# MISSOURI SOUTHERN
## STATE UNIVERSITY
### STAFF SENATE

**Board of Governors Staff Senate Report**
January 9, 2026

**I.      2025 Staff Senate Elections**

Staff Senate currently has two vacancies following the departure of two members, including the President-Elect. Efforts to fill one of the vacancies prior to winter break were unsuccessful; however, the process to fill both positions has resumed this month. A new President-Elect will be selected from among the current members.

Additionally, the departure of one member created a vacancy in the Executive-at-Large position. This role has now been filled by current Staff Senate member Jedidiah Buck from Admissions.

**II.      Dress Code Policy Draft in Process**

A new staff dress code policy has been drafted by Human Resources, incorporating recommendations from a Staff Senate ad hoc committee. Once the draft is finalized, it will be forwarded to the President's Cabinet for review and approval.

**III.      Roary's Gift Express (formerly Angel Tree)**

Roary's Gift Express was a success again this year. The Staff Senate Community Service Committee collected, wrapped and distributed gifts for 66 children of MSSU Students – and increase of 10 children compared to 2024.



Banner signed by the recipients (students who picked up the gifts for their children)

**IV.** **Social Initiatives**

Staff Senate Welfare Committee has been championing several social initiatives aimed at fostering a stronger sense of community among staff. The committee has introduced "Craft Teas," offering staff the opportunity to gather by the fireplace in the library during the lunch hour to participate in crafting activities over tea. In addition, the committee is organizing a "plant swap," and encouraging staff to shared cuttings from office plants to cultivate new plants and exchange them with colleagues across campus.

## V.    Cost-Saving Initiatives

An ad hoc group of the Staff Welfare Committee continues to explore potential cost-saving measures across campus departments. One initiative involves developing a consolidated inventory of software licenses to identify duplication and evaluate opportunities for strategic investment in premium versions where appropriate. The group is working collaboratively with the IT Department on this effort.