FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Mississippi/Illinois Room
September 3, 2026 – 2:30pm
APPROVED MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 2:36 pm on Thursday, September 3, 2026 in MUC Mississippi/Illinois Room by President Sue Wiediger.

Present: **President** Sue Wiediger, **Past President** Wai Cheah, **President-Elect** Igor Crk, Joaquin Berrocal Florido for Olga Bezhanova, Rachel Bradley, Jacob Del Rio, Ekaterina Gorislavsky, Keith Hecht, Jennifer Hookstra, Sungho Kim*, Marie Klopfenstein, Erik Krag, Joseph Kusi, Shi Li, Tianyu Li, Ramana Madupalli, Shannon McCarragher, Mark McKenney, Lynne Miller, Steven Morrese, Sorin Nastasia, Barbara Nwacha, Jon Pettibone (ex officio), Marion Prats, Beidi Qiang, Ken Rawson, Cassandra Maynard for Mark Ruscin*, Chrissy Simmons, Rebecca Swartz, Chin-Chuan Wei, James Wulfsong, Kyong-Sup Yoon, Siqi Zhang

* – attended via Teams

Absent: John Foster, Mary Frazier, Nima Lotfi, Jeffrey Sabby (ex officio), Dan Segrist, Jenna Tebbenkamp, Jasbir Upadhyaya, Cinnamon VanPutte, Sophia Wilson

Guests: Denise Cobb, Elza Ibroscheva, Tim Kalinowski

Announcements:

A. Policy changes approved and posted:
   i. 1C1 (Guidelines for Course Categories, Class Scheduling and Publications)
   ii. 1D3 (Policy on Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards)
   iii. 1F1 (Graduation Requirements)
   iv. 1H1 (General Education Program)
   v. 1I11 (Credit for Prior Learning)
   vi. 1J7 (Student Evaluation of Teaching) (approved Feb 2026)
   vii. 1K1 (Policy on Scheduling Final Examinations)
   viii. 1Q8 (Implementation and Administrative Responsibility Policy)
   ix. 1R2 (The John Martinson Honors Program)
B. Faculty Senate Membership Reduction - Bylaws changes approved
C. Business for Council meetings:
   i. Consideration of policies for joint review with the Graduate School
   ii. Designating authority under Robert's Rules
   iii. Identification of an Open Meetings Act designee

Consideration of Minutes:

The May 2, 2026 meeting minutes were reviewed. Page three, under Action Items, the motion to allow the Executive Committee to make a decision should be "rejected" instead of "approved." The amended minutes are approved.

Action Items:

A. Temporary Rule on Remote Attendance: The first action item is a temporary rule allowing senators to participate remotely while maintaining a physical quorum. Proposed by FSEC, the rule requires remote admission for discussions and votes. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Remote Attendance Bylaws changes: The bylaws changed regarding remote attendance, requiring 24-hour notice. Remote attendees no longer count towards quorum, as per the General Counsel's interpretation. The motion passed, pending approval from the Provost and Chancellor.

C. 1D3 (Policy on Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards) – approval of edits: The Chancellor approved the structure changes to the Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards Committee over the summer for readability and alignment with current practices. The Faculty Senate will appoint a representative to the core committee, with the option for the Senate President or Executive Committee to make the appointment before October. The changes mostly rearranged the committee, so the document was brought back for approval. The Faculty Senate approved the changes by acclamation.

Unfinished Business:

A. Update on approval to changes to Retired/Emeritus Faculty Policy – May 6, 2025
B. Program Prioritizations: Phases 1 & 2 implementation

New Business:

