

# ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE AGENDA

**January 19, 2024**

1. Call to Order
2. [Adoption of Minutes, November 10, 2023](#)..... (p. 2)
3. Introduction of Guests
  - a. Dr. Mark Keenum, University President
  - b. Dr. David Shaw, Provost and Executive Vice President
  - c. Ms. Ra'sheda Boddie-Forbes, VP for the Division of Access, Opportunity & Success
  - d. Ms. Julia Pratt, Coordinator, Center for Student Activities
4. [Report of the Faculty Senate President](#)..... (p.17)
5. [Report of the Faculty Senate Vice President](#) ..... (p.20)
6. Reports from Faculty Senate Designates on University Committees
7. Business sent to Committee
  - 7.1. [AOP 12.04 Final Examination](#) (Academic Affairs sent 1-10-24)..... (p.22)
  - 7.2. [AOP 12.18 Academic Amnesty for Graduate Students](#) (Academic Affairs sent 1-10-24)  
..... (p.25)
  - 7.3. [AOP 12.26 Credit for Prior Learning](#) (Faculty Affairs sent 1-10-24) ..... (p.27)
  - 7.4. [AOP 12.21 Veterans' Academic Status](#) (Student Affairs sent 1-10-24) ..... (p.32)
8. Business to be sent to Committee
9. Standing Committee Reports:
  - 9.1. Academic Affairs
    - 9.1.1. [AOP 12.11 Undergraduate Student Requirements for Graduation](#) (Academic Affairs)..... (p.34)
  - 9.2. Ancillary Affairs
    - 9.2.1. [Resolution: Dean of Libraries Evaluation by all faculty](#) (Ancillary Affairs) ..... (p.39)
  - 9.3. Charter & Bylaws
  - 9.4. Faculty Affairs
    - 9.4.1. [AOP 13.21 Faculty Released Time for Specified Committee Chairs](#) (Faculty Affairs)  
..... (p.40)
  - 9.5. Student Affairs
  - 9.6. University Resources
10. Pending Business
11. New Business
  - 11.1. [United Faculty Senates Association of MS](#) ..... (p.32)
12. Adjourn



## ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE

### Uncorrected Minutes of November 10, 2023

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular monthly meeting in Bost Auditorium North at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, November 10, 2023.

Members absent and excused were Iva Ballard, Mike Breazeale, Charles Freeman, Skip Jack, Michael Jaffe, Kimberly Kelly, Rocky Lemus, Derek Marshall, Peter Messer, Cate Mochal, Rebecca Robichaux-Davis, Tara Sutton, Paul Tseng, Kim Walters, and Kelley Wamsley.

Members absent were Kris Krishnan.

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Banik.

President Banik asked for approval of the minutes from the October 6, 2023 senate meeting. Senator Gregory gave copy edits for correction. Hearing no further corrections, President Banik asked for a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Senator Barrett made a motion to approve the October 6, 2023 minutes. Senator Stokes seconded the motion.

### GUESTS

#### Dr. Mark Keenum, University President

Dr. Keenum said he began his day on a Zoom call with the College Football Playoff Board of Managers. He said he is the chair of the board and they had conducted a national search for a new executive director. The current Executive Director will be retiring at the end of next year and the board selected Lieutenant General Richard Clarke, U.S. Air Force Academy Superintendent, as the new executive director. Dr. Keenum said Lieutenant Clarke will be retiring after a distinguished 38 years in the U.S. Air Force.

Dr. Keenum said after the Zoom call he participated in the campus Veterans Day celebration that recognizes our Veterans who have served in the military and thanked them for their service. He added how appropriate to celebrate having a soon to be veteran leading our College Football Playoff Board on Veterans Day.

Dr. Keenum said he continued his day by welcoming new students to our campus for Preview Day. He stated there were about 450 prospective students and their parents in attendance.

Dr. Keenum spoke about the increase in student enrollment this fall and how it has increased 8 of the last 9 years. Dr. Keenum said that, looking to the future, both in the state and nationally we are facing an enrollment cliff due to a demographic shift in young people deciding whether they are going to college.

Dr. Keenum said we are focusing on our advising and student success initiatives but also enhanced recruiting efforts for out-of-state, in-state, and community college students. He said we are also looking at providing more programs and opportunities for students to earn degrees in fields not offered in the past.

Dr. Keenum spoke about the first class of 19 Physician Assistants on our Meridian campus that graduated this past May and reported that none of them signed their first contract for less than six figures. Dr. Keenum stated the Physician Assistant program is all privately funded by the Riley Foundation.

