



# MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

## Faculty Senate

### November 2025 Regular Senate Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

3:30 – 5:00 pm

Mississippi Room

- I. Call to Order
  - A. FS President Bordeiri called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM
- II. Welcome and Sign-in
  - A. Present at the meeting: FS President Michael Bordieri, FS Vice President Heidi Ortega, FS Secretary Brian Bourke, Senators Najib Sahyoun, Stephanie Ford, Thomas Powell, ZB Smetana, Oliver Beckers, Shri Singh, Jessica Pryor, Landon Clark, Ash Stemke, Faris Sahawneh, Kelly Taylor, Jeff Henry, Katelynn Mollett (proxy for Naveen Musunuru), Alison Brown, Jonathan Lyon, Marshall Hayes, Eran Guse, Michael Busby, David Pizzo, Carol Terracina-Hartman, Shauna Mullins, Susan Miller, Jenilee Williams, Paul Foote, Amanda Joyce, Erica Brown, Barbie Papajeski, Chris Trzepacz, Ray Horton, Marcie Venter, Chad Gaylord, Aaron Irvin, and Megan Smetana
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Motion made to approve by Senator Pizzo
  - B. Seconded by Senator Terracina-Harman
  - C. 30 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention
- IV. Report from the Chair, Faculty Senate President, Michael Bordieri
  - A. Updated regarding current searches for open positions. The Senate was asked to provide names of representatives three current searches. The representatives chosen are as follows:
    1. Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost - FS President Michael Bordieri & FS Vice President Heidi Ortega
    2. Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services - Senator Eran Guse
    3. Assistant Vice President for Public Affairs - Senator Thomas Powell
  - B. FS President Michael Bordieri thanked President Patterson for engaging and involving the Senate in the searches
  - C. On October 29, members of the FS Executive Committee are meeting with search firm to discuss priorities for VP searches
  - D. Presentation about upcoming vote for PTR, and report on engagement on the policy, and that no changes have been made during the open drafting period.
    1. Slides discussed outlining implementation of PTR policy, to aid in addressing those questions separately from the policy to be voted on.
    2. May 15, 2026 is the deadline for departments to have established standards approved by their Dean in consultation with the Provost.
    3. July 1, 2026 is the effective date of the evaluation policy, i.e. PTR.
    4. Spring 2027 will be when the system kicks in.
    5. Details about initial guidance on PTR implementation.



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- a) Senator Venter asked about being able to share information from TAPPS to the PTR system for someone who is slated for evaluation at the same time they choose to apply for promotion.
    - (1) FS President Bordieri shared that could be a conversation with the developer, Riza Marjadi
  - 6. There will be a staggered implementation over 4 years for initial reviews
    - a) Senator Foote - what if someone is awarded promotion to professor, does that impact if they still have to go through scheduled review?
      - (1) FS President Bordieri: yes, because HB 424 mandates a four year review cycle.
    - b) FS President Bordieri: 2031 will be the full implementation
    - c) Senator Horton - question about how will staggering of years happen within departments
      - (1) FS President Bordieri - assignments based on year of tenure
- V. Distinguished Guests
  - A. University President, Dr. Ron K. Patterson
    - 1. Opened the floor to questions about the searches
      - a) Senator Venter - what is the goal for having new people in place
        - (1) President Patterson - we have to be flexible in terms of start dates, perhaps allowing someone to go back and forth between here and current institution to help us get the best candidates
      - b) Senator Trzepacz - when will they close?
        - (1) President Patterson - open until filled
          - (a) We've had 30 confirmed candidates for Provost
          - (b) 8 confirmed for VP FA
          - (c) 8 confirmed for AVP
      - c) Senator Foote - will we bring in 3 candidates for each committee?
        - (1) President Patterson: Yield to search committee guidance
      - d) Senator Beckers - any internal candidates
        - (1) President Patterson, I don't know
      - e) Irvin - both VP positions have pivotal roles in determining budget for next fiscal year. How will we navigate that process without those positions filled?
        - (1) We have a budget advisory committee, and we'll use the expertise we have
    - 2. SONHP beam topping ceremony upcoming
    - 3. This is Homecoming Weekend
  - B. Provost Office, Dr. Renee Fister and Ashley Ireland
    - 1. Dr. Fister - thank you for all of the work on PTR
  - C. Faculty Regent, Dr. Gary ZeRuth
    - 1. Reminder about 10/29 listening session for searches
- VI. Action Items --- Faculty Senate Standing Committees
  - A. Executive – Faculty Senate President, Michael Bordieri
    - 1. **VOTE:** FSH 25-26-1 Annual Evaluation of Faculty & Post Tenure Review (Revised)
      - a) Yes, 29, 1 no, 0 abstention



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### 2. VOTE: FSR 25-26-2 Post-Tenure Review Procedures and Implementation Guidelines

- a) Yes, 29, 1 no, 0 abstention

## VII. Reports

### A. Faculty Senate Standing Committees

#### 1. Academic Policies – Chair, David Pizzo

- a) Haven't met, but will meet in November to discuss role of committee in aiding/assisting with PTR implementation

#### 2. Finance – Chair, Eran Guse

- a) Committee met via email. Discussed the idea of meeting with Dr. Patterson about discount rate. Then exploring RisePoint to examine ROI.

#### 3. Governmental Affairs – Chair, Thomas Powell

- a) Will meet in November to discuss ramping up preparations for legislative session beginning in January 2026.

#### 4. Handbook and Personnel – Chair, Michael Busby

- a) Will meet in November to discuss integration of PTR

#### 5. Rules, Elections, and Bylaws – Faculty Senate Vice President, Heidi Ortega

- a) Working on adjustment to timeline for nominations for BOR Teaching Awards to increase the calls for nominations, along with moving up the deadlines for determining winners from each College/School by about 2 weeks.

- b) Hope is to draw in more robust nominations.

- (1) Senator Venter - having deadlines more spread out would help collegiate committees

#### 6. Executive – Faculty Senate President, Michael Bordieri

- a) [FDC Faculty Shared Governance Roundtables](#)

- (1) Tuesday, November 11, 3:30 p.m. - 4:20 p.m

- b) We were invited to participate in listening sessions for searches

- c) Executive Committee discussed priorities for VP searches during their meeting on October 21, 2025.

- (1) Slides with details shared out to Senators following the meeting

- (2) Senator Stemke - open and clear communication about decisions made and the why

- (3) President Patterson - please ask for concrete examples during interviews

- (4) Senator Horton - prioritize consensus building especially within difficult situations and compounding constraints

- (5) Senator Pryor - meaningful experiences as an educator will be critically important

- (6) Senator Terracina-Hartman - appreciates emphasis on innovation in the list of priorities

- (7) Senator Williams - evidence of tough decision making; from the perspective of a smaller program, ensuring adequate representation in decision making

- (8) Senator Irvin - both VPs are accountable to one person, but we need people who are willing to be accountable more broadly

- (9) Senator Foote - VP FA needs to be aware about our parking situation

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(10) Senator Beckers - VPs should help faculty realize their full potential, e.g. seeking grants, providing seed money that then benefit competitiveness for grants

B. Other Committees

1. Senator Pizzo offered a reminder to complete Open Enrollment on behalf of the Insurance and Benefits Committee

VIII. Old Business

- A. No old business

IX. New Business

- A. No new business

X. Adjourned at 4:47 PM