



# MISSOURI SOUTHERN

STATE UNIVERSITY  
STAFF SENATE

## STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Date	September 14, 2022
Time	9 AM
Location	BSC Board of Governors
<b>Next Meeting:</b> Wednesday, Oct 12 @ 9 am in Board of Governors	

**Members Present:** Julie Christiansen, Christina Hamilton, Jonathan Case, Alicia Hughes, Brenda Beasley, Shakira Gammill, Brian Palmer, Greg Killingsworth, Amanda Curtis, Leona Belk, Teresa Adams, Eddie Kirkendall, Jason Stockdale

**Member(s) Absent/Excused:** Ashley Brownfield, Melinda Brown, Atiba Bradley

**Determination of Quorum:** - 13 of 16 members were present; quorum was established.

**Call to Order:** President-Elect Hughes called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**Approval of Minutes:** Senator Case motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Senator Adams. Meeting Minutes were approved.

### Administrative / Special Guest Comments:

**President's Cabinet:** Linda Eis was present for the PC report. The following were the topics presented:

- New MKEAP expansion with KCU for a Dental Program. MKEAP stands for the Missouri Southern State University/Kansas City University Early Acceptance Program. This program will operate similarly to the former YTL program, which is also being referred to as MKEAP Medical.
- There is a new Capital Campaign starting. It has identified seven areas that had the most interest from our foundation donors for support.
- Census is this coming Friday (Sept. 16). There are encouraging numbers for the new student population.
- MOSO Connect with the Dental Hygiene program is coming up.
- Town Hall is next Thursday (Sept 22). Will have updated enrollment reports.
- If any staff member did not get a tumbler at the Welcome Back meeting, they are located in HR. Please be sure to stop by and get one.
- Insurance Open Enrollment is coming up in October. They will be sending updated to campus regarding that as well as other changes coming with the switch. The Wellness Incentive credit will still be available with the new plan. There was a question asked regarding more detailed breakdown of expenses. Ms. Eis stated that all the insurance meetings are open to campus and suggested attending one of those to ask specific questions.

**Faculty Senate:** Amber Carr was present for the Faculty Senate Report. The following were topics presented:



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- There have been some issues on Degree Works with the degree audit.
- Faculty Senate President Elect may have to change. Per the handbook, the President-Elect must be teaching faculty. A discussion was started but tabled to allow Amber Carr to continue as the President-Elect.
- Elections are coming up.
- They just elected committee liaisons.
- Looking at the process to elect for committees.
- No questions for Staff Senate.

**Student Senate:** No representative was present. They have not met. No new report.

#### Staff Senate Committee Reports:

President-Elect Hughes called for committee reports.

##### 1. Communication Committee (Hamilton)

Looked at results of survey again. Employee Recognition is an emergency. There will be a meeting with HR to discuss a newsletter and what HR will be doing and the Communication Committee will move forward with some of their ideas. Also addressed the need for improvements to the Pawsitively the Best program.

##### 2. Community Service Committee (Hamilton)

Angel Tree: Application has been updated to be fully online. It will be going out to eligible students in the coming weeks. Gift wrapping will be on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

##### 3. Elections Committee (Case/Gammill)

End of September means end of third quarter. Call for Service Champ nominations will go out on October 3 with winners being announced at the November meeting.

##### 4. Executive Committee (Brownfield)

Executive Committee met with PC on August 31<sup>st</sup>. They discussed updates on the Angel Tree program, Staff Senate changes, and the tumblers handed out to staff at the Welcome Back meeting. Several staff members across campus were unable to attend and had yet to get the tumbler. Also discussed the Strategic Enrollment Recruitment and Retention Analysis (SERA). The RFP should go out sometime in September. This is a multi-year endeavor. Hopefully to be implemented in the FY2024 budget.

##### 5. Governance Committee (Gammill)

There was no September meeting. This is getting rescheduled. Still looking over the Bylaws.



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**6. Staff Welfare Committee (Hughes)**

Compensation survey has been placed on hold until the results of SERA are in.

**Campus Committee Reports**

President-Elect Hughes called for committee reports.

**1. University Council (Hughes)**

The following were topics at University Council:

- a. UC welcomed Bethany Kendrick to campus as the new Director of Communications & External Relations.
- b. MKEAP was introduced as the new name of the YTL program along with the introduction of the Dental Program.
- c. Jimmie Collins & Wes Brownfield gave a presentation regarding IT Data and Security. Talk about ransomware and what we can do as a University to prevent it.
  - i. Implementing Multifactor Authentication as well as moving data to SharePoint and OneDrive are a couple of ways to help.
- d. Census date is September 16
- e. Dr. Julie Wengert talked about the successes of the first week events across campus.
- f. Dr. Brad Hodson gave a facilities status report update. 7 ideas were going to be presented to the Board of Governors for approval. These ideas were sent to staff via email.
- g. Rob Mallory presented the new tailgate policy and it was approved.
- h. MSSU's sponsored Third Thursday is September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**2. Faculty Information Technology Committee (Belk)**

Committee has not met, no report.

