

Faculty Senate (FS)-- For Your Information and Updates

Overview

- I. Message from the FS President
- II. A Quick Summary of FS Matters in April 2022
- III. Appreciation to Outgoing Senators and Welcome to New Senators
- IV. Updates from the Chancellor's Office

I. MESSAGE FROM THE FS PRESIDENT



Dear SIUC Faculty Members:

As you may be aware, both Dr. Bethany Rader and I were re-elected to serve as Vice President and President of the Faculty Senate in 2022-2023. I am very humbled and honored to serve in this important role again. Let me reflect what we accomplished collectively and collaboratively in 2021-2022. Via shared governance and concerted efforts (collaboration and innovation), the Faculty Senate initiated and implemented several important initiatives (in addition to regular FS business matters), including the following: an Ad Hoc Committee on Institutional Ranking/Education Quality by FS Executive Council; Advocacy for the SIUC Faculty Members through the Reduction of Racial Profiling related to China-Initiative by the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee (FSWC); Implementation of Parliamentary Procedures by the Governance Committee; Amendment of the FS Operating Paper which was approved by our faculty in general; Advocacy for Undergraduate Academic Success and Mental Wellness at the Faculty-Student Town Hall Meetings by working with faculty members and the Undergraduate Student Government Organization; and Advocacy for SIUC's Shared Governance, Shared Responsibility and Shared Future Vision at the IBHE forum. All detailed information is available via our FS monthly newsletter issues-- FS FYI/Updates or see our minutes on our FS website (<https://faculty senate.siu.edu/>).

What will I do in 2022-2023 as the Faculty Senate President for all our faculty members? In principle, I continue to be dedicated to service, active listening to others, transparency, responsibility, and collaboration for all our faculty members and will **advocate for** SIUC faculty's interest and welfare, including its independence, shared governance, academic (research) excellence and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusivity), and accountability and integrity/ethics. Specifically, we collaboratively focus on the examination of the following issues: faculty hires and student enrollment/success, budget,

faculty's welfare, faculty support/development, diversity, equity/inclusion issues (fair and equitable treatment of all faculty members), academic/research issues, and governance processes/policies (e.g., new unit's operating papers) that affect our faculty members. We thank you for your support and look forward to working with you again.

Sincerely,

Yueh-Ting "YT" Lee, Ph.D.

Faculty Senate President and Professor of Psychology

II. A QUICK SUMMARY OF FS MATTERS IN APRIL 2022

1. FS Meetings. The FS met on April 12. All the meeting information is available online via the FS website (<https://facultysenate.siu.edu/agenda-minutes/index.php>). We had a transitional meeting on April 26 where we recognized and appreciated our outgoing senators whose terms ended and introduced our new FS members—see # III below for more details.
2. Our next meeting is on May 10. If you have anything important to put on our April meeting agenda, please let us know by the end of this month via email (facultysenate@siu.edu).
3. At the April 12's meeting, the FS members approved resolutions presented by the Undergraduate Education Policy Committee: RME and Resolution on Discontinuing Minor in Global Studies; RME to Revise Specializations in Recreation Professions; and RME to Eliminate BS in Electronic Systems Technology.
4. At the April 26's meeting, the FS members approved resolutions presented by the Undergraduate Education Policy Committee: RME for Multiple Changes in the Workforce Education Programs; RME to Rename BS in Early Childhood and Eliminate Specialization; and RME for Renaming Specialization in BS Electrical Engineering.

III. APPRECIATION TO OUTGOING SENATORS AND WELCOME TO NEW SENATORS

There were nine outgoing FS members whose term was ending this semester-- Sen. Matt Rendleman, Sen Phil Anton, Sen Dong Han, Sen Joseph Brown, Sen Scott Comparato, Sen Joseph Shapiro, Sen Matt Gorzalski, Sen Jenny Brobst, and Sen Chris McDowell. We acknowledge these nine senators here and appreciate them for their three-year great service on our FS for our faculty, students and the University. A **Thank you** note goes to these nine senators.