A. Open Meetings Act: anyone who has not already completed the OMA training needs to do so within 90 days: https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/open-and-honestgovernment/pac/
B. Council Chair for 2026-2027 Academic Calendar Year
    i. Budget, Finance and Academic Operations Council – Wai Cheah (needs approval): Wai Cheah will serve as the chair of the Budget, Finance, and Academic Operations Council for the semester, with the expectation that someone else will take the position in Spring.
C. Faculty Senate Vacant Seats and Council Assignments: Newly elected Senate members will receive their council assignments soon. A request is made for a non-CAS, non-assistant professor to join the Budget Finance and Academic Operations Council.
D. Charge to the Program Review Reform Ad Hoc Committee – Guests: Dr. Denise Cobb, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Dr. Elza Ibroscheva, Associate Provost; Tim Kalinowski, J.D.: The Faculty Senate Executive Council and the Provost's Office seek input on a charge to establish a committee for program review and prioritization. The committee should have adequate responsibilities outlined. Representation from various units, including clinical faculty, is crucial. The document is in Senate for feedback until the next meeting. Some express concerns about clinical faculty's limited involvement. Removing "tenure track" from the document could broaden the pool of candidates. Another suggestion made was that the word minutes be changed to "draft minutes" to facilitate faster information sharing.

Reports from Standing Committees:
IBHE Faculty Advisory Council: see attached report.
UPBC: see attached report.
Reports from Council Chairs:
President: see attached report.

Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 3:42 pm

Submitted by Michael Tadlock-Jackson, University Governance

Proposed Temporary rule on Meetings via Remote Attendance

Temporary Rule on Meetings via Remote Attendance

WHEREAS, 5 ILCS 120/7 of the Open Meetings Act specifies that a majority of a quorum of physically present members may allow other members to attend a meeting via remote attendance;

WHEREAS, such attendance is "only in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the public body";

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate in any regular, special, or emergency meeting intends to comply with the Open Meetings Act;

NOW, the Faculty Senate of SIUE, having considered the foregoing, hereby adopts this rule pertaining to remote attendees once admitted to the meeting by a majority of a quorum of physically present members of the senate:

1) The Senate will, at the outset of the meeting, ensure that any such person attending remotely is in fact an authorized member of the Senate;
2) Once admitted to attend remotely, remote attendees are allowed to participate as if physically present. This participation shall include, without limitation, the right to vote, make motions, ask questions, and debate;
3) Each member attending remotely must inform the Presiding Officer of the meeting (or designated administrative assistant) of an intent to do so;
4) The minutes shall reflect those senators attending in person and those attending remotely;
5) Any contributions to the meeting from remote attendees shall be reflected in the Minutes as if that member were physically present; and
6) The Rules set forth above apply to all Faculty Senate meetings for the Academic Year in which approved.

Adopted:

Approved:

Faculty Senate Bylaws

Changes Pertaining to Remote Attendees

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II Meetings

H. Quorums of the Faculty Senate and its subordinate units shall be one half of the Faculty Senate or subordinate unit membership. Designated alternates shall be considered in quorum counts.

i. As required by the Illinois Open Meetings Act, a quorum of members must be physically present at the location of the meeting. After a quorum is established in accordance with this section, additional members may attend the meeting via video or audio conference if the member is unable to attend the meeting due to: (i) personal illness or disability; (ii) employment purposes or public business of the body; ~~or~~ (iii) family or other emergency~~.~~; ~~or~~ (iv) unexpected childcare obligations; or (v) performance of active military duty as a service member.

ii. The Senate will, at the outset of the meeting, ensure that any such person attending remotely is in fact an authorized member of the Senate;

iii. Once admitted to attend remotely, remote attendees are allowed to participate as if physically present. This participation shall include, without limitation, the right to vote, make motions, ask questions, and debate;

iv. Each member attending remotely must inform the Presiding Officer of the meeting (or designated administrative assistant) of an intent to do so at least 24 hours prior to the meeting unless advance notice is impractical;

v. The minutes shall reflect those members attending in person and those attending remotely;

vi. Any contributions to the meeting from remote attendees shall be reflected in the Minutes as if that member were physically present.

Notes:

Red and Blue text added during Faculty Senate work in Spring 2026

Purple text added in Provost's office per legal review in Summer 2026

Green text added after legal review and consultation in Summer 2026

Faculty Senate Bylaws

Changes Pertaining to Remote Attendees

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Policy on Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards - 1D3

