

**2024-2025 Morehead State University Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 17, 2024 – 3:45 pm**  
**Open Forum – ADUC Theatre**

Senators: Annie Adams, Kevin Adkins, Elizabeth Ash, Nettie Brock, Thomas Carver, Michele Cudd, Ben Fitzpatrick, Kurt Gibbs, Flint Harrelson, Lucas Hoots, Brandon Hughes, Michael Kessinger, Tom Kmetz, Lesia Lennex, Kathryn Lewis, Scott Meisel, Douglas Mock, Ben Morris, Geralda Nelson, Roma Prindle, Tagatha Ray\*, Diedra Robinson\*, Bo Shi, Amy Staton, Matthew Sutton, Dieter Ullrich, Lisa Wallace

Senators absent are underlined above and an \* denotes an excused absence.

Faculty Regent: Joyce Stubbs

Guests: Connie Hardesty, Timothy Hare, Brady Lawson, Janelle Hare, Chris Schroeder

**Call to Order**

President Lennex called the meeting to order.

**Announcements** (all announcements posted on the FS Bb shell)

Employee raises (2% + \$110) were approved by the BOR at the October 11, 2024, meeting.

The search committees for the COE and COS deans have been formed. The timeline is to have telephone interviews by December, with candidates on campus for visits in January.

The search committee for the provost position has been meeting. The timeline is to have candidates on campus by January. FS has requested the candidates meet with FS to discuss what they intend to bring to campus and shared governance.

FS meeting minutes from 9/12/24 were presented for review and approval.

Motion – to approve FS minutes from 9/12/24 as presented.

Motion approved.

The communication report from the 9/12/24 FS meeting has been posted on the FS Bb shell for review.

FS meeting for 9/19/24 was asynchronous. No minutes presented. Brought for first readings at the meeting were scholarship appeals and General Education Council. Since both are still in discussion, they will not be brought for second readings today.

The second item on the 9/19/24 agenda was approval for a faculty member's appointment to a standing committee. Not enough FS members voted on the agenda so this appointment will be presented today on a larger slate.

Any asynchronous FS meetings will use the agenda as the outline for the minutes.

## **Faculty Regent Report**

The BOR's meeting was held October 11, 2024. Regent Stubbs presented a report of the meeting to FS for review (on FS Bb shell).

### **Questions/Discussion**

SGA president Brady Lawson forwarded his concerns regarding the Strategic Plan to Regent Stubbs.

Senator Chatham asked where the extension of the University Strategic Plan could be found. Senator Kessinger said the document was available on the web (link below).

<https://www.moreheadstate.edu/files/files/about-msu/leadership/2018-25-strategic-plan.pdf>

The Strategic Plan was extended to 2025 without any revisions.

President Lennex thanked all faculty who attended the BOR meeting. The changes Provost Parikh is requesting to the FS Constitution was not on the agenda and was not presented. President Lennex requested faculty attend the next BOR's meeting on November 15, 2024, 9:30 am, ADUC 329. The show of support by faculty helps to support shared governance.

## **Provost Report**

Provost Parikh was not in attendance due to being off campus at a multi-state PASS conference regarding student retention and recruitment. Associate Provost Chris Schroeder was in attendance to represent Dr. Parikh on any issues or questions faculty may have.

## **SGA Report**

SGA President Brady Lawson extended an invitation for all to attend the Annual Fall Fest, Tuesday, October 22, from 6-8 p.m., in the ADUC Commons.

## **Governance Committee**

Senator Kessinger presented a slate of 5 committee appointments.

### **Faculty Promotion Committee**

Sara Lindsey (VCOE) replacing Delar Singh 2022-2025

Allen Risk (COS) replacing Brian Reeder 2022-2025

At-Large Vacant replacing Lucy Mays 2023-2026

### **General Education Council**

Heba Elgazzar (CSE) replacing Josh Qualls 2023-2026

### **Research and Creative Productions Committee**

Eric Brown (HUM) reappointment 2024-2026

Vivek Madupu (COB) replacing Lydia Njoroge 2023-2025

### Student Disciplinary Committee

Amy Collick (CSE) replacing Melissa Mefford 2024-2026

### University Graduate Curriculum Committee

Geralda Nelson (VCOE) filling vacancy 2024-2026

Motion – To approve the slate as presented.

Motion approved.

The Level-Up committee needs an at-large faculty for a one-year membership, 2024-25. Tagatha Ray has agreed to serve on the committee.

Motion – To approve Tagatha Ray to serve on the Level-Up committee.

