

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

Overview

- I. A Quick Summary of FS Matters in February 2022
- II. The Resolution to Amend the FS Operating Paper approved by the FS but subject to all faculty's votes
- III. Update from the Chancellor's Office

I A QUICK SUMMARY OF FS MATTERS IN FEBRUARY 2022

1. FS Meetings. The FS met on Feb 8. All the meeting information is available online via the FS website (<https://facultysenate.siu.edu/agenda-minutes/index.php>). Our next meeting is on March 15. If you have anything important to put on our March meeting agenda, please let us know by the end of this month via email (facultysenate@siu.edu)

2. At the February 8 meeting, the FS members approved several resolutions. Our Governance Committee had a "Resolution to Appoint a Parliamentarian" which was approved by the FS members. Our Undergraduate Education Policy Committee presented seven RME's and resolutions which were approved by the FS members: an RME to make changes to the BFA in Art; an RME to create minor in Communication Design within Art; an RME to create minor in Studio Art within Art; an RME to rename specialization within the BS in Management from Personnel Management to Human Resources Management; an RME to eliminate the BS degree in French-Education (TEP); an RME to eliminate minor in Museum Studies; and an RME to change specializations in Automotive Technology and add a minor.

II. THE RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FS OPERATING PAPER APPROVED BY THE FS BUT SUBJECT TO ALL FACULTY'S VOTES

Resolution to Change the Faculty Senate Operating Paper

Whereas, There has been substantial confusion regarding the membership qualifications for members of the Faculty Senate; therefore

Resolved, The Faculty Senate adopts the following changes (highlighted) to the Faculty Senate Operating Paper:

I. The Faculty and Faculty Senate

A. The Faculty

1. Membership

- a. For purposes of this document, the faculty shall consist of all appointees to the ranks of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, senior instructor, associate instructor, assistant instructor, instructor, senior lecturer, associate lecturer, assistant lecturer, and lecturer in academic units. Research, visiting, adjunct, and clinical categories holding the ranks mentioned above in academic units (college, department, or school level) shall also be considered faculty, providing faculty bearing those titles hold at least a 50% appointment through Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor or the School of Medicine. Those who were members of the faculty at the time of the referendum of this definition shall not be subsequently disenfranchised by this definition. Faculty members enrolled in a degree program in the department in which they hold academic rank shall not be considered faculty. Any faculty member holding at least a 51% administrative appointment, (including those holding the title of chair, director, or above, whether interim or permanent) are not considered faculty for purposes of membership on the Faculty Senate by the time their administrative appointment begins.
- b. A revision of the definition of the faculty requires approval by a majority vote of those voting in a special referendum at which the eligible voters compose the faculty as defined at the time of the referendum.

II. The Faculty Senate

A. Composition

1. Types of Membership

- a. The Faculty Senate shall consist of elected members and ex-officio members.
- b. The elected members shall be members of the voting faculty elected as representatives of the voting units defined in Section II.A.2. These elected members shall be voting members of the Faculty Senate with the right of full debate.
- c. Faculty holding at least a 51% administrative appointment (including those holding the title of chair, director, or above, whether interim or permanent) are not eligible to serve on the Faculty Senate. Should the status of any member change to primarily administrative during their term on the Senate, they will be required to resign from the Senate by the time their administrative appointment begins.

- d. The ex-officio members shall be the Chancellor of SIUC and the Provost and Vice Chancellor. Ex-officio members shall have the right of full debate but shall not vote.

III. UPDATE FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

Faculty Senate update February 21, 2022

COVID-19

- Vaccination rates for employees and students remain at 84% and 77%, respectively.
- 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.
- The Illinois Department of Public Health is planning to host another booster clinic in the SIU Student Center on Feb. 23-24. We are grateful for the suggestion from Faculty Senate member Jennifer Sherry to ask the IDPH to return for a “Boost Before Break” campaign during a meeting with constituency group leaders and the administration regarding the state’s changes to the mask mandate that affects campus.
- The state’s requirement for wearing a mask indoors will end on Monday, Feb. 28. As part of our commitment to shared governance, we have listened to – and continue to seek input from – a robust group of entities that represent all our constituencies, including faculty, staff and students. We are grateful for the insight provided by these groups.
- **N95 masks:** TT, NTT, and all graduate students can pick up masks in the school director/college dean's office. For undergraduate students, they can go to the Dean of Students office in SSB.
- Results from the on-campus COVID testing is available at siu.edu/coronavirus/dashboard/