Structure and Responsibilities

1. This Committee shall operate as a standing Committee of the Welfare and Adjudication Council of the Faculty Senate.
2. No later than the third week of the Fall and Spring terms, the Chairperson shall distribute appropriate guidelines to the University Community with a request for nominations for Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards. Nominations will be accepted any time. All nominations received before January 1 will be evaluated for inclusion in the Spring graduation ceremonies of the following academic year. Every nominator should submit their nominations in writing to the Chairperson.
3. The first meeting of the Committee in any academic year shall be held as soon as possible following the start of the Spring semester. Material on nominees will be distributed to all members of the Committee in advance of that meeting. The Committee shall meet as often as appropriate in order to complete its work. The deadline for the Committee's confidential recommendation of nominees to the Chancellor shall be April 1, with a copy for information to the chairperson of the Welfare and Adjudication Council and President of the Faculty Senate.
4. The SIUE Foundation, Emeritus College, Office of the Chancellor, and Faculty Senate shall each appoint a representative to the four-member Core Committee.
5. At the beginning of the Fall semester, prior to distributing the nomination guidelines, the Core Committee will elect a committee chair who will preside over the distribution of the nomination guidelines, receive nominations, distribute nominee information to the committee and constituency representatives, and communicate the final nominations to the Chancellor.
6. Prior to the evaluation deadline, the committee shall identify representatives of as many of the following constituencies who will commit to evaluating received nominations and who shall be considered voting members of the committee until the end of the evaluation period.:
    - College of Arts & Sciences
    - School of Business
    - School of Dental Medicine
    - School of Education, Health & Human Behavior
    - School of Engineering
    - Library & Information Services
    - School of Nursing
    - School of Pharmacy
    - Council for Belonging and Equity
    - SIUE East St. Louis Center
    - SIUE Emeriti Faculty Association
    - Staff Senate
    - Student Senate
    - Provost's Office.

Commented [SM1]: To clarify that the process is selecting the nominees for the following academic year as the Chancellor has to submit the nominees to the Board for approval in the fall semester.

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Commented [SM2]: Revised to reflect email from Wai Cheah on 6/4/2026

"this committee will now consist of a total of four core members who will review the candidates for these two awards. They will come from The SIUE Foundation, Emeritus College, Office of the Chancellor, and Faculty Senate. Additional reviewers will come from the listed constituencies group depending on the bio of the candidates. "

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The Committee shall have responsibility for obtaining nominations for Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards and for making recommendations to the Chancellor from such nominations. It will be the responsibility of each Committee member to publicize the call for nominations to their own colleagues, e.g., announcements at faculty meetings, written interoffice communications. The Committee, however, is free to consider people other than those nominated by the University community. All nominations will be made in conformance with University policy and the Policies of the Board of Trustees.

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Policies and Procedures

The following policies and procedures are established for consideration for Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards:

1. A candidate for an Honorary Degree may be any person, as specified in the Policies of the Board of Trustees, who has made significant contributions to cultural, educational, scientific, economic, social, humanitarian, or other worthy fields of endeavor. Degrees may not be awarded to regular or to Emeritus or Emerita faculty, administrators, staff, or students in recognition of achievements while employed or enrolled at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Holders of political offices selected on a partisan basis, or candidates for elective office may be considered under exceptional circumstances. While some prior association with the State of Illinois may make the nominee especially appropriate, it is not a necessary condition for the awarding of the degree.
2. Distinguished Service Awards may be presented to any persons who have given outstanding or unusual service to the University, the region, or the State. Ordinarily the University shall have recognized distinguished service on the part of retiring faculty members by awarding Emeritus or Emerita status. Only in the most outstanding of cases may retired faculty be honored for their contributions.

   Faculty, administrators, staff members, and students presently employed or enrolled at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, holders of political office selected on a partisan basis, or candidates for elective office may qualify for such awards under exceptional circumstances.

3. Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards may be presented at a Commencement. The Committee recommends that ordinarily the recipient of an Honorary Degree be asked to participate in symposia prior to the commencement in lieu of delivering a commencement address.
4. Nominations, stating reasons for awarding such honors, should be accompanied by the following supporting information including all pertinent dates:
   a. Full name of nominee for award
   b. Date of birth
   c. Degrees received and granting institutions
   d. Appointments with educational institutions
   e. Relevant career history or experience relevant to the nomination
   f. Significant honors, achievements, contributions
   g. Societies, associations for which a nominee holds membership

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h. Major publications
i. Any other pertinent information