Dr. Keenum said the Riley Foundation also made a strategic investment to enhance health facilities and to bring a nursing program to Meridian, which will hopefully be allowed to admit the first students next August. He was very happy to state that Mississippi State University's Dean of Nursing, Dr. Mary Stuart, and seven new nursing faculty members were hired who are all preparing for the program. He said there will be as many as 70 students per cohort in the Master of Nursing program when the program is up and fully operational.

Dr. Keenum shared that a survey was administered this past year and the results showed that in hospitals alone there were over 3,000 vacant nursing positions in Mississippi. He said the five IHL nursing schools turned away over 300 qualified nursing student candidates last year because they could not physically accommodate them.

Dr. Keenum said the entire program is privately funded by the Riley Foundation in Meridian, the Phil Harden Foundation, and the Broadhead Foundation. He said these foundations have stepped up and are providing all support, funding, and renovations as well as the faculty and administration costs. Dr. Keenum stated that we are truly blessed that they have the confidence in us to make this type of investment to meet a need for their community, but also for our state.

Dr. Keenum said the Lucky Day Scholars Program recently had their pinning ceremony for 49 freshman students inducted into the program. The Lucky Day Foundation is a leadership program focused on providing scholarships to students along with mentoring, counseling, support, and programs to inspire leaders. Dr. Keenum stated the Lucky Day Scholars Program began in the fall of 2020 with the first cohort of 9 scholars and will increase to 25 scholars this year. Next year it will jump to 75 scholars and in 2025 it will go to 80 scholars, and that will be our annual allotment. Dr. Keenum said Lucky Day provides the scholarships and the funding to

pay the support staff salaries, which amounts to over a \$2 million per year commitment by the Lucky Day foundation for our students. Dr. Keenum said the entire Lucky Day Scholarship Board recently came to campus for a signing ceremony where they have agreed to invest \$4 million in our new residence hall currently being built that will have a designated set of rooms and space for these scholars to use.

Dr. Keenum said our new gym and Thomas Duff Center and our new CAVS center for our Eco car are both making excellent progress. He said the construction site for our new High Performance Supercomputing Center that will house our new supercomputers is also making good progress.

Dr. Keenum said a mechanical and engineering firm was hired to assess numerous locations for optimal placement of a new Mechanical Plant which is in the planning phase on campus. Dr. Keenum said the new plant is a critical infrastructure for our heating and cooling systems especially with the growth our campus is experiencing. He said it has been highly recommended that the building be located between the Charles Lee Ag & Biological Engineering Building and the Norman Building because of the efficiency of moving the chilled water and the proximity of the places it will be serving. Dr. Keenum said he expressed concern to the engineering firm that the new plant be aesthetically pleasing and blend in with our campus. He stated he had concerns the location of the plant would impede either of the two buildings near it with their potential growth but the engineering firm said it does not impede in any way. Dr. Keenum said he also expressed concern about the potential noise such a building might make and was told it would be very limited with its noise because of the new technology and buffers that would be used.

Dr. Keenum said our Women's Basketball team began their season in the newly renovated Humphrey Coliseum. He said he hopes our fans will enjoy the renovations as they are very nice.

Dr. Keenum said our soccer field will be hosting the first round of the NCAA tournament for our soccer team. He said they have had a tremendous season.

Dr. Keenum spoke of the recent elections and the legislative session which will convene on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. He said because it was an election year there will be new faces in the legislature and a new Speaker of the House. Dr. Keenum went on to say the first session after an election lasts 125 days instead of the typical 90 days as you have new leadership that must get organized and get their committee structure laid out.

Dr. Keenum said four trustees from the IHL Board of Trustees will be retiring at the end of May. Our re-elected Governor Tate Reeves will be appointing four new trustees who have to be confirmed by our Senate before they adjourn. The Board of Trustees is our governing board that determines our policies and procedures and sets our budgets and allocations.

Dr. Keenum said he is usually called two times to testify in the House and Senate. He said he is also called before the House and Senate Agriculture Committees where he brings our Division

of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine budgets to the legislature. Dr. Keenum said they will be meeting and having opportunities to express the needs for our university.

Dr. Keenum said he has and will continue to advocate for our faculty and staff as they do an amazing job. He continued by saying the university has phenomenal research that addresses critical issues for our state, nation, and the world. Dr. Keenum said we are serving the citizens of our state in our outreach and service from cities and counties to our communities and our farmers, ranchers, landowners', businesses, and industries and it could not happen without the people of the university.

