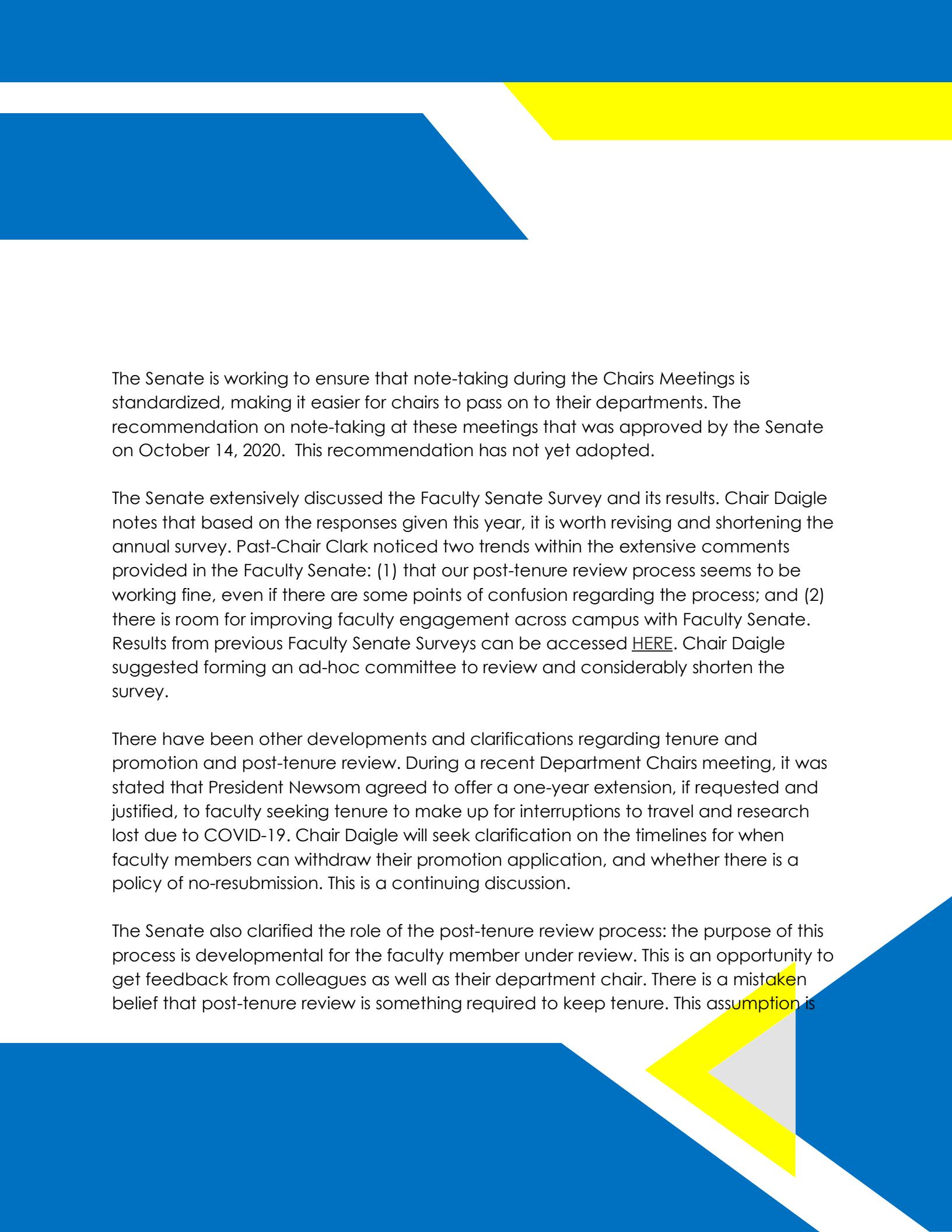
Personnel Policies Committee (PPC): Elected Meg Cotter-Lynch as chair. The PPC brought forward one motion to approve: a recommendation that the Faculty Senate Recorder be granted 1/4 re-assigned time for the Fall and Spring semesters due to the workload necessary to complete this assignment. The motion is consistent with the spirit, history, and policy of Southeastern's demonstrated support for the work of the Faculty Senate and the successful operation of shared governance at our university. The motion passed unanimously, with one vote abstaining.