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2. Honorary Degrees. The Board of Trustees shall award honorary degrees based on the recommendations from the respective faculty, the Chancellor, and the President. ¶
Such degrees shall normally be awarded at the Spring commencement if two commencements are held annually. As the purpose is to limit honorary degrees ordinarily to one commencement and awards to the other, the order might be reversed; in either case, exceptions can be made if the recipients cannot attend at the time desired. Such degrees may also be awarded at special convocations or unique events.¶
The number of honorary degrees awarded should be small and need not be awarded every year.¶
Candidates for honorary degrees may be nominated through appropriate campus procedures after opportunity has been given to faculty members to suggest names for consideration. Nominations from faculty members and others should be forwarded through appropriate University channels. Final nominations with a list of names considered should be sent to the Chancellors not later than December 15.¶
A candidate may be any person who has achieved great eminence in a field of endeavor or who has made significant contributions to educational, cultural, scientific, economic, or humanitarian activity.¶
3. Other Awards. The Board of Trustees shall award Southern Illinois University Distinguished Service Awards based on recommendations from the respective faculty, the Chancellor, and the President.¶
Except as noted below, policies regarding determination of candidates for these awards shall be the same as those set forth above for honorary degrees.¶
These awards shall be made for outstanding or unusual service to Southern Illinois, to the State, to the nation, to the world, and/or to the University.¶
At special convocations or unique events when candidates are nominated for University-wide honorary degrees or Distinguished Service Awards, nominations from faculty members and others should be forwarded to the appropriate campus committee. Final nominations should be sent to the President.¶
Other special awards shall be made upon a favorable vote of the Board of Trustees upon its own motion or upon approval of recommendations from the President and the Chancellors, who may receive nominations from faculty or alumni groups.¶
In order to protect the nomination and screening process outlined in paragraphs a-c, above, every effort will be made to preserve the confidentiality of the nominee and no publicity shall be issued regarding the nominee until final approval has been granted by the Board of Trustees.¶

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Page 1: [1] Commented [SM4] **Morgan, Susan** **6/4/26 12:46:00 PM**

Changed to be consistent with the above - i.e., representative of office. Dropped Women's Studies based on feedback from Tom Jordan and Jessica Harris.

Policy on Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards - 1D3

Structure and Responsibilities

1. This Committee shall operate as a standing Committee of the Welfare and Adjudication Council of the Faculty Senate.
2. No later than the third week of the Fall and Spring terms, the Chairperson shall distribute appropriate guidelines to the University Community with a request for nominations for Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards. Nominations will be accepted any time. All nominations received before January 1 will be evaluated for inclusion in the Spring graduation ceremonies of the following year. Every nominator should submit their nominations in writing to the Chairperson.
3. The first meeting of the Committee in any academic year shall be held as soon as possible following the start of the Spring semester. Material on nominees will be distributed to all members of the Committee in advance of that meeting. The Committee shall meet as often as appropriate in order to complete its work. The deadline for the Committee's confidential recommendation of nominees to the Chancellor shall be April 1, with a copy for information to the chairperson of the Welfare and Adjudication Council and President of the Faculty Senate.
4. The SIUE Foundation, Emeritus College, Office of the Chancellor, and Faculty Senate shall each appoint a representative to the four-member Core Committee.
5. At the beginning of the Fall semester, prior to distributing the nomination guidelines, the Core Committee will elect a committee chair who will preside over the distribution of the nomination guidelines, receive nominations, distribute nominee information to the committee and constituency representatives, and communicate the final nominations to the Chancellor.
6. Prior to the evaluation deadline, the committee shall identify representatives of as many of the following constituencies who will commit to evaluating received nominations and who shall be considered voting members of the committee until the end of the evaluation period.:

    - College of Arts & Sciences
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    - School of Engineering
    - Library & Information Services
    - School of Nursing
    - School of Pharmacy
    - Council for Belonging and Equity
    - SIUE East St. Louis Center
    - SIUE Emeriti Faculty Association
    - Staff Senate
    - Student Senate
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The Committee shall have responsibility for obtaining nominations for Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards and for making recommendations to the Chancellor from such nominations. It will be the responsibility of each Committee member to publicize the call for nominations to their own colleagues, e.g., announcements at faculty meetings, written interoffice communications. The Committee, however, is free to consider people other than those nominated by the University community. All nominations will be made in conformance with University policy and the Policies of the Board of Trustees.