We would like to welcome new senators to serve in 2022-2025. Sen. Cherie B. Watson (NTT), Sen. Khalid Meksem (CALPS), Sen. Jeffrey Punske (COLA), Sen. Lorelei D. Ritchie (Law), Sen. Rolando Gonzalez Torres (CAM), and Sen. Michael John Hylin (CHHS). We also express our appreciation to these new senators for their willingness to serve on the FS for our faculty members.

IV. UPDATES FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

Faculty Senate update
April 21, 2022

“We are heartbroken to learn of a tragic car accident that has taken the lives of two members of the Saluki family and injured three others. We send our condolences to the families of Vamshi Krishna Pechetty, a graduate student in computer science, and Pavan Swarna, a graduate student in computer science, and we hope Kalyan Dorna, a graduate student in civil engineering, Karthik Kakumanu, a graduate student in computer science, and Yaswanth Uppalapati, a graduate student in computer science, will heal.

We are working to support the families during this incredibly difficult time. Our Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) team is available to help others who are impacted by this tragedy.

Our thoughts and hearts are with these students and their loved ones.”

Austin A. Lane, SIU Carbondale chancellor
Message to the campus and community on April 21, 2022

COVID-19

- No significant changes on vaccination rates for campus.
- On campus testing continues to be available to all who are required to test weekly and is open to any SIU employee or student who wishes to be tested and has no symptoms.
- Results from the on-campus COVID testing is available [here](#).
- N95/KN95 masks continue to be available on an as-needed basis for all employees and students.
- Latest update to campus was on April 12 and can be found [here](#).

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- New student enrollment continues to look promising for the Fall 2022 semester.
 - With 18 weeks before the start of the semester, admitted students for the first-time college student group (“freshmen”) continue to be up nearly a third over the same point last year.
 - Applications are up more than 17%.
 - Registration for fall 2022 has already started -- a week earlier than in 2021.
- On campus transfer student applications and admissions are down but off-campus/online transfer student numbers are up.
- Graduate student applications and admissions are down.
- SIU staff attended a transfer event at Lincoln College (in Lincoln, Ill.) to seek applicants from that institution which announced it would close after the spring semester.
- Admitted Student Days are underway and New Student Orientations are being planned; both will help welcome and facilitate the onboarding of new students and their families.

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

- A Salukis Care Day will be held on Wednesday, April 27 to provide activities to students to decrease stress, increase access to healthcare services and to ensure students the university cares for their health, safety and wellbeing.

GENERAL UPDATES

- SIU System President Dan Mahony is planning to present the SIU System Strategic Plan during an event on campus on Friday, April 29. More details will be forthcoming.
- Finalists for the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate School Dean interviewed on campus earlier this month. The final decision is pending.
- A number of interview session opportunities for academic administration positions are underway, including for deans of two colleges.
- Interview sessions for the director of Human Resources search will be announced soon.
- The position advertisement for the vice chancellor for administration and finance was re-posted in an extended search process with a deadline to apply by May 20.
- A two-day workshop with Gray Associates was held with 55 faculty and staff members meeting to go through the data results provided by the external consultants. The focus was to identify new program opportunities and assess investment priorities for existing programs.
 - The external consultant work provided data that allowed the group to analyze and better understand student demand, competitive intensity and employment opportunities for each program.
 - Further discussions on the results and opportunities to grow and transform programs will be held at the faculty level within schools and colleges and between faculty and administrators.
- Commencement is May 7 with ceremonies at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. More [here](#).
- The next SIU Board of Trustees meeting is on April 28.
 - It will be held on campus but also broadcast on YouTube.
 - The board will vote on tuition and fee matters.
 - The recommendation is for no increase to tuition for undergraduate and graduate students, other than for MD and PA students in the School of Medicine.
 - For fees, the recommendation is to support the student government votes in favor of a 2.6% increase to student fees to enhance student activities.

**We wish you a great summer. Stay Healthy and Safe!
Thank you so much for your service and commitment to SIU and our students!**