

Minutes of the January Session of the Faculty Senate

The Faculty Senate held the January session on Thursday, January 16, 2025, in the PSU 313. Chair Scott Zimmerman called the session to order at 3:30 p.m. Mike Hudson served as parliamentarian.

Substitutes: Kishor Shah for Mark Rogers, Mathematics; Jason Hausback for Perry Mears, Music; and Maureen Templeman for Abby Templer Rodrigues, Sociology & Anthropology.

Absences: Jay McEntee, Biology; James Keaton, Anesthesia; and Bonnie Slavych, Communication Sciences & Disorders.

Guests: Jamie Atkinson, COE/Chair, Committee on Rules; Tamera Jahnke, Interim Provost; Jill Layman, School of Anesthesia; Angela Young, Registrar; and Rachel Besara, Library, Interim Dean.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 2024 minutes were approved as posted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If necessary, a carry-over meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. (location TBD)
- Call for nominations of the Eric Shade Memorial Faculty Governance Award, due January 27, 2025. See the Faculty Senate website for eligibility, criteria, and nomination process.
- Chair Zimmerman reminded the Senate of the Listening Luncheons with President Williams. If you are interested, contact Chair Zimmerman.
- Chair Zimmerman announced that President Williams desires to get a robust review in place for administrators.
- President Williams is considering two ombudsmen – one for faculty and one for staff.
- Charges to the Policy Review Committee
 - a. Executive-level Searches – Past Chair Elizabeth Walker and her committee will explore the procedures currently in place, especially pertaining to reference checks by search committee members
 - b. Policy Library Review – Past Chair Elizabeth Walker is reviewing the policy library and the placement of curricular policies and other policies within the library
- Chair-elect Mike Foster updated the Senate on the Provost search.
- Chair-elect Mike Foster updated the Senate on Faculty Handbook Revision Committee.

REPORT – STATE OF THE PROVOST OFFICE AND HLC

Interim Provost Tamera Jahnke spoke to the Senate with this being her eighth day in the position.

- Provost Jahnke said she is reviewing Promotion and Tenure documents.
- Provost Jahnke updated the Senate on the HLC visit that will occur March 30 and 31, 2025, and encouraged Senators to visit the HLC website at <https://www.missouristate.edu/HLC/default.htm>

ACTION ON CURRICULAR PROPOSALS

Senator John Rose/Defense and Strategic Studies

New Program: Arms Control and Nonproliferation Graduate Certificate

Moved by Senator Rose

APPROVED: SA 5/24-25

Senator John Rose/Defense and Strategic Studies

New Program: Great Power Competition Graduate Certificate

Moved by Senator Rose

APPROVED: SA 6/24-25

Senator John Rose/Defense and Strategic Studies
New Program: National Security Strategy Graduate Certificate
Moved by Senator Rose
APPROVED: SA 7/24-25

Senator Heidi Backes/Languages, Cultures & Religions
New Program: German for Communication Undergraduate Certificate
Moved by Senator Backes
APPROVED: SA 8/24-25

Senator Keely Scott/English
New Program: Social Media Writing, Strategy, and Design Undergraduate Certificate
Moved by Senator Scott
APPROVED: SA 9/24-25

Senator Abby Templer Rodrigues/ Sociology, Anthropology & Gerontology
New General Education Course: GER 200-Aging Identities in Art and Media
Moved by Maureen Templeman (sub for Senator Abby Templer Rodrigues who is on sabbatical)
APPROVED: SA 10/24-25

SENATE INTERNAL ACTION CONTINUATION OF REPRESENTATION

Chair-elect Foster moved the Senate Internal Action Continuation of Representation to the floor. Senator McIntyre made a motion for revisions to the language, and Senator Backes seconded the motion. After Senate discussion, a change was made to the document, “each Senator currently *in their final year of service* on Faculty Senate will remain a Senator for one additional year.” There were no objections, and it passed. It was unanimous that Senate members remain in their 2024-25 position for the 2025-26 academic year.

ISA 2/24-25

SENATE RESOLUTION INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARD

Senator Gabriel Ondetti moved the Resolution to the floor.