Dr. Keenum stated faculty needed to be recognized and compensated for what they mean and add to our state and nation. Dr. Keenum said last year he shared with the legislature that when it comes to salaries we are not very competitive. He said this year they will share again not just in public meetings, but in private meetings with our leadership that we must have fair compensation for our people. Dr. Keenum said assistant professors at MSU are at about 84% of the average and full professors are only about 72% compared to our peers, and that is unacceptable. Dr. Keenum said they are working with our Foundation to bring more professorships, endowed professorships, and new chairs.

Dr. Keenum said the support we get for buildings and facilities are outstanding. He said the new supercomputing center was assigned separate appropriations over and above our normal bonding as we made the case that this is an investment not just for this university but the entire state to be able to have this type and caliber of supercomputer.

Dr. Keenum said we will have to raise tuition as our costs go up 3% to 5% every year. He said we have one of the lowest tuitions in the country but we must raise the tuition.

Dr. Keenum said one of the biggest challenges legislatures will face in this upcoming session is PERS, our public employment retirement system, and that it has not been performing well as an investment fund. Dr. Keenum said there is a separate board that oversees our retirement fund and they have already voted and determined that to shore it up, employers must put more money into it and have advocated 5% more of a contribution will be needed. He said they have given us 3 years to do so, but right after those 3 years, we are going to need to add another 5%. Dr. Keenum said over \$17 million will come out of the university's total budget and that is before inflation, faculty salaries, or anything else. He added this will not just affect MSU, but every university, community college, city, county, and public agency and that they do not have these kinds of dollars in their budgets either.

Dr. Keenum said his main message today was to say thank you and that the university could not be where it is without our faculty and what they do and that he is very appreciative.

Senator Williams told Dr. Keenum it had just come to his attention that the Eagle Scout Scholarship was dropped from \$6,000 over four years to \$2,000 for just a single year. He said the same thing has happened with the Girl Scout Award. He said he has been active with the

Boy Scout organization for the last 10 years and in the last 2 years has shepherded through 12 Eagle Scouts. He said he had lunch earlier that day with a parent who was upset because the scholarship is now \$4,000 less. He added females can be a part of Boy Scouts and there have been females who achieved both the Eagle Scout award and the Gold award in Girl Scouts, which is the highest level in both organizations, but MSU has told them they can only pick one of the scholarships. He said they are 2 similar organizations but are not tied together financially at all. Dr. Keenum said he appreciated this being called to his attention and he would talk with the scholarship team as they are looking at this coming year and will see what can be done on both fronts.

Senator Gregory asked Dr. Keenum if there had been progress on the replacement of Don Zant. Dr. Keenum said Les Potts was the Interim CFO and they would be looking in a few months at opening the search if needed for other candidates.

Senator Gregory asked Dr. Keenum about the Ombudsman as it seems that position has been eliminated. Dr. Keenum said he was aware as it was brought to his attention it may need to be restructured. He added Dr. Hart Bailey had been an incredible Ombudsman but understood there may be a better structure to provide an outlet and opportunity to have someone who can be an advocate for employees on issues they may have with the campus and university.

#### Dr. Brent Fountain, Faculty Athletic Representative

Dr. Fountain said the Hump was re-opened in time for our basketball season and Athletics asked him to share the changes to the seat locations. He said all faculty and staff who purchased Men's Basketball season tickets before the 2023 season were accommodated with lower-level seating in sections 109 and 110. The faculty and staff who had not purchased tickets until this year selected their seats based on their Bulldog Club rank. Dr. Fountain said a high number of returning season ticket holders took up the existing sections of 109 and 110 and many of the newer purchasers are now in the 200 level. He added the momentum of men's basketball is greatly improved and this was the highest season ticket sales since the 2011-2012 season.

Dr. Fountain said prior to this year Women's Basketball only had general admission tickets with no designated faculty and staff sections. He said Athletics extended the same season ticket discount as men's basketball so the returning and the new Women's Basketball season ticket purchases were available.

Dr. Fountain said work on the faculty and staff appreciation events has begun for the spring semester. He said on November 15, 2023 they will be hosting Volleyball which will be the final faculty/staff appreciation event for the fall.

Dr. Fountain said Soccer is a 6<sup>th</sup> Seed in the NCAA Tournament and will host Providence on November 11, 2023 at 1:00 pm. He said Soccer is usually free but with NCAA events there is a

charge and that pets are normally allowed at soccer games but they are not allowed at NCAA tournaments.