Motion approved (with 1 objection).

There is currently a vacancy on the Diversity Council. Please send any nominations for this position to President Lennex.

### **Faculty Welfare and Concerns**

Senator Kmetz presented a timeline regarding Dr. Sandra Riegle's request for ADA accommodations (on FS Bb shell).

### Questions/Discussion

FWC reached out to HR seeking policies and procedures related to the ADA accommodation request for Sandra Riegle. HR's response was PG-5, PG-59, UAR 303.03 and federal guidance via ADA.gov. MSU's policy has never been voted on by FS or the BOR. Provost Parikh's previous response to Dr. Riegle's request to teach online was that it would not be fair to other faculty on campus.

FWC also questioned whether the university kept track of ADA requests over the years or could provide an overview report. The response from HR was no tallies are kept because that would violate individual privacy.

There was a discussion on concerns regarding the Math department feeling they have been physically dispersed. Provost Parikh has agreed to set up a meeting with the Math department faculty and facilities and hopefully improvements can be negotiated.

FWC plans to take up a resolution on public university documents that have been declared sensitive at their next meeting.

FWC plans to address the staffing level for the University police.

The Nursing faculty who resigned en masse has never been addressed by administration or any BOR meetings. This issue has been tabled by FWC for the time being.

### **Academic Issues**

There is an institutional push to change how FYS is taught. Currently, it is a student success course taught by staff. Administration would now like to have FYS taught by faculty and chairs and students not

be given a full 3 hours of credit. Associate Provost Schroeder said the push behind this is to get faculty talking to students regarding workforce and to have students feel a greater connection to the university.

### Questions/Discussion

How does what the university is doing with FYS relate to SACSCOC accreditation standards?

SACSCOC standard 10.4.C, outlines who controls the curriculum. Primary responsibility for the content, quality and effectiveness of curriculum is with faculty. Administration went to department chairs in August and September, and claimed the chairs were in favor of the change. Faculty were not asked what they wanted to happen. The FYS committee was not informed of this until the administration attempted to make the change. How does the FYS committee want to address this and move forward?

President Lennex asked FS to consider and approve a survey regarding changes to FYS, created by the FS EC, to be sent to faculty.

Motion – To send the survey, created by FS EC, to faculty with recommended modifications.

Motion approved.

Associate Provost Schroeder said the administration is forming a sub-committee on the GEC council to look at the curriculum for FYS and the best way to implement it. FYS has been mainly taught by the retention and advising staff and they no longer have the bandwidth to be able to teach along with the advising loads put on them. which in part is the reason for the change. President Lennex stated that the FYS sub-committee is not an actual subset. Any subset of the GEC should come directly from the GEC membership and be approved by FS.

### Evaluation Committee

There has been a lot of administrative movement on FEPs, with administration requesting departments make changes. Departments are being restructured together to meet certain sizes and have a unified FEP. Some departments have been told they do not have to have a unified FEP, and some departments are not having all their faculty utilize FEPs. The evaluation committee is looking at what the concerns are within the committee and across campus. The committee will work on collecting information to see what departments want to measure and what they are actually measuring. FEPs are not designated by the administration. PAc 35 was created by FS and supports faculty determining within their field what is appropriate for their field.

A suggestion was made to add a statement to all FEPs that it is a competition when applying for the senior instructor position. Instructors gave their support because it was presented as a promotion when it was done as a competition.

### Provost Performance Poll

President Lennex presented the results of the poll regarding the current provost's performance. 109 responses were received, a 35% return.

Rankings are as follows: Excellent Job 2, Good Job 9, Neutral 15, Poor Job 19, Unsatisfactory Job 60.

Top responses from the poll:

1. The provost was doing the job he was hired to do.
2. The provost was following an agenda or directive from others.
3. The provost undermines shared governance.
4. The provost is dismissive of faculty, faculty concerns and faculty senate.
5. The provost is an authoritarian.
6. The provost is condescending.
7. The provost has a lack of regard in understanding for academic programs and culture.

President Lennex is hopeful the provost will see the results as constructive criticism and will help FS with shared governance.

Motion – To post the poll to the FS Bb shell as faculty opinion with the timeline included.

Motion approved.

President Lennex encourages all faculty to attend the November 15 BOR meeting. If changing the FS Constitution is on the agenda without the approval of faculty, it violates the BOR and FS policy.

#### **Other Business**

N/A

#### **New Business**

Students will hold a presidential debate this evening in Radar Hall, 6 pm. The event is open to the public.

Meeting adjourned

November 7, 2024, 3:45 pm.