

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday SEP 14, 2026, 3:30 – 5:30 pm CDT
IN PERSON: Allied Health Room 1040

Via ZOOM: <https://slu.zoom.us/j/92646937131>

1. Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 3:31p.m.

Dr. Lyons opened the meeting reminding Senators to sign in through the QR code and to notify Donna Jahnke, Senate Secretary, if substituting for a Senator.

2. Senators Presentd

Mike Markee, Stephanie Chinn, Orhun Aydin, Jessica Leonard, Nicole Healey, Amanda Barkema, Stephen Ferris, Jo Wood, Saneta Thurmon, Jill Bright, Sherry Bicklein, Donna Jahnke, Joe, Lyons, Chris Rollins, Craig Boyd, Joseph Nichols, Andre Zampaulo, Jaime Welborn, John James, Ben England, Rob Hughes, Mintesnot Teni, Jaya Gnana-Prakasam, Paul Bracher, Piotr Mak, Chezna Warner, T. Scott Isbell, Meadow Campbell, Dyan McGuire, Jesse Helton, Janet McHowat for Joe Wheeler, Joel Jennings, Naresh Bansal, Kelly Mulholland, Stephen McMillin

3. Moment of Reflection.

- a. Joe Lyons Shared a Moment of Reflection titled, The Peace Within. Trust God that you are at the place you are supposed to be. Use your gifts, pass on the love, be confident as a child of God, allow your soul the freedom to dance, sing, praise, and love. It is there for all of us.

4. Welcome - Faculty Senate President Joe Lyons

We are pleased to have guest speaker Provost Kathy Johnson with us today. Special welcome to all of our new Senators!

5. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes for the May 12, 2026 Faculty Senate Meeting were approved with three abstentions and no opposition.

6. School Reports

University Libraries

The Libraries launched Open Journal Finder to help SLU researchers identify journals in which to publish for free to support Open Access. Journals that are eligible for Article Processing Charge (APC) waivers though SLU Libraries Read & Publish agreements are marked as "Library Supported." These are journals See the Fall L&M Newsletter for more information.

We are undergoing repairs in the Lewis Annex on the 4th Floor in the Pius Memorial Library. If you need anything from that part of the library you can request it through the catalog and the library staff will access it for you.

7. FS Committee Reports/Introductions

Governance Committee

Ellen Carnahan, Co-Chair of the Governance Committee, introduced faculty members serving on the committee. They are listed below. Chris Arnatt serves as the other Co-Chair.

Governance Committee Members

- Ellen Carnaghan, co-chair, College of Arts and Sciences
- Chris Arnatt, co-chair, School of Science and Engineering
- Dyan McGuire, School of Social Work
- Jay Bauman, Medical School
- SangNam Ahn, College of Public Health and Social Justice
- Barb Yemm, Doisy College of Allied Health
- Helena Marvin, University Libraries
- Stephen McMillin (FS liaison)

The Governance Committee reviews the Faculty Manual, ensures the Faculty Senate is meeting the manual guidelines and makes sure that philosophies and policies of the university are followed. *The Governance Committee is requesting new members from the School of Education, School of Law, and the Business School.*

Academic Affairs Committee - No Report

The Academic Affairs Committee is responsible for policies that come to the Senate for review. and also debate longer-term issues and topics that need to be addressed by the Senate. Joe Lyons recognized the members of the Academic Affairs Committee.

Academic Affairs Committee Members

Maegan Roper (Co Chair),
Irma Kuljanishvili (Co-Chair), School of Science and Engineering
Kathy Gillespie (CPHSJ)
Alicia Pate (SOM)
Carol Needham (SOL)
Bukky Gbadegesin (A&S)
Karen Hall (SOE)
Deepika Gopukumar (CSB)
Eli Gress (Library)
Tatiana Cardona (SPS)
Lisieux Huelman (UU)

A representative from the Doisy College of Health Sciences is needed on the Academic Affairs Committee. If you are interested, please contact Maegen Roper, Irma Kuljanishvili, or one of the FSEC members.

Compensation and Fringe Benefits Committee

Chris Sebelsky, chair of the Compensation and Fringe Benefits Committee shared an update of the committee work. Compensation and Fringe Benefits is a longstanding committee that liaisons with the provost's office, the office of institutional research, and the Human Resources/benefits office. The committee has a narrow scope of focus on compensation practices, primarily benefits and salary. The Provosts website has the products of the committee including a flow chart of communication,

compensation philosophy, and previous presentations made under the benchmarking activities for compensation and salary.

Compensation and Fringe Benefits Committee Members

Chris Sebeliski (Chair), Doisy School of Health Sciences

Vicki Moran, Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing

Michael Swartwout, School of Science and Engineering

Julie Portman, University Libraries

D. Joy Davis, School of Education

Hadi Alhorr, Business School

Michael Mancini, School of Social Work

Ranjit Ray, School of Medicine

Stacey Harris - College of Arts and Sciences

The Compensation and Fringe Benefits Committee is requesting addition members specifically from the School of Law, School of Professional Studies, Public Health and Social Justice, and the School of Philosophy and Letters.