Dr. Fountain said Athletics submitted the Department of Education's Annual Equity and Athletics Disclosure Act Report that was due on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. He said Athletics are now working with their external auditors on completing the Annual NCAA Agreed Upon Procedures Report that is due in January. He said this report is an annual requirement of D1 athletic programs and they must submit their financial data detailing their operating revenues, expenses, and capital that relate to their intercollegiate athletics program.

Dr. Fountain stated the NCAA Division I Council has adjusted the transfer window for all sports from the previous 60-day window to a 45-day window. He said different sports had different windows of time based upon when seasons ended and the NCAA thought 60 days was too long a window of time.

Dr. Fountain said the NCAA Council continues to push for a congressional intervention to help with the regulation of NIL (Name, Image, Likeness) and the NIL protection of student athletes. Dr. Fountain said the NCAA wants to protect the student athlete with having a requirement to disclose deals over \$600, a voluntary agent registration with the NCAA, and standardized contract terms and agreements for the athletes.

Dr. Fountain added that MSU has already taken advanced steps with our student athletes and they work across the campus to understand brand management, tax implications, and contracts so we are being compliant in these areas.

Dr. Fountain said the NCAA is reviewing its penalty structure for those involved in violation of the rules of sports wagering. He said there will be a push from the NCAA to change state laws to insert protections for student athletes from athletic staff and from harassment and coercion. Dr. Fountain said in the legislative session coming up that Mississippi will very likely add online betting so it is very important to add these types of protections and penalty structures should they occur across the NCAA.

Dr. Fountain said in academics the APR (Academic Progress Rate) was paused during Covid but has returned. He said every team has a rolling 4-year APR average based on the number of student athletes they have on that team. The minimum APR score a team can have and not face any type of penalty is a 930 (out of 1000) and if the score dropped below that number they are subject to NCAA penalties. Dr. Fountain said all the MSU teams were well above the 930 minimum threshold score and the lowest team score was 972. He said four teams had perfect 4-year averages of 1000 and six teams had 999 averages.

Dr. Fountain discussed Athletic Academics and said the overall Spring GPA was 3.18 and was the highest Spring GPA on record. He said that marked the twelfth consecutive semester with a GPA over 3.00. The highest women's GPA was Women's Tennis with 3.78. The highest men's

GPA was Men's Tennis with 3.71. Eleven of the thirteen teams ended the Spring Semester earning a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Dr. Fountain said there were 58 students in the spring who earned Top Dawg Honors, which is a 4.0 GPA. 82 student athletes had a GPA over 3.8, 67 student athletes had a GPA between 3.5 and 3.79, and 248 student athletes earned Bulldog Honor Roll with a 3.0 GPA or higher.

Dr. Fountain said 107 student athletes graduated in the Spring and 30 have already applied for the upcoming December graduation. Dr. Fountain said the top four colleges our student athletes are enrolled in are the College of Arts & Sciences, College of Business, College of Education, and the Bagley College of Engineering. The top majors for our student athletes are BSIS, Business Administration, and Kinesiology. There are 39 student athletes enrolled in graduate school and 254 student athletes were advised on advising day.

Dr. Fountain said in December the SEC Faculty Athletic Reps will meet with the Athletic Academic Leadership. He said they expect to cover class attendance policies as every SEC institution submits the attendance policies to the conference where they keep them on file. He said some of the policies are very strict and some are very lenient. Dr. Fountain said MSU's class attendance policies are in our athletic student handbook.

Dr. Fountain said he also expects discussion about the transfer portal in the meeting. He said they want to make certain students understand when student athletes transfer to another institution they are not just playing for another team, they are first a student and must put in the academic work if they intend to compete.

Senator Carskadon asked if the rumor about a plan to reseat the Coliseum every three years or so is true. Dr. Fountain said he had not heard of that but will find out and report back.

Senator Carskadon asked if there was long term consideration for having a faculty and staff section in Women's Basketball as it has grown and become more popular. Dr. Fountain said it had not been an issue in the past but is something that will more than likely happen going forward as they value the faculty and staff section.

#### Dr. David Shaw, Provost & Executive Vice President

President Banik invited questions for Dr. Shaw.

