



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 28 FEBRUARY 2024

The **Treasurer** was absent and submitted no report *in absentia*.

The **Executive Committee (EC)** canceled its usual meeting to better prepare for the Shared Governance Forum, which was considered successful.

The **Budget Committee (BC)** offered no report, save that submitted in conjunction with Personnel Policies, as part of the combined Salary Card Joint Committed.

Personnel Policies (PPC) Committees reported, *una cum voce*, with **BC** that the meeting with Pres. Newsom, VPAA Golden, VPF Westman was cordial but achieved only partial results. Administration was willing to discuss, but made not commitment with respect to, revision of the salary card to align the current compensation scheme with wider national means. Some clarification regarding the use of CARES Act funding to frontload the cost of Civitas was received, with administration noting that retaining 7 students (at full tuition) accounts for the total cost of Civitas. There were additional concerns expressed by faculty on the abovementioned committees about some of the occlusion of the process regarding Civitas. In their separate report, PPC noted that their meeting with AVPAA Ronnenburg was productive and resulted in a mutual acknowledgement that current language in the APPM about the selection of departmental chairs is in need of revision, with PPC meeting in the future to draft language that inspires greater confidence in the transparency of the process.

The **Planning Committee (PC)** reported *ex litteris* that the process for voting for Professor of the Year and Adjunct Faculty member of the year is open and ongoing. Efforts to secure a new framer are proceeding. Voting will close on 6 March.

Committee on Committees (CC) reported that the process to fill vacancies on University Committees is ongoing and that the survey needs faculty participation in order to ensure that Shared Governance is upheld broadly at the university.

The **University Affairs Committee (UAC)** reported that it is continuing to work on research on the nature of failed searches, and has begun to explore the need for a fuller “welcome to campus” packet for new faculty. The chair noted that this was likely a document that existed *within* departments, but that a lack of a more extensive document may be inhibiting recruitment. Physical plant projects are ongoing and are within expected norms.

The Senate considered a motion by which Libraries faculty would be eligible for a full slate of Faculty Awards, but the motion—received favorably—was tabled so that precise language could be worked out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

The Director of Study Abroad reminds his colleagues that faculty and staff are welcome to join short-term Study Abroad programs as participants. In the upcoming academic year, trips to South Africa—during Spring Break 2025—and Iceland—in May 2025—will offer students a short exploration of the histories of natural science and civil rights in the former, and physical sciences and human adaptations in the latter. Those interest should visit www.se.edu/study-abroad or email studyabroad@se.edu for further informations.

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; Sondra Petty, Chair-Elect; Randy Clark, past-chair; B. Steve Csaki, treasurer; Andy Kramer, archivist; Kyle C. Lincoln, recorder; Christopher Moretti, parliamentarian.*