Budget & Finance Committee - No Report

The Budget and Finance Committee is primarily responsible for addressing any issues and concerns from faculty that should be a part of the budgeting process. The Budget Committee will work with the new CFO to ensure faculty have some input into the multi-year budgeting process.

Committee Members

Anneke Bart (Chair)

Bobbi Shatto

John James

Matthew Tuegel

Jennifer Giancola

Scott Ragland

Mike Markee

AdHoc Committees

Teaching Effectiveness Project (TEP)

Lisieux Huelman (Co-Chair), English as Second Language, is the Faculty Senate representative on this committee. At our October meeting Co-Chairs Lisieux Huelman and Debi Lohe from the Provosts office, will present the work of the Teaching Effectiveness Project to date and the next phase of the project.

If you are interested in joining a committee, the process is to reach out directly to the committee chair or any member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

There are additional committees that have Senate responsibilities but may not report out to the Faculty Senate. For example, the PRC, Professional Relations Committee. The PRC does not report out on its findings, its meetings are usually confidential in nature. The Faculty Senate Professional Relations Committee is charged with adjudicating grievances and screening appeals of non-renewals, and impositions of serious sanctions short of termination. Co-Chairs are appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. This year the co-chairs of the PRC are Ann Scarlett and Bobbi Shatto.

Professional Relations Committee (PRC) Members

Ann Scarlett (Co Chair)
Bobbi Shatto (Co Chair)
T. Scott Isbell SOM
Tassos Kaburakis SOB
SJ Tavis Loux CPH
Hisako Matsuo CAS
Crystal Botkin DSHS
Paul Jelliss SSE
Katie Devany SPS
Ann Scarlett SOL
Steve McMillin SSW
Angela Spencer Libraries

Question: What is the process for getting people on these committees? Reach out to committee chairs or the FSEC Joe Lyons or Donna Jahnke

Question: The appointments on the committee, are they formally made for each committee, or uniquely made for each individual committee?
Selections are made by individual committees. Ex. PRC committee deals with confidential information so the selection looks different. The process for each college/school is different as well. Some have formal elections for committee representatives and some ask for volunteers for positions.

8. New Business (Discussion Items)

The College of Arts and Sciences brought forth four questions/issues that need to be addressed by the Faculty Senate. A synopsis of the issues are listed below.

1. Non-student/non-grant revenue and accounts receivable policy
 2. IRB Fee's
 3. Concern over Data Centers
 4. Senate Rep. for GAAC and UAAC
- a. Non-student/non-grant revenue and accounts policy
- ii. Andre Zampaulo spoke to the non-grant revenue and accounts policy with some concerns about the process negatively impacting faculty work.
 - iii. The university is discussing this issue and its impact on faculty.
 - iv. The draft policy is attached.
 - v. Chris Rollins spoke with Steve Reeves and he has confirmed this is in the engagement phase before the PRC discussion. There are no definitives at this time, so this information is important to bring up now for discernment with faculty. There will be a 30-day window to take individual comments as well.
- b. IRB Fee's

- i. These fees go into effect on July 1st. These fees are for clinical trials only and will not affect most research.
 - ii. The SLU IRB Fees document is attached.
- c. Concern over Data Centers
 - i. There will be a Senate presentation on this issue in October.
 - ii. The Armory data center is in litigation, but is still planned for less than a half mile from us. Casey Fowler Finn is an expert on sound and shared these sounds could travel up to 1.5 - 2 miles. There is a low frequency hum. There was research on the effects on people and it was described as a “very serious issue.” Dorms, the new children’s hospital and several of our buildings are within 3,000 feet. The sound issues impact animals as well. There is current litigation regarding Data Centers and five of the six pending cases are around sound issues. Dr. Finn wants to be sure as a university we are considering all aspects of the impact as this is something the university should take very seriously.

Question. Has the university responded to the issues and want to get engaged in the issue? Dr. Finn has reached out to the university but they have yet to connect.

CAS made a motion on the Data Center. At the request of CAS, the FSEC reached out to the Presidents office and Brookes Goedeker will provide a presentation during the October meeting on the Data Center Development. Motion does not require a vote and is informational only.

9. Old Business

Faculty Senate Representatives to UAAC and GAAC

The Faculty Senate needed to identify one representative to serve on the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee (UAAC) and one representative to serve on the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee (GAAC). Both committees meet in person approximately once per month and review and approve new courses, curriculum changes, and degree/program proposals. Each school or college has a representative, and the Faculty Senate also appoints a representative to each committee. Senator Senata Thurmon stepped up to serve as our UAAC Senate representative. Senators who are willing to serve on GAAC should notify the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) as soon as possible.