Senator Gregory asked Dr. Shaw to expand on the question she asked Dr. Keenum about the Office of the Ombudsman being closed and having been eliminated. Dr. Shaw stated he would not be able to answer a lot more than what Dr. Keenum said but they had been having conversations with the Title IX office and are deciding the best way to accomplish what the university needs to be offering in terms of advocacy and immediacy. Dr. Shaw said Dr. Baily has a 75% appointment with the College of Veterinary Medicine and the new dean at CVM is assessing how that other 25% appointment is going to be managed.



## REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT

As we are closing in on the final senate meeting of Fall 2023, and I am amazed at how fast this semester has gone by. As I am winding down my first semester as President, I feel honored to be representing this body on so many fronts. I have gotten to know so many of you on a much deeper level than I have just being a member of this body

The call and email went out for the Southeastern Conference Faculty Achievement Award. Nominations are due by Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. I encourage all who are eligible for this award to apply and nominate someone if you know of a good candidate.

I have spoken to the Executive Committee about the additions of unrepresented faculty members to this body. Dr. Tracey Baham is working on getting a list of the number of unrepresented faculty, and we will be working with this information as Charter & Bylaws begins to consider reallocation of senators in the Spring 2024 semester.

Dr. Jim Dunne and I met on October 17<sup>th</sup>. We discussed committees, and we will be looking at 1/3 of them at a time. We also talked about updating the descriptions online to more current needs based on faculty.

Know that the Faculty Senate is always open and wants to hear from and work with faculty. Please bring forward any concerns you may have so that we can work on these issues together.

### **Reports from Committees on which I Serve:**

**Athletic Council** – This committee met October 18<sup>th</sup> in the M-Club. Some updates include a total goal for student athletes to complete 1,900 hours of community service. Currently, 759 community service hours have been completed. Advising Day(s) have started as class registration is going on. Graduation rates are at 79% (77% male, 81% female). This includes a 3% increase in male graduation. Austin Williams (football) and Emma Antonaki (tennis) were nominated for the Halbrook Award. Transfer portal dates have been shortened from a 45-day to a 30-day window, with possible online betting coming soon.

Josh McCowan spoke about updated goals. These include modernizing the Bulldog Club, looking for new areas for revenue growth, maximizing Name, Image, Likeness (NIL), and supporting athletes and coaches. Zac Selmon spoke about working on an athletic master plan and Humphrey Coliseum should be ready for first game. Ticket sales are up 119% percent. They are working on faculty/staff discounts for games, and premium seating is now sold out for Women's Basketball.

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Faculty/Staff Appreciation game for Volleyball against Auburn.

**Dean's Council** – This committee met on October 9<sup>th</sup>. AOP 12.11 Undergraduate Student Requirements for Graduation and AOP 13.21 Faculty Released Time for Specified Chairs were discussed and passed. These AOPs will be coming to Faculty Senate in November.

Academic Common Market requirements have been changed from an overall GPA of 2.75 to an overall GPA of 3.00.

Sabbatical forms have been updated and are posted on the Provost website.

Legal Council gave updates on agreements and how payments should work (co-ops, internships, etc.). Some templates are being constructed to assist with these agreements.

**Design Review Committee** – This committee did not meet in October. We met on November 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the Perry Hall Renovations and Addition. There will be three dining venues inside Perry, including a Southern Cuisine, BBQ, and a revolving option. Also, the Starbucks and State Fountain Bakery will be moving out of the Union. The Starbucks will be in the southeast corner of Perry, and the Bakery will be back in the original location on the north side of Perry. A glass addition is also planned to join the Perry to the Bakery and Moe's. The Meyer Student Media Center renovations are scheduled to begin on November 27<sup>th</sup> with a 4-month timeframe. This way, Perry Hall will go offline in May 2024 with renovations completed by August 2025.

**Inclusive Excellence Leadership Council** – This committee met for the first time in several months on October 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the purpose and goal of the committee, best practices, and challenges in our areas, and ways in which the committee members can assist each other and continue to support MSU stakeholders. The purpose of this council is to coordinate efforts that enhance the missions of research, teaching, and service by creating affirming efforts and preparing our students to thrive in a diverse and interconnected world, which is one of the core values of higher education. Each member gave updates for the represented units. The committee was reduced in number of representatives as it was not a need to have multiple people from the same unit, department, or college. The thought is the Council member should work within their unit's structure and report information back. The updated membership list is on the Standing Committee page for the university.

**Executive Council** – This committee did not meet on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. An email vote was taken for OP 91.122 Students with Disabilities. The IHL ADA Task Force is requesting the student disability policies from all institutions. The vote passed.