Policies and Procedures

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2. Distinguished Service Awards may be presented to any persons who have given outstanding or unusual service to the University, the region, or the State. Ordinarily the University shall have recognized distinguished service on the part of retiring faculty members by awarding Emeritus or Emerita status. Only in the most outstanding of cases may retired faculty be honored for their contributions.

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Policy on Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards - 1D3

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    - School of Education, Health & Human Behavior,
    - School of Engineering,
    - Library & Information Services,
    - School of Nursing,
    - School of Pharmacy,
    - SIUE Black Faculty & Staff Association,
    - SIUE East St. Louis Center,
    - SIUE Emeriti Faculty Association,
    - Director of the Women's Studies Program,
    - President of the Staff Senate,
    - President of the Student Senate,
    - Welfare & Governance Council,

- Provost.

Each representative's term on the Committee begins with a commitment to evaluate received nominations and ends when recommendation is made to the Chancellor.

The Committee shall have responsibility for obtaining nominations for Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards and for making recommendations to the Chancellor from such nominations. The Committee is free to consider people other than those nominated by the University community. All nominations will be made in conformance with University policy and the Policies of the Board of Trustees.

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Policies Based on the Board of Trustees Policies, Chapter 1, Section D

2. Honorary Degrees. The Board of Trustees shall award honorary degrees based on the recommendations from the respective faculty, the Chancellor, and the President.

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d. Other special awards shall be made upon a favorable vote of the Board of Trustees upon its own motion or upon approval of recommendations from the President and the Chancellors, who may receive nominations from faculty or alumni groups.
e. In order to protect the nomination and screening process outlined in paragraphs a-c, above, every effort will be made to preserve the confidentiality of the nominee and no

publicity shall be issued regarding the nominee until final approval has been granted by the Board of Trustees.

Charge to the Program Review Reform Ad Hoc Committee

The SIUE Faculty Senate Executive Committee, in cooperation with the Office of the Provost, establishes the Program Review Reform Ad Hoc Committee to develop a transparent, evidence-based, data informed and actionable Program Review process for consideration through the University's shared-governance and administrative review. The goal is to improve the quality of the program review process and increase faculty engagement and trust in program review.

1. Purpose and Scope

The committee shall recommend a revised and reinvigorated review process to meet administration needs and allow for faculty input. The proposed process shall define (1) a consistent set of mission-aligned, academic, student success, financial, workforce, accreditation, and capacity criteria; (2) institutional and external data sources and common definitions, as appropriate while attending to differences in disciplines and accreditation needs; (3) opportunities for programs to validate data and provide program-specific context; (4) required actions, responsible parties, decision points, and reasonable response timelines; and (5) a procedure for review, responses, and follow-up. Its final report shall be submitted to the Faculty Senate and the Provost. Such a process review effort will contribute further to strengthening the university quality assurance processes, demonstrate active engagement with continuous improvement principles, and facilitate excellence of programs.

2. Motivation

During the 2025 Higher Learning commission, the review team noted in their final report that SIUE maintains an "effective system of comprehensive program review" consistent with higher-education practice and documented faculty descriptions of it as a "strong and mature system" that contributes to program improvement (pp 38-39). In this context, the University also needs a review process that can address significant academic, enrollment, student success, financial, workforce, accreditation or operational concerns more fully than the current program review cycle while preserving academic quality, shared governance, and due process. Moreover, the process should attend to changes in demand and the external and emerging environmental factors that might affect programs.

While program review and academic program prioritization were governed by different processes and policies, this effort is focused on determining whether elements of the academic prioritization process can be thoughtfully and systematically embedded in the regular program review process to help eliminate the need for such unscheduled reviews in the future. The committee should consider using these experiences to design a process that is transparent, consistently administered and grounded in validated data,

attentive to differences in disciplines, and focused on improvement and responsible stewardship rather the competition for resources. We want the review process to be important and purposeful, supporting meaningful reflection, evidence-based decision-making, and constructive action, oriented towards an improved outcome. A central goal is to strengthen trust through clear expectations, productive consultations, and documented decision-making.

