



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 20 SEPTEMBER 2023

During the meeting, the Faculty Senate filled three vacancies on the Executive Committee with the unanimous consent of the senators present. B. Steve Csaki was re-elected to serve as Treasurer; Christopher Moretti was elected to the position of Parliamentarian; Kyle C. Lincoln was elected to serve as the Recorder.

The Faculty Senate is also seeking a new Chair-elect, to serve a two-year term in that position before becoming the Chair of the Faculty Senate. Nominations are open via email (sent from current Faculty Senate Chair, Kate Shannon) and will close on 27 September 2023. Voting will take place on 28-29 September to fill this position.

The **Planning Committee (PC)**, **Committee on Committees (CC)**, **Budget (BC)**, **University Affairs Committee (UAC)** and **Personnel Policies (PPC) Committees** are currently being populated and will have reports after their meetings have taken place.

The **Executive Committee (EC)** met with VPAA Golden and PRES Newsom on 29 August to discuss revisions to the APPM to re-add Deans to the core manual in advance of accreditation meetings this fall. Faculty Senate is reviewing these changes, and, in the spirit of due diligence, will comment on them further in the future.

The Treasurer reported that ongoing conversations about budgetary practices related to Faculty Senate Awards are progressing, but that ongoing conversations have yet to produce meaningful resolution. There was little cause for overt concern expressed, but general scrutiny of the process to ensure compliance and best use of resources by the Treasurer remains in progress.

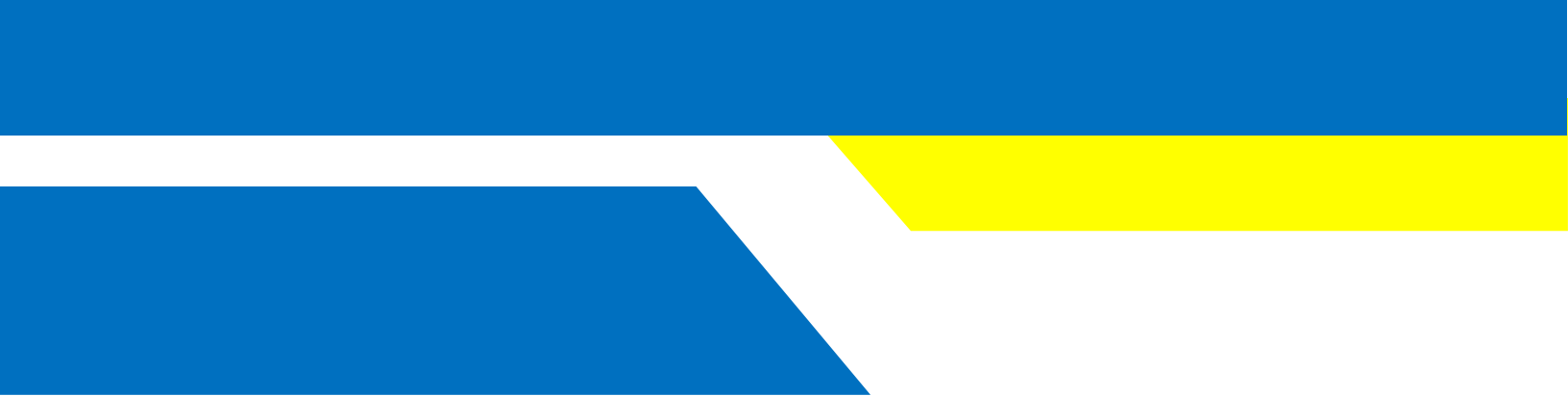
The Senate has begun its formal review of the results of the faculty survey from the Spring term, and will be compiling a composite report for the faculty at large. At present, the mode of its dissemination is under consideration, with the goal of maintaining security with respect to the information being balanced against ease of access for faculty interested in the results of the same survey.

Preliminary discussions about coordinating a more coherent campus-wide schedule of courses were had. In general, it was observed that faculty do not have a set "Dead Time" in schedules that are off limits from course meetings, except for the 14:00-17:00 period on Fridays. It was noted that, while there is in theory a master schedule for the course times that are permitted, many departments amend these to fit student needs, creating overlaps and false gaps in schedules that inhibit faculty collaboration and group meetings. The Faculty Senate has been tasked with investigating the possibility of instituting some kind of "common time" where meetings between and among departments might regularly take place, with the goal of sharing contemporary practices at the next Faculty Senate Meeting.

Preliminary discussion about a policy for handling and sharing of sensitive information relating to students and its proper disposal was held. In general, the advice of the Senate favored a FERPA-oriented training program or policy regarding these issues. Especially noteworthy was the concern that paper copies of emails containing student or faculty descriptions of impactful events of a sensitive nature might be improperly disposed of, potentially leading to unwanted exposure.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

The Faculty Senate strongly encourages faculty to attend the **Shared Governance Forum (SGF)** scheduled for 17 October 2023 at 14:00. The topic of this SGF will be the production of the materials under consideration by the HLC by their upcoming visit.



The **McNair Scholars Program** is still 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 15:00 on 4 October 2023 in Russell 100 and on Zoom.** The Senate will also meet on 18 October, 1 November, 15 November and 29 November. 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; Randy Clark, past-chair; Steve Csaki, treasurer; Andy Kramer, archivist; Kyle C. Lincoln, recorder; Christopher Moretti, parliamentarian.