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- **Retention Rate** of freshmen for Fall 2021 to Spring 2022: 84.13% [compared to 85.11%; 90.83% and 89.2% in prior years]
- **Fall 2022** and 27 weeks before classes [compared to same time last year]:
 - First time fulltime freshmen
 - 9,474 applications [up 14.3%]
 - 8,064 Actionable applications [up 33.4%]
 - 7,295 admitted [33.1%]
 - Transfers -- on-campus -- applications and admissions are down
 - Transfers -- off-campus – applications and admissions are up
 - Graduate student applications and admissions are down
- Financial Aid award letters have been sent to applicants informing them of their estimated charges and awards to date.
- Elyse Weller, Interim Director of Financial Aid will be installed as 2022-2023 President Elect of the Illinois Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (ILASFAA) when they hold their conference in April.

- During November, a **professional development workshop** was held to discuss enrollment and strategies to improve enrollment efforts across campus. Key strategic initiatives were discussed, and each Dean was charged with developing targets for the upcoming fall semester for all enrollment area (Continuing students, New Students, Readmits, Transfers and Graduates).
 - As a follow-up to this initial meeting, on **Thursday, March 24, 2022**, academic deans, Cabinet members, and key enrollment stakeholders will reassemble to review and finalize development of the **Student Enrollment Management (SEM) Plan**, review enrollment targets by area/college/school, and finalize strategic action steps for each unit's effectiveness plan sections as they relate to Pillar 1-*Student Success and Engagement*.
- **Saluki Takeover Tour St. Louis**. Following up on the successful Chicago Saluki Takeover Tour in the fall, SIU administrators and staff will participate in the **Saluki Takeover Tour St. Louis** for outreach to key areas for recruitment, alumni and public relations. This will take place from March 2-6, 2022, to coincide with the Missouri Valley Conference Arch Madness weekend. A series of alumni activities and school signings and visits are planned for the purpose of energizing and engaging SIU's 30,000 St. Louis-area alumni, developing enrollment pipelines with community colleges and public schools and building awareness of SIU with key stakeholders and St. Louis community leaders.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

- A campus climate survey will be conducted later this spring across the entire SIU system. This initiative is being championed by the system's vice president for antiracism, diversity, equity and inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer along with her counterparts at both campuses and the School of Medicine.
- A professional development day focused on diversity, equity and inclusion designed for campus leaders will be held on Friday, Feb. 25.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

- The search for the new Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance is nearing the finalist interview stage.
- The searches for the Directors of Human Resources and Procurement are nearing completion.
- The governor recently announced a proposal for a 5% increase to the state appropriation for higher education in the FY23 budget, which begins on July 1. However, his proposal includes increasing the current year budget (FY22) by 5% prior to July 1 and then simply maintaining that new appropriation level in the next fiscal year. The General Assembly needs to approve the proposal this spring for either, or both, of these provisions to take effect.
 - The next meeting of the Chancellor's Budget and Planning Committee is on March 2 and more discussions about the governor's proposal and other financial matters will be discussed then.

RESEARCH UPDATES *(underlined sections below are links to more information)*

- The search for the new Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate School Dean is nearing the "screening interview" phase to create a finalist pool.
- McNair Scholars Applications Due March 4, 2022: <https://mcnair.siu.edu/>
- Save the Date: SIU Research and Creative Activity Forum: April 14, 2022
- The Funding Opportunity Locator "Pivot RP" is live and available to faculty. Contact your School Director or Dean to learn more.

SALUKI ATHLETICS (Information presented to the SIU BOT on Feb. 10 as its annual update)

- For the first time, SIU won the Missouri Valley Conference All-Academic Award (highest GPA)
- 101 All-Time Total Academic All-Americans (most in MVC).
- 12 of 15 Saluki Teams earned their highest ever GPA.
- Softball was ranked #2 in GPA nationally (trailed only Stanford).
- Women's Basketball in virtual tie for the lead in the MVC.
- The combined 2020-21 GPA for student-athletes was 3.552, the highest departmental GPA on record (dating back to Fall 2011).
- Our football team had another outstanding year reaching the Sweet 16 in the FCS Playoffs, after advancing to the Elite Eight in the spring season. Of the 121 FCS schools, only six advanced to the Sweet 16 or better both seasons.
- The Athletic Director search is on-going.

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