10. Guest Speakers

Provost and Executive Vice President, Dr. Kathy Johnson

Below is a synopsis of comments by Dr. Johnson. The PowerPoint she shared with additional comments is attached.

Dr. Johnson was grateful for the opportunity to address the Senate and is eager to learn about how our Senate works, the culture of our organization, and to give time and attention as she can to the Senate. She shared she loves the natural intersection of topics between universities and colleagues. She has experience in a number of different university leadership roles including university faculty and is trained as a Cognitive Developmental Psychologist, spending many of her early years doing research and teaching in preparation for other leadership roles. She started being engaged in faculty governance when she was tenured because she was eager to get to know people working in other disciplines and engage in the natural intersection of areas of interest that

emerge as we talk with colleagues from different departments. She also enjoys getting things done!, sharing committees and helping to effect change.

Dr. Johnson started at SLU on July 13, 2026, and loved walking this beautiful campus. Because there were not many faculty around in the summer, she spent much of her time in the first couple weeks just listening, meeting with all the Deans and Vice Presidents as well as her own team asking three questions.

- What are we doing that is going well?
- What can we stop doing?
- What aren't we doing that could help us improve?

With this information she began to think about ways of changing structures and how groups meet, especially those that people didn't want or like to address some of the things that needed to be fixed. She made an immediate effort to dial back many of the meetings involving the provost so she has time to build relationships, think, formulate ideas, and write.

This led into several retreats, and the resounding theme was how important it was to begin to think about culture and build community. She heard a lot about the angst around a lack of transparency especially coupled with finances and a fear of retribution if things are not going well. This seemed to be around cultures of the past and how the university has been led.

Faculty are the brand of any university. Dr. Johnson loves the Jesuit charism, and this is a very important aspect of who and what SLU is, but it is the faculty and research we do and the teaching we do, that shapes the programs that we offer and cultivates the environment in which students are trained. She really hopes to work with all of us especially as we think about the culture of Saint Louis University. To Dr. Johnson, culture is not driven by organizational charts, or budgets or even the strategic plan. It is influenced and shaped by people, how we choose to engage or not engage, the ways we share information, the ways we socially norm certain behaviors. It is important we are all working in the same direction with shared goals and open lines of communication, especially with the Faculty Senate.

Following these initial comments, Dr. Johnson provided a PPT that outlined some of the initiatives the team has tried to reorganize to work better together. Her PowerPoint is attached, and comments about the slides are highlighted in red.

Chris Rollins - Updates on Strategic Planning Process, Faculty Affairs

Chris Rollins, Special Assistant to the Provost, shared the following:

- [*The Faculty Manual*](#) was updated according to Section IV (non-substantial changes). She pointed to items that were identified by the Senate Governance Committee.
- Newsletters are being shared on a bi-monthly basis and are archived on the [Faculty Affairs website](#).
- As requested, all approved unit level workload policies have been posted and can be [found here](#).
 - All of the unit level workloads were subject to a vertical review (compliance with the University Workload policy). This part is complete.

- All of the unit level workloads were subject to a horizontal review as requested by several Faculty Senate committees. Horizontal workload equity reviews have been complete except for "research productivity" and "research buyout" discussions.
- At the link noted above, the four charts for the completed horizontal reviews.
- All promotion and tenure documents which have been approved are posted on the [Provost website](#).

8. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Additional Notes Below

NOTES:

- Immediately following today's meeting, the Senate Kickoff and awards dinner will be held in AHP Room 3040. From the meeting, please take elevator to 3rd floor.
- The Senate is currently working to get all minutes from 2025/2026 posted on the Senate website. A new process was developed over the summer that should speed up posting minutes.
- Please ensure all motions are submitted to the FSEC at least two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting. Motions not received in time may be delayed from scheduling for timely votes/discussions.
- All School reports should be submitted ahead of time to Senate Secretary Donna Jahnke. School reports should include information and issues at the school/college level that are of interest to the senate as a whole.
- Questions on senate processes or concerns should be addressed to the senate email or to a member of the FSEC.

Academic Year 2026/2027 meeting Schedule:

Zoom LINK <https://slu.zoom.us/j/92646937131>

SEPT 14th - AHP 1040 (New Senator Orientation 2:30 pm, General Meeting 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm)

SEPT 14th KICKOFF DINNER - AHP 3040 (5:00 pm - 8:00 pm)

OCT 20th - AHP 1040 (3:30 - 5:00) & Hybrid

NOV 17th - AHP 1040 (3:30 - 5:00) & Hybrid

DEC 15 - Virtual Only (3:30 - 5:00)* December meeting is Tentative

JAN 19th - Virtual Only (3:30 - 5:00)

FEB 16th - Virtual Only (3:30 - 5:00)

MAR 16th - B School AB Auditorium (3:30 - 5:00) & Hybrid

APR 20th - B School AB Auditorium (3:30 - 5:00) & Hybrid

MAY 11th - Only if Needed