

The Comm

1/18/2024

TLDR: Senator Kmetz is our newest EC member and tenure is under attack.

Minutes

No minutes to approve as the secretary is currently ill. The communication officer is taking notes for The Comm.

Executive Council Seat – Faculty Welfare and Concern

Special elections are run by the Governance Committee, currently chaired by Senator Lennex. The College of Business and Library caucus together on even years. Senator Njoroge from business is ineligible because she already sits on the EC as the communications officer. She built a Qualtrics poll for the single candidate that was put forward for the vacancy. The vote was unanimous for Senator Kmetz to fill the position.

General Discussion of Organization

Senator Lennex led the discussion on the reorganizations. The Faculty Senate started with 40 senators but has lost 8 due to the reorganizations. Depending on the school of business, psychology, and a few other potential reorganizations, the Senate could lose 4 more. Senator Adams discussed the change from Associate Deans to Chairs. There was a hope that the Provost or Associate Provost would be available to answer questions today. They were not.

The discussion shifted to issues in the Kentucky Legislature. There are bills to effectively abolish tenure and the CPE (HB 228 and 257). AAUP and The United Campus Workers are aware of these bills.

There was a brief discussion on Arctic Wolf, the new cyber security training. Senators discussed concerns about the FTE and the number of students needed in a course. Senator Kessinger used the term Credit Hour Production. Instead of 10 or 12, the goal was closer to 25 students per section. Senator Lewis raised a concern about not differentiating between lower and upper division classes as the latter tend to be well below the 20-something line.

The final discussion topic was ADA exemptions for faculty. If you need an ADA accommodation for teaching, office hours, etc. please contact HR or President Chatham for the form. [Presidential note: That form is online at https://www.moreheadstate.edu/_files/files/about-msu/leadership/administration/hr/accommodation-request.pdf .]

Conclusion

Our first mission for the semester was quiet and successful. Back to you captain.