**Game Day and Special Events** – This committee met on October 17<sup>th</sup>. Two items were discussed. A tent on lot 18 for homecoming related to PGM was approved. The Student Association requested to put a photo booth in front of the M club on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

An email vote was passed to allow placement for the Learfield Ag Day Partner Tailgate and the Letterwinners Tailgate.

**Information Technology Council** – About half of the backordered Crestrons for the classroom technology podiums have arrived. They will be installed between now and Spring Break of 2024.

Adobe Express has ended or will be ending soon for MSU credentials. Only around 200 people are currently using Adobe Express, and people can still get it with the use of a non-MSU email address.

The MSU Information Security Program document was discussed at length and will be reviewed again at the next IT Council meeting. This document contains all the new security protocols for the university, some of which were discussed at Faculty Senate last month.

**Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee** – This committee met on October 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss plans for a new south campus mechanical plant to be built behind the Ag and Bio Engineering building. This plant is designed to add to the already used plant behind Patterson Hall and give a more centralized location for heating/cooling water. This will also ensure that if one chiller was to go down, there are backups. Right now, if one fails, there would be a loss of supply. The new plant will have the capacity to add six new chillers, but it is proposed to start up with two.

**Parking and Traffic Regulations Committee** – The committee did not meet on October 26<sup>th</sup>, but I spoke to Jeremiah Dumas about the question Senator Sutton raised at the previous meeting about ADA parking within the gated areas. Mr. Dumas responded with:

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that a certain number of parking spaces in each parking facility be designated as handicap parking and that those spaces must be on an accessible path into a building. As a large parking system, we manage ADA parking on various levels. Most importantly, is that we ensure that we have more than the required number of ADA spaces in each permitted zone type (Commuter East, West, South..., Resident North..., Staff, etc.).

In addition to the zone-specific ADA spaces, we have constructed large banks of ADA parking around the campus core that are Maroon Permit areas (open to any permit type), so that when the ADA spaces in your permitted zone, nor the SMART system, provide the access needed, anyone with a permit can use these central facilities. These areas are around Montgomery Hall, the Chapel of Memories, between Cresswell and Fresh Foods, between Bowen and Patterson Hall, between the Student Health Center and IED, and between the Roberts Building and Middleton Hall.

We have a long-standing accommodation process that works well for when people with a permit need an additional ADA parking accommodation that is above the standard ADA approvals. This process can be found on our website, and I can explore further if need be.

Gated parking, including the ADA spaces and like all other parking zones, is protected for those who pay the premium for gated parking. Access into gated is a parking accommodation that we

do consider for various permit holders who seek that level of accommodation and those who are provided a gated parking accommodation are required to pay the price of a gated permit. This is also true for ADA spaces in our metered/timed areas and our garages. All vehicles, even those with placards are required to pay the regular parking rates.

A handicap placard is not a park-for-free or a reduced cost credential, it is simply a credential that qualifies that the individual has met the state standard of using a handicap space.

We do have an accommodation process that includes access into the gated core and for those that are granted the accommodation, they aren't charged extra, they are simply required to pay the standard gated parking rate.

Gated parking does not include most of the ADA parking. The gated zone has it's required number of spaces per the ADA. Most of the ADA spaces are outside of campus, with the largest banks of spaces around the core in zones that are open to any permit.

**Sustainability Committee** – This committee did not meet in October, but a meeting is scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup>. I did meet with Saunders Ramsey for about 30 minutes on October 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the coordinator position. I also received answers to several questions posed from the August meeting of the Faculty Senate.

1. What types of chemicals are being used in Chadwick Lake to combat algae growth?

Regarding the chemical treatments in Chadwick Lake, Mark Peterman from the College of Veterinary Sciences is working on the algae treatments. As of right now the primary treatment for algae growth is Hydrogen peroxide. The Hydrogen peroxide is being used in unison with two liquid, copper-based products, Cutrine-Ultra and Cutrine-Plus, as well as the occasional Bio-block (also called a pond block or eco-block). The only other part of this treatment includes the diffusers and aerator fountains currently in Chadwick. Bream fish have increased as well, and bass have been added to the lake. Mark is currently working with several other departments to get better information on the sources of over-nutrifcation. Once there are some confirmations made there may be a future addition to this treatment, including granulated activated carbon placed in/at the known point sources, as well as possible treatment using Nutrisorb, which Mark believes to be made up of aluminum sulfate and magnesium oxide, but he is not 100% sure.