While this effort is intended to establish a robust and sustainable process that reduces the need for a separate academic prioritization, the University cannot guarantee that future circumstances or changing conditions will never make such a process necessary. The intent, however, is to develop a framework that supports ongoing academic planning decision-making in a way that minimizes the likelihood of needing a separate prioritization process in the future.

3. Authority

The committee is authorized to gather information, consult relevant stakeholders, review relevant policies and practices, and develop recommendations. The committee may go so far as to consider the feasibility of a singular Departmental process consisting of all programs (undergraduate and graduate) and specializations. The Office of the Provost will provide available institutional data and support for definitions, background materials, access to appropriate subject-matter staff, and clarifications on relevant administrative policy, accreditation, legal, financial, and reporting constraints. Institutional data remain subject to applicable privacy, confidentiality, and record management requirements. The committee is advisory and may not take final action, direct personnel decision, or commit University Resources. Draft recommendations shall be presented to the Office of the Provost and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The Office of the Provost will work with the appropriate faculty unions, when applicable, for review and comment before the final report is submitted.

4. Membership

The committee shall consist of the following members, all of whom shall be voting members unless otherwise noted. Members are expected to represent an institutional perspective, disclose material conflicts of interest, protect confidential information, and recuse themselves when appropriate:

A. The chair, appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee in consultation with the Provost.
B. One representative designated by the Provost.
C. The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, or designee.
D. One dean from another academic unit, or designee, designated by the Provost.

E. One faculty member, preferably from a program included in the Phase 2 Program Prioritization during the 2025-2026 academic year, appointed by the Faculty Senate President.
F. One tenure-track faculty member from an academic unit outside of the College of Arts and Sciences, appointed by the Faculty Senate President.
G. One faculty member with graduate faculty status appointed by the Graduate School Dean with responsibility to report to the Graduate Council.
H. The Director of Institutional Research and Studies as an ex-officio non-voting member.

5. Deliverables

The committee shall produce a written report recommending:

– Guiding principles, purpose, scope and definitions for program review.
– Standard set of criteria, measures, data definitions, sources, look-back periods, and validation procedures, including a method of documenting program context and data limitations.
– A proposed process map and timeline identifying notice of program review outcome, consultation, program response, administrative review, decision, possible appeal, follow up, and formalizing an action plan. with responsible parties at each stage.
– Recommendations for policy or governance changes, implementation responsibilities, resource needs, communication and training, record retention, a method and frequency for the assessment of the process, and a proposed effective date.
– Appropriate senate council that will oversee this assessment directly or via a designated subcommittee.

The report shall also identify options considered but not recommended, explaining the rationale for the preferred approach, include proposed Senate motions where appropriate, and append a draft process document and a program review template that is ready for institutional review.

6. Deadlines

Committee appointments should be completed no later than September 10, 2026. The appointing bodies should also identify alternates, as needed, to support continuity and timely completion of this charge.

After each meeting, the committee shall provide approved minutes, including decisions and assigned next steps, to the Office of the Provost, and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

The committee shall provide a draft report to the Office of the Provost and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee by January 15, 2027. Written comments

shall be submitted to the committee chair by February 9, 2027. The committee shall document how substantive comments were addressed in the final report. The committee shall submit its final report to the Faculty Senate and the Provost no later than March 1, 2027. The committee shall automatically dissolve on May 7, 2027, unless the Faculty Senate extends the charge in consultation with the Provost to address requested revisions or implementation questions.

7. Meetings

The Committee may meet at times and places of its choosing and may adopt internal procedures consistent with University business and Faculty Senate rules. At its first meeting, the committee shall establish a meeting schedule, decision making method, record-keeping expectations, and procedures for managing sensitive and confidential information.

Issued by:
The SIUE Faculty Senate Executive Committee, by Susan D. Wiediger, Faculty Senate President.
The Office of the Provost, by P. Denise Cobb, Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs.

Date: [insert date]

Note: Under Robert's Rules of Order, a committee report containing recommendations or action items is received by the Senate for consideration, debate, amendment or vote. Administrative implementation of any approved process remains subject to the authority of the Chancellor and the Provost, University policy, collective bargaining obligations, accreditation requirements, applicable law, and the availability of institutional resources.

