

Faculty Senate Minutes

February 3, 2025

ATTENDING

PRESIDENT: Suzanne Sutherland

PRESIDENT ELECT: Michael Federici

PARLIMENTARIAN: Larry Burriss

RECORDING SECRETARY: Shannon Randol

MEMBERS: Jeremy Aber, Rafet Al-Tobasei, Angie Bowman, Leigh Anne Clark, Trevor deClercq, Carmelita Dodson, Kelsey Duncan, Andrea Georgiou, Natalie Hoskins, Samantha Johnson, Kristi Julien, Ron Kates, DeAnna Kempf, Rachel Kirk, Phil Loubere, Alfred Lutz, Preston MacDougall, John Maynor, Patrick McCarthy, Janna McClain, Lei Miao, Joseph Morgan, Pamela Morris, Kay Murphree, Kari Neely, David Nelson, Tim Nelson, Suman Neupane, Martha Norkunas, Keely O'Brien, John Ouellette, Sharon Parente, Jack Purcell, James Robertson, Jim Rost, Philip Seagraves, Lauren Shouse, Everett Singleton, Carter Smith, Ashley Valanzola, Andrew Wyatt, Sam Zaza, Kevin Zhao

ABSENT: Jacob Avila, Lisa Green, Jeannie Harrington, Joan McRae (excused)

Quorum was established

The meeting was called to order at 3:01pm by Suzanne Sutherland

FACULTY TRUSTEE ELECTION

Michael Federici led the Faculty Trustee Election. Voting was done electronically and successful candidate needs to have simple majority.

Michael Hein, Kari Neely, Suzanne Sutherland, and Patrick McCarthy all spoke about heir interest in serving as Faculty Trustee. First round of voting necessitated a second ballot consisting of candidates Neely and Sutherland. The Faculty Senate voted 23/16 in favor of Neely.

SPECIAL GUEST – DR. KHALILAH DOSS

Dr. Doss spoke to the senate about the Care Team she helped to establish which acts as a learning house for all student needs. She emphasized that the Care Team does not replace communication with faculty. Dr. Dos reminded faculty of the important role they play in a student's life because of routine engagements.

Dr. Doss will provide digital copies of the Grief Resources document which can be used to assist students in times of need.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(Aber/Zaza) Motion to approve December minutes, unanimous approval

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Positive enrollment and retention data for spring 2025
 - Fall to spring retention up 1.7%
 - Increase of 605 students on second day of class from same day last year
- Positive data for fall 2025
 - Fall graduate admits up 25%
 - Fall transfer applications up 59%
- Focus on yield, especially for graduate programs
- Impacts of new executive orders on MTSU
- Policy 202 Revision
 - Allows for renewal of FTT contracts without external search

- Effective Spring 2025
- Market adjustments reflected in Jan 31 pay stubs
 - Check with Department Chair if faculty has question(s)
- Faculty Performance Tool
 - Draft expected for Senate Review within the next month
- Strategic Plan Implementation Committee
 - Call for volunteers to serve as “designees” for Senate officers
- Bylaws Revision
 - Special Session on February 10 at 3pm in JUB 100
- Upcoming Elections
 - Senate Officers
 - President-Elect and Recording Secretary to be elected at April 7 meeting
 - Steering Committee
 - Elected at April 28 meeting

COMMIITTEE REPORTS

Governance committee reminded that the Board of Trustee and Faculty reception will take place on March 18, 2025 the the Miller Education Center atrium.

NIA committee will present a panel in the spring semester and a workshop in the fall.

NTT Faculty committee needs a new committee chair.

(Zaza/Aber) Motion to adjourn at 5:06pm. Unanimous approval. Motion carries.