Algae growth has been due in high part to the amount of phosphorus entering Chadwick. This phosphorus is most likely coming from the fertilizers used on campus, particularly the sports fields. The athletic department has not given out information regarding the fertilizers used. This has increased the difficulty of treating the algae in Chadwick. Despite this, it seems that Mark and the other members of this operation are making very active progress and I don't want to diminish that.

2. What is the current approach to recycling on the campus, and how can we better develop what we currently are doing?

Recycling on campus is collected through Campus Services. The recycling is moved to the blue dumpsters, which are then transported to a recycling facility. There are a few things that could be improved upon with this system. From my understanding and previous recycling audits, we have a rather high contamination rate on campus. This is in part due to lack of signage and awareness of the blue dumpsters on campus (the one outside Critz hall for instance where freshmen regularly dispose of trash). Our recycling audit from June discovered that there are many inconsistencies between the different recycling dumpsters, such as the signage, color, and whether or not they have lids to protect from rain.

Educating the student body and faculty of the different dumpsters would also be highly beneficial. We as an office can only spread so much information, which is why we would really like to encourage an educational section on recycling/campus sustainability practices for the freshman and transfer student orientation processes. Increased awareness and lower contamination rates are an important goal of ours, as it prevents from wasting Campus Service's time and energy and increases the materials, we actively keep from entering the landfills. I have also personally received comments during tabling for the office, that there are not enough recycling bins in comparison to trash bins. There are none outside around the Union for instance, but there are plenty of trash bins. This encourages students to do what is more easily accessible, which is throw recyclables away. I am sure we will uncover more improvements to be made of the recycling processes at MSU, but for now these are our big concerns.

This semester, use of maroon/white bags have been implemented during football games to differentiate from the "green" bags used. This is an effort to add more recycling effort to the gameday experience. This may be marginal due to the possible lack of cooperation from fans at tailgates. Also, put on your calendars November 7<sup>th</sup>. This is the Fall 2023 glass recycling drive from 1pm – 5pm.

3. What is the timeline for a new sustainability coordinator hire?

MSU is having a hard time attracting a person just for sustainability when other people are doing much of the work, including engineers and student interns.

There are two ideas to handle this issue:

1. Instead of hiring someone into a standalone coordinator position, MSU could try to hire a Public Affairs person to coordinate the student interns who are currently working on sustainability efforts. Most of the engineering type efforts are being handled by others in Campus Services, and a public affairs style person could get the word out about all that is going on with sustainability.

2. Instead of hiring someone into the coordinator position, MSU could combine efforts of the sustainability coordinator with a current position in Campus Services. This would combine someone from plumbing or electrical or some other position into sustainability so that interns would have someone to report back to.

There are several other efforts for sustainability currently on campus. The new solar farm is under construction. The chiller plant behind Patterson is using water and ice to cool water through the peak of the hot summer months. Hundreds of trees are being planted around campus. Each building on campus must meet 30% more than the requirement of energy usage. These are just some of the many efforts this campus is doing to promote a sustainable campus.

## REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE VICE PRESIDENT

### **Committee on Campus Access**

No meetings were held since the last Vice President's report

### **Calendar Committee**

No meetings were held since the last Vice President's report, and no meetings are scheduled to date.

### **Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee**

This committee met on October 12 and President Banik will give an update with his report.

### **Undergraduate Research and Creative Discovery Committee**

This committee met on October 20. Faculty were asked to save the dates, April 11-12, 2024 for the Spring Undergraduate Research Symposium. Departments, colleges, and other units are encouraged to consider planning and supporting a Special Area Competition within their disciplines. You can e-mail [urcd@msstate.edu](mailto:urcd@msstate.edu) for a fact sheet about these competitions and how to get involved. Faculty and staff will also be asked to visit these projects when displayed to provide constructive feedback via comment cards.

Senator Rai commented about the bus stop at the corner of President's Circle and Creelman St. being unsafe as the buses stop in the street to allow students off near Montgomery Hall but the students don't look around to check for oncoming vehicles.

President Banik checked with Jeremiah Dumas about the possibility of the buses pulling through to Darden St (the lane directly next to Montgomery Hall, currently unused) to allow students off. Mr. Dumas stated that the ADA lifts/ramps of the buses are required to connect to the shelter or an accessible ramp. The buses used to enter from Tracy going east down Darden so that the shelters would be on the door side. Now the buses enter Creelman from President Circle so that shelters and the rear ramp behind the shelters is door and lift side. Having the buses turning left onto Creelman is far safer than multiple turns in that area, regardless of

direction, and it is much more efficient, which is important due to our current driver shortage. With the development of the new Duff Center complex, there are a few design solutions to extend Old Main Plaza south, which would eliminate President's Circle and this portion of Magruder, and a new bus terminal is also part of that discussion.