Regarding the current Telework Policy, Senator Cotter-Lynch has scheduled a PPC meeting on September 29, 2021, and requests that everyone please send any comments or suggestions they have about the telework policy to her by September 27 at the latest. A proposal based on faculty feedback will help craft a proposal to discuss at the following FS meeting.

Planning Committee (PC): Elected Kathy Boothe as chair.

University Affairs Committee (UAC): The committee proposed the creation of a series of Brown Bag Lunches for the purposes of discussing pedagogy. This proposal emerged from conversations revealing how some new hires do not have a lot of experience teaching (as opposed to researching) before they are hired.

The PPC and UAC both discussed the mode of faculty instruction for Spring 2022 in their respective sub-committee meetings. Chair Daigle encourages all faculty members to visit with the department chair regarding the mode of delivery for their Spring 2022 classes. Choice of delivery has remained standard practice since Fall 2020 in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the Faculty Senate supports its continuation.



The Senate is working to ensure that note-taking during the Chairs Meetings is standardized, making it easier for chairs to pass on to their departments. The recommendation on note-taking at these meetings that was approved by the Senate on October 14, 2020. This recommendation has not yet adopted.

The Senate extensively discussed the Faculty Senate Survey and its results. Chair Daigle notes that based on the responses given this year, it is worth revising and shortening the annual survey. Past-Chair Clark noticed two trends within the extensive comments provided in the Faculty Senate: (1) that our post-tenure review process seems to be working fine, even if there are some points of confusion regarding the process; and (2) there is room for improving faculty engagement across campus with Faculty Senate. Results from previous Faculty Senate Surveys can be accessed [HERE](#). Chair Daigle suggested forming an ad-hoc committee to review and considerably shorten the survey.

There have been other developments and clarifications regarding tenure and promotion and post-tenure review. During a recent Department Chairs meeting, it was stated that President Newsom agreed to offer a one-year extension, if requested and justified, to faculty seeking tenure to make up for interruptions to travel and research lost due to COVID-19. Chair Daigle will seek clarification on the timelines for when faculty members can withdraw their promotion application, and whether there is a policy of no-resubmission. This is a continuing discussion.

The Senate also clarified the role of the post-tenure review process: the purpose of this process is developmental for the faculty member under review. This is an opportunity to get feedback from colleagues as well as their department chair. There is a mistaken belief that post-tenure review is something required to keep tenure. This assumption is

incorrect. As such, faculty undergoing this process should remember that the review does not require a portfolio, only a short packet containing a vita and their last 3 years of evaluations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

The first of the Shared Governance Forums for the Fall semester is scheduled for October 11th at 2 pm in Classroom Building 103. The forum will be a face-to-face meeting, but a Zoom link will also be offered. The Administration's topic for this forum is the HLC Quality Initiative. The Faculty Senate has yet to choose its topic for the second Shared Governance Forum, scheduled for November 16th at 2 pm.

The Faculty Senate will be recognized at the Henderson State football game on October 2nd during the first media time out. The game kick-offs at 2:00 PM. Chair Daigle encourages as many Senators as possible to show up to promote the Faculty Senate.

Chair-Elect Shannon announced the second meeting of the Mutual Mentoring Project on Friday, October 8th from 2:00 – 3:30 PM in Classroom Building 103. Promotion and Tenure will be discussed. Interested? Contact kshannon@se.edu.

KTEN interviewed Senator Diaz regarding his recent research trip to Loa Angeles for his current project: "The Chicano Legacy in the 21st Century." The university website also profiled his trip.

As a reminder, the Faculty Senate is scheduled to meet on 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, and 12/8 (if needed). Faculty members are always invited and welcome to attend meetings of the Faculty Senate. **The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 6th, via Zoom.** Please visit the Faculty Senate website for detailed information concerning your representative body!

This Faculty Senate News Brief was produced by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate: Kay Daigle, chair; Kate Shannon, chair-elect; Randy Clark, past chair; Stan Alluisi, treasurer; William Fridley, archivist; Matthew Sparacio, recorder; Rolando Diaz, parliamentarian.