The timeline allows:

March 4, 2027 – First reading & discussion in Senate.

April 1, 2027 – Second reading, debate, amendments, & possible vote.

May 6, 2027 – If necessary, final action or referral back to the committee, provided the committee's charge is extended as needed.

IBHE-FAC report for the SIUE Faculty Senate meeting on 3 September 2026

The IBHE-FAC has met twice since the last Senate meeting in May. For new senators, the Faculty Advisory Council to the Illinois Board of Higher Education is unusual in the country – we have representatives from each of the twelve public four-year institutions, twelve from private and proprietary four-year institutions, and twelve from community colleges. The FAC meets ten times a year, is advisory to the IBHE, and discusses a range of topics. The FAC website is currently http://www.facibhe.org/ but may be moving this year to a different website.

The IBHE-FAC met on 14 & 15 May 2026 in Springfield. The 14th was spent talking with legislators about higher education issues, and the 15th was a meeting at the Illinois Association of School Boards building.

Ginger Ostro, Executive Director of the IBHE, spoke with the FAC via Zoom.She talked about the One Click College Admit initiative: a data dashboard passed by the legislature last year that is collaborative between IBHE, ICCB, and ISBE and is focused on telling a clear store about progress in meeting state higher ed goals; and ongoing work on student success state wide, with three communities of practice as well as targeted support from technical consultants. During Q&A, she also discussed the funding formula, deferred maintenance, and the perception of UIUC among legislators. Members of the FAC working groups then updated Director Ostro on their current initiatives. She also talked about the ad-hoc group of the IBHE that is re-focusing the strategic plan at the mid-point: 25 strategies were grouped into seven clusters, and three meetings are planned to gather info from stakeholder communities.

Dan Hrozencik, FAC Chair, reminded people about the June meeting in conjunction with the IBHE and reviewed the meetings for the next year. *Mike Philips, FAC Legislative Liaison*, reviewed the fourteen legislators that were talked with during the first day of the meeting; key topics were PLA, dual credit, and where money would come from for a higher education funding formula. *Lichang Wang* reminded people about the officer elections. *Jason Edgar, FAC Secretary*, updated hosting information and brought forward a resolution honoring Dan Hrozencik for his service, which was approved by acclamation.

There was a general discussion about 90 hour degrees and community college baccalaureates. There are questions about the amount of demand and the data supporting decisions. Issues of placement and use of multiple measures to accurately place students into the correct course were discussed, including the work required by high school students who haven't attained the reading level expected by college.

Caucuses met and discussed questions to ask the IBHE during our joint lunch. Working groups met and reported out. One item of interest from the Equity working group was the potential conflict between a university accommodations program that is intended to help the student access the university setting and the goals of the instructor who is trying to prepare students for a future career.

The IBHE-FAC met on 17 June 2026 in conjunction with an IBHE meeting in Springfield; the morning was at the Illinois Community College Board building, and the afternoon was at the Regional CMS Regional Complex.

Andy Howard reported the results of the officer elections for next year. *Dan Hrozencik, FAC Chair,* talked about recent meetings of the Coalition for Higher Education Funding. Although the legislation didn't pass, they seemed optimistic; there seemed enough roll call to pass it, but the concern is knowing what would be the source of funding not only in the first year but in subsequent years. Greg Ferrence volunteered to be a representative to the Coalition. *Patrick Crawford* reported that the Iowa Board of Regents has approved Bachelors of Applied Professional Studies (BAPS) and reduced credit degrees. Working groups and caucuses met.

Agenda and Minutes for the IBHE meeting in the afternoon are available at the IBHE website, https://www.ibhe.org/061726.html. Highlights included updates on the state higher education budget; the SUCCESS initiative and Equity plans; and the taskforce working on a new statewide postsecondary attainment goal. Also of interest was a Statewide Nursing Workforce & Education Update provided by IBHE staff; the direct link provided on the agenda page is https://www.ibhe.org/board/2026/Jun/Nursing_Review_Board_Meeting_Pres_FINAL.pdf.

The next IBHE-FAC meeting will be September 18th at Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL.