Senator Bennett made a motion for a change in wording; Senator McIntyre seconded the motion. After Senate discussion, a change was made to the resolution that read “Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate recommends that the *Executive Budget Committee fund the ITA as a university-wide program making it a permanent budget line,*”.

After discussion, the Resolution passed unanimously with the revision.

SR 5/24-25

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Kim Finch
Secretary of the Faculty

Senate Action 5-24/25

Adopted by Senate on January 16, 2025

Faculty Senate Chair Must Be Notified of Intent to Challenge By: January 26, 2025

Right of Challenge Expires February 11, 2025

New Program: Arms Control and Nonproliferation Graduate Certificate

Senate Action 6-24/25

Adopted by Senate on January 16, 2025

Faculty Senate Chair Must Be Notified of Intent to Challenge By: January 26, 2025

Right of Challenge Expires February 11, 2025

New Program: Great Power Competition Graduate Certificate

Senate Action 7-24/25

Adopted by Senate on January 16, 2025

Faculty Senate Chair Must Be Notified of Intent to Challenge By: January 26, 2025

Right of Challenge Expires February 11, 2025

New Program: National Security Strategy Graduate Certificate

Senate Action 8-24/25

Adopted by Senate on January 16, 2025

Faculty Senate Chair Must Be Notified of Intent to Challenge By: January 26, 2025

Right of Challenge Expires February 11, 2025

New Program: German for Communication Undergraduate Certificate

Senate Action 9-24/25

Adopted by Senate on January 16, 2025

Faculty Senate Chair Must Be Notified of Intent to Challenge By: January 26, 2025

Right of Challenge Expires February 11, 2025

New Program: Social Media Writing, Strategy, and Design Undergraduate Certificate

Senate Action 10-24/25

Adopted by Senate on January 16, 2025

Faculty Senate Chair Must Be Notified of Intent to Challenge By: January 26, 2025

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New General Education Course: GER 200-Aging Identities in Art and Media

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Internal Senate Action- Continuation of Faculty Senate and Committee Membership For the 2025-'26 Academic Year

Whereas the process and timeline for amendments to the Constitution of the Faculty must be completed before amendments to the Bylaws can be proposed; and

Whereas, Faculty Senators are expected to maintain their teaching and research loads, and the competing time requirements necessary to maintain their workloads while pursuing due diligence to amend both the Constitution and the Bylaws on top of the regular work of Senate has created an unrealistic timeline for success; and

Whereas external issues unrelated to the regular business of Faculty Senate directly impacted both the normal work of the Senate as well as the work towards amending the Constitution and Bylaws of the Faculty; and

Whereas the decision of Senate representation is too important of a decision to be made hastily and without significant debate.

Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Faculty Senate suspends elections of Faculty Senators during the current 2024-25 academic year and;

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved that each Faculty Senator currently serving as a Senator on Faculty Senate will remain a Senator for one additional year and;

Therefore, Be it Further Resolved that any Senator who is unable to complete this one extended year of service beyond their current term contact the Chair of the Faculty Senate on or before March 15, 2025 so that a faculty member can be elected to represent their respective academic unit for just the 2025-2026 academic year.

Faculty Senate Resolution to Restore the International Travel Award

Whereas, the International Travel Award (ITA), which provided funding for faculty participation in conferences and similar events abroad, has been eliminated;

Whereas, the ITA allowed Missouri State faculty members from all colleges to gain international exposure for their work, leading to publications, exhibitions, and other professional accomplishments;

Whereas, faculty participation in international conferences promotes the university's reputation as an institution that takes research and creative activities seriously; Whereas, the costs associated with the ITA were modest, since the award matched funding provided by each recipient's own academic unit;

Whereas, the Reynolds College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities has recognized the ITA's importance by introducing a college-level version of the grant;

Whereas, travel funding in other colleges is inadequate to pay for international conference participation;
Whereas, the university's Continuous Agility Process (CAP) Research Team is studying ways to enhance research productivity;

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate recommends that the Executive Budget Committee fund the ITA as a university-wide program making it a permanent budget line.