**3. Insurance Committee (Killingsworth)**

Committee has not met, no report.

**4. Shared Sick Leave Committee (Curtis)**

Committee has not met, no report.

**5. Diversity Committee (Beasley)**

Committee has not met, no report.

**6. Empowering U Committee (Christiansen)**

Committee has not met, no report.



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## 7. Board of Governors

The following were highlighted during the meeting:

- a. Dr. Toms gave an update on Faculty awards (Years of Service, Governor's Awards, etc), 12 new faculty members, faculty data, and updates to the Faculty Handbook.
- b. Budget & Audit Committee
  - i. MOSERS allowed eligible entities in the state an opportunity to prepay the entire FY23 expected liability. By doing so, this allowed Southern to pay at a discounted rate (appx 3%) on payments.
  - ii. MOSERS Appropriation Reimbursement
    1. Missouri acknowledged the increase that MOSERS entities were having to pay and has awarded reimbursements. MSSU will receive approximately \$500,000.
- c. Board of Governors
  - i. MSSU/KCU signing ceremony was held to sign the MOU
    1. Extended the current agreement with KCU for MKEAP to include the additional program for Dental.
  - ii. Dr. Van Galen's Report
    1. Welcome Back/Beginning of semester events.
    2. Administrative changes:
      - a. Bethany Kendrick
      - b. Jeanie Nice (replacing Laura Boyd as Admin Assistant)
      - c. Dr. Shellie Hewitt (new to PC)
      - d. Linda Eis (new to PC)
    3. Faculty Tenure and Promotion
    4. Taylor Performing Arts Center
      - a. On track to open in November 2022
  - iii. Dr. Hodson's Report
    1. "Lion's Forward" campaign
      - a. 7 priorities (APPROVED BY THE BOARD)
        - i. Enhancing Student Experience
          1. Scholarships
          2. Student Success Center
          3. BSC Activity Center
          4. Athletic Excellence Fund
        - ii. Fostering Academic Excellence
          1. Academic Excellence
          2. Immersive Learning Opportunities
        - iii. Building the Campus of the Future
          1. Health Science Innovation Center
      - b. These 7 are important initiatives that have donor support.



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- c. Planned to be a 5 year campaign.
- iv. Dr. Toms Report
  - 1. The Honors Program received national recognition for having the highest engagement percentage among its students.
  - 2. MKEAP
  - 3. Adult Degree Completion program: already has 7 students enrolled and continues to add more and receive interest.
  - 4. Czech Semester is underway.
  - 5. Strategic Planning continues to move forward.
- v. Linda Eis Report
  - 1. MOSERS prepayment
  - 2. Review of Financial Statements
  - 3. Introduction of Christina Means as Director of HR.
  - 4. SERRA
  - 5. Open Enrollment for Insurance
- vi. Dr. Shellie Hewitt Report
  - 1. New Student update
    - a. Increase in residence hall occupancy - 13%
    - b. Increase in new first-time Freshman enrollment – 5.84%
    - c. Increase in new Graduate enrollment
    - d. Increase in new International Student enrollment
    - e. Slight decrease in new Transfer enrollment – 4 students
  - 2. Website Redesign
    - a. Phase 1 is complete
    - b. Completion is planned for Summer 2023
- vii. Rob Mallory Report
  - 1. Southernfest was a huge success
  - 2. Mental Health Initiative
    - a. The Bandana Project
  - 3. MSSU Athletics partnered with Icon Source to enhance the NIL(Name, Image, and Likeness) experience for student athletes.
- viii. Faculty Senate Report
  - 1. Had not met as of the BOG meeting
- ix. Staff Senate Report
  - 1. Quarterly Service Champ Awards
  - 2. Angel Tree Program
  - 3. Staff Morale

## 8. Strategic Planning Task Force (Case)

Committee has not met, no report.



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### Unfinished Business

President-Elect Hughes asked for any unfinished business. No unfinished business was presented.

### New Business

President-Elect Hughes asked for any new business.

- Lunch and Lounge
  - Idea on the table to allow Staff, Faculty, PC to get together and socialize. Bring your own lunch, play cards, relax, an opportunity to step away for a few minutes.
- Homecoming – Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Looking for help with parade
- Disney Internship
  - 10 students now. Still have spots for Spring. Let Amanda Curtis know if you have any students interested.

### Comments and Announcements/Guests Input

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

**Next Meeting:** 9 a.m. Wednesday, October 12, 2022, in BSC 310.

Submitted by Leona Belk