With regards, Susan D. Wiediger, representative for SIUE to the IBHE-FAC through June 2026. For more information about any of these items, please contact me via email at swiedig@siue.edu. SIUE's new representative is J.T. Snipes (jsnipes@siue.edu), and the alternate representative is Shelly Goebl-Parker, egoeblp@siue.edu.

UPBC Report to Faculty Senate

9/3/2026

Our focus for 2026 will be on our transition from the current structure of UPBC to a new, planning focused council that we intend to call the University Council for Strategic Planning. We see this as an opportunity to reset expectations for shared governance for all parties at SIUE, setting the stage for greater cooperation and greater involvement of constituencies in decision-making at the University level. We will begin by working within the council to pass revisions of our operating papers that enable this change. Once passed, we will be sharing them with all constituents currently involved in UPBC, seeking their approval as required by our current operating papers. I look forward to conversations this semester on our future and invite all senators to attend our meetings or contact me with questions. Our meeting schedule and locations for Fall are provided below. We are finalizing agendas now for all meetings and will share as soon as possible.

All meetings are from 9:30 am to 11:00 am

Friday, September 11th , Third Floor Conference Room, Lovejoy Library

Friday, October 9th, Third Floor Conference Room, Lovejoy Library

Friday, Nov. 6th , TBD

Friday, December 4th TBD

President Report to Faculty Senate, 3 September 2026

Meeting with SIU System Vice President for Academic Affairs Gireesh Gupchup (16 June 2026)

Discussed the SIU Faculty Advisory Committee (FACSS) structure and function and possible initiatives for the year.

Meeting with Provost Cobb, Associate Provost Ibroscheva, and Governance Chair Kalinowski (18 June 2026)

A. Modifying Program Review in light of Academic Program Prioritization experience to improve process and work collaboratively to rebuild trust.
B. How Faculty Senate work might move forward during summer or at times when quorum is not met, perhaps via the Governance Impact Committee.
C. Issues related to course and curriculum progression and how those and other FS issues may need to be clarified in operating papers in terms of Robert's Rules.

Meeting with Graduate School Associate Dean Liz Cali (17 July 2026)

Reviewed Graduate School process for 3-year cycle of policy reviews and how to effectively coordinate for policies that should also be reviewed by Faculty Senate.

Meeting with Chancellor (28 July 2026)

I asked about the Chancellor's goals for the academic year (see Constituency Heads below) and whether he would like to attend an FS meeting. He expressed interest in doing what is useful for faculty interaction and that he is interested in faculty bringing initiatives forward through Faculty Senate.

Meeting with Constituency Heads (28 July 2026)

A. Chancellor Minor discussed
    1. Overarching questions to be considered such as whether we can or will continue to grow at the pace of last year and this year while maintaining quality and what infrastructure issues (e.g. housing) might need consideration.
    2. His goals for the upcoming year:
        i. Continuing to work on AI – the guidelines and the pilot projects in areas such as enrollment and HR. In particular, there was an 80% plus response to an email confirmation process with students.
        ii. Those initiatives relate to others that are connected to modernizing the university, such as cross-training staff
        iii. A capital campaign associated with SIUE's 70th birthday in 2027
        iv. And, always, focusing on student retention and success
B. Constituency heads shared current work or work planned for the upcoming year:

1. Student Senate: Kimmel transition to Get Engaged, parking ticket donation/amnesty day
2. UPBC: transition to the University Council for Strategic Planning
3. Faculty Senate: Curriculum, program review process, and transition to R2
4. Staff Senate: tell the story of staff and their support of students

Meeting with Provost Cobb, Associate Provost Ibroscheva, and Governance Chair Kalinowski (4 August 2026)

Discussed draft of charge for Program Review Reform Ad Hoc Committee. While in the office, had a bonus conversation with Tom Jordan on the status of various policies and the process for revisions.

Meeting with Provost Cobb (14 August 2026)

A. Some opportunities that new software (such as CourseDog) may provide and how those might be communicated
B. Mechanisms for broad communication with faculty
C. Possible topics for an All Faculty Meeting

Other Faculty-Senate Related Activities

1) Attended Board of Trustees meeting on 9 July 2026.
2) Participated in Convocation on 21 August 2026.