



Southeastern Oklahoma
State University

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 FEBRUARY 8, 2023

The Faculty Senate overwhelmingly approved the Compensation Proposal drafted jointly by the **Budget (BC)** and **Personnel Policies (PPC) Committees**. Based on the Salary Card Working Group's previously drafting principle, this proposal calls for an adjustment for inflation since the last known update to the Salary Card in 2008. This adjustment aligns with AAUP averages for the lowest tenth percentile for comparable degree-granting institutions to Southeastern. The proposal calls for annual salaries calculated on a "rank & degree" table adjusted for inflation over time in addition to any supplementary stipends (i.e. program leadership, department chair compensation, etc.). The proposal ensures that pay for current faculty members will not go down and includes suggested implementation plans moving forward.

The **Planning Committee (PC)** has sent out emails notifying faculty of their award nominations. These emails include links for faculty to submit supplementary information. Make sure to upload your materials by the February 24 deadline!

Faculty members have voiced concerns regarding the schedule for Organized Research Fund application deadlines, as some disciplines do not receive notification regarding conference acceptances until after the Spring deadline (February 1). This places an undue burden on non-tenured Tenure Track faculty in these disciplines. The Senate discussed potential revisions to the current policy, and the **Executive Committee (EC)** will work to develop a more equitable form of research fund disbursement.

The Senate briefly discussed growing concern over ChatGPT, which uses AI to draft essay submissions that cannot be detected with our current anti-plagiarism software, thereby heightening the possibility of students engaging in academic dishonesty. If you are interested in ChatGPT's potential influence on your courses, refer to [THIS GUIDE](#) for more information. Senators suggested holding a future Brown Bag Lunch Session on this constantly evolving situation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

The Faculty Senate strongly encourages faculty to attend the inaugural Staff-led **Shared Governance Forum (SGF)** scheduled for February 16 at 2 PM. The topic of this SGF will be "How Staff is Involved in HLC Accreditation Process."

The **McNair Scholars Program** is looking to recruit students and faculty mentors. As a mentor, you would be paired with one, perhaps two, students who are interested in pursuing a graduate education in your discipline. For more information about this program, please [CLICK HERE](#). If you are willing to place your name in that pool, please email Kate Shannon (kshannon@se.edu) or Darla Ellett (dellett@se.edu).

Faculty members are always invited and welcome to attend meetings of the Faculty Senate. **The Faculty Senate will next meet at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 22nd in Russell 100 and on Zoom.** The Senate will also meet on 3/8, 3/29, 4/12, and 4/26. 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: Kate Shannon, chair; Amy Gantt, vice chair; Randy Clark, past-chair; Steve Csaki, treasurer; Andy Kramer, archivist; Matthew Sparacio, recorder; Rob Shauger, parliamentarian.