



Southwestern Oklahoma State University  
SWOSU Digital Commons

---

Faculty Senate Minutes

Faculty Senate


---

1-27-2023

## January 27, 2023 Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/fsminutes>

 Part of the [Adult and Continuing Education Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#)

---

# SWOSU Faculty Senate Official Minutes

Friday, January 27, 2023 @ 2:30 PM in STF 108 and  
via Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96784042379>

**Call to Order:** Faculty Senate meeting was called to order by President Jessica Salmans at 2:30 PM.

❖ **Establishment of a Quorum:** Jimena Aracena, Landry Brewer, Nathan Brooks, Jieun Chang, Glenna Davis, Marc DiPaolo, Trevor Ellis, Amanda Evert, Phillip Fitzsimmons, Swarup Ghosh, Angela Gore, Jon Henrikson, Jeremy Johnson, Daniel Kavish, Sharon Lawrence, Dana Lloyd, Holly Mace, Shelley Martinson, Nolan Meditz, Vanessa Nix, Andy North, Kathy O'Neal, Dana Oliver, Bo Pagliasotti, Eric Paul, Brian Rickel, Hardeep Saluja, Horrick Sharma, Debra Stevens, Ubeidat Muatasem

❖ **Certification of Substitutes:** Kristi Bright for Jared Edwards

❖ **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from December 9, 2022 were approved.

❖ **Reports from Representatives**

➤ **Faculty Athletic Representative** Bo Pagliasotti

○ Nothing to report.

➤ **Student Government Representative** Frankie Acuna

○ Nothing to report.

➤ **Library Representative** Phillip Fitzsimmons

○ Regents (23 people total) toured the Stafford Archives during their recent visit.

➤ **Staff Council Member:**

○ Nothing to report.

➤ After reports, representatives present were given the option to leave the meeting.

❖ **Presentation of Visitors: Dr. Lori Gwyn, Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP)**

➤ President Salmans turned the floor over to Dr. Gwyn.

➤ Dr. Gwyn provided faculty information about services and new initiatives from OSP.

○ OSP Faculty Services and Support

• Have started SPARC weekly meetings to help provide faculty information and to create new interactions and potential collaborations among faculty at SWOSU.

▪ Meet weekly on Thursday afternoons from 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM in STF 117 or via Zoom.

• Developing a Grant-writing Bootcamp during the 2023 Summer session.

▪ Requesting writers for the grant-writing experience and reviewers who have expertise in the area.

▪ Applications for both roles are available in eTrieve.

○ OSP funding priorities

• Discussed organized research funds used to support student research and ways to help with the gap that occurs between end of fiscal year and potential award of the next academic year cycle.

• OSP currently still can support faculty and student travel to present research projects at regional and national meetings at \$500/faculty and \$250/student, dependent on funds still available.

• It was mentioned that Garret King has additional external Foundation Funds to provide additional support for travel and scholarly activity.

▪ Submission document can be found through eTrieve and would go through OSP.

❖ **Announcements**

➤ Executive Council & Administrative Council Meeting

○ RUSO board meeting was on SWOSU campus on Thursday, January 26 and Friday January 27.

- As part of the meeting, guests toured SWOSU campus and visit the Stafford Archives, as the something wonderful on campus, and the Art Building, as the something on campus that needs work/support.
- Faculty Senate Executive officers meeting with Dr. Kendall on Thursday, January 26.
  - Enrollment is up, but only 1%.
    - Down from last semester.
    - NWOSU is only RUSO school up by a larger percentage than SWOSU.
    - Other RUSO schools are either flat or down by as much as 7%.
    - Questions by officers about why we were down.
      - Asked if changes to Bursar Holds from \$2000 to \$1000 had affected the ability for students to enroll.
        - \*Senators were concerned with how to have discussion about department efficiencies when it is hard to predict numbers enrolled in courses due to late enrollment.
        - \*Senators discussed if there was a way to allow students to actually enroll to keep their “place” for high demand course, such as Gen Eds but then adjust/remove students from class by a certain date if progress has not been made to open course back up for others.
        - \*Senators inquired if it would be more effective to put a hold on the ability to request a transcript.
        - \*Senators discussed instances where they experienced different standards for allowing students to enroll.
    - Still currently expanding concurrent enrollment. Elk City and Clinton are currently a focus.
    - Also looking at partnerships with prisons with upcoming changes to PELL Grant in July.
      - \*Senators inquired if there were International Student Partnerships being sought at this time.
  - Discussed retention rates.
    - Current retention rates still best among RUSO schools.
    - Currently have a retention rate around 67%, which is down from the mid-70% in the past.
      - Officers inquired if there was any trends to why we are trending down and if this is an impact from changes in policies or something else that can be observed.
  - Changes to Student Advising are coming, more information is to be announced in the near future.
    - \*Senators discussed policies and best practices currently used/recommended by experts in the field of student success.
  - Discussed current departmental hiring requests.
    - Departments who have requested hiring new faculty have been notified if the position will not be filled. Those departments who have not been notified are still currently under consideration for their request.
  - Dr. Kendall would not be making any changes to the Faculty Handbook at this time since Faculty Senate had not given a response or a proposed statement but did indicate that other means could be created for the language to support the requests he had from Chairs and Deans.

❖ **Secretary/Treasurer Jon Henrikson**

- Please check the minutes carefully from each meeting to be assured you were not missed.

➤ **Treasurer’s Report**

- BancFirst

	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance
End of November Balance			\$2335.39
Current Balance			\$2335.39

- University Account

- ❖ **President-Elect** Trevor Ellis
  - Nothing to report.
- ❖ **Past President** Amanda Evert
  - Reminded everyone that if you or someone you know is in crisis, please reach out.
    - 988 is a 24 hour line that can be used by anyone who may need help or if you are concerned about someone else's well-being.
    - Discussed messaging by the university and desire that there should be an offer for counseling/services to those in need.
- ❖ **Reports from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees**
  - Nothing to report.
- ❖ **New Business**
  - Potential Campus Community Town Hall may be happening soon.
  - Discussion on filling of Faculty Senate Committees
    - Senators discussed their thoughts on creating a new slate of senators to make up the committees or fill the empty positions on the Faculty Senate Committees created by former Faculty Senators.
    - Motion 01-27-23 1: To maintain current Faculty Senate Committee members on the Faculty Senate Committees and have President Salmans will send out a list to all senators in order to fill open positions. Motion Passed.
      - Noted that if any current senator wanted to be removed from a Faculty Senate Committee that they were currently on, they must notify President Salmans as soon as possible.
  - College of Arts and Sciences met to caucus for an alternative one-year appointment on the Faculty University Tenure and Promotion Committee. Names were provided to President Salmans to allow her to contact individuals for interest/availability. Dr. Jerry Dunn will send out a email ballot to all CAS Senators to ensure we fill this position.
- ❖ **Unfinished Business**
  - Motion 12-9-22 2: Retable discussion of the Engagement and Office Hours statement until resolution in Faculty Senate Standing Committees brought up in New Business. Being addressed within new business motion regarding filling of Faculty Senate Standing Committees through President Salamans.
- ❖ **Adjournment**
  - Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM
- ❖ **Next Meeting:** Friday, February 24, 2023 at 2:30 PM