## REPORTS FROM FACULTY DESIGNATES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

### BUSINESS TO BE SENT TO COMMITTEE

1. AOP 12.11 Undergraduate Student Requirements for Graduation (Academic Affairs)
2. AOP 13.21 Faculty Released Time for Specified Committee Chairs (Faculty Affairs)

Senator Stewart gave the motion to send the AOP's to committee. Senator Williams gave the second. The motion passed.

### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **Academic Affairs - No Report**

#### **Ancillary Affairs**

##### **1. AOP 10.05 Nepotism**

Senator Grala, on behalf of the Ancillary Affairs Committee, presented the committee report on AOP 10.05.

Senator Gregory asked if the committee found the definition of a relative. Senator Grala stated it was in the HRM policy 60.103 and it listed family members of the employee as spouse, children, parents, grandparents, great grandparents, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, grandchildren, great grandchildren, in-laws and step-relatives.

The motion of the Ancillary Affairs committee to accept AOP 10.05 as presented passed by unanimous hand vote.

#### **Charter & Bylaws**

Letter of Request from Provost Concerning AOP Assignment to Faculty Senate Committees. Senator Spurlin, on behalf of the Charter & Bylaws committee, presented the committee report on the Letter of Request from Provost Concerning AOP Assignment to Faculty Senate Committees.

Senator Gregory stated she was concerned the Robert Holland Faculty Senate is an advisory body and does not have control if OP 01.01 is adjusted. Dr. Shaw stated what has been

presented was very reasonable and would take on making certain OP 01.01 had the revisions necessary as the president and cabinet would find it to be a worthwhile request.

Senator Carskadon made a motion that the committee add a sentence stating when an AOP is assigned to a committee the RHFS President inform the full Senate of the AOP and committee assignment. Senator Baker gave the second.

Senator Tschume asked for clarification if the language of OP 01.01 was not updated would the 30-day deadline still be in effect. President Banik stated it would be pushed through by no report. He added RHFS rarely meets the 30-day deadline which is one of the important issues.

The motion of the Charter & Bylaws committee to accept recommendation as presented and amended passed by unanimous hand vote.

**Faculty Affairs- No Report**

**Student Affairs - No Report**

**University Resources - No Report**

### PENDING BUSINESS

### NEW BUSINESS

Graduate Student Body President Luke Tucker stated along the lines of the Ombudsman that some graduate students were having issues in communicating with their advisors and major professors about certain issues with labs and work required. He asked if there could be a mechanism put in place to address these types of issues with the major professor and graduate student to discuss these types of issues with an arbiter. Dr. Shaw said there would be someone put in place for these issues.

President Banik asked for a motion to adjourn. Senator Barrett made a motion to adjourn. Senator Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Submitted for correction and approval.

---

Stacy Haynes, Secretary

Dinah Jenkins, Administrative Assistant II



## **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Dr. Mark Keenum, University President  
Dr. David Shaw, Provost & Executive Vice President  
Ms. Ra'sheda Boddie-Forbes, VP for the Division of Access, Opportunity & Success  
Ms. Julia Pratt, Coordinator, Center for Student Activities

## **REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT**

Happy New Year everyone! I hope everyone took some time over the last few weeks to rejuvenate and spend quality time with family and friends (and maybe teach a Winter Session class too). I wish only the best for us all as we get back to teaching, researching, and serving at the best university in the state of Mississippi.

I want to thank Jon Woody from the College of Arts and Sciences for his service last semester as proxy for Senator Andrew Jarosz. Welcome back Senator Jarosz. Also, welcome our newest senator, Michele Herrmann from the College of Architecture, Art, and Design. Thank you for joining us, Senator Herrmann.

I met with Dr. Keenum and Dr. Shaw to discuss the possibility of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate joining with the University Faculty Senates Association of Mississippi (UFSAM), a committee of all faculty senate leaderships across the state of Mississippi. There are nine faculty senates across the Institutes of Higher Learning (IHL). A letter was sent to Dr. Al Rankins, the Commissioner of Higher Education, on December 14, 2023, asking the IHL to formally recognize this committee and reinstate the practice of inviting senate leadership to all IHL Board meetings. A copy of this letter can be found at the end of the agenda packet under "New Business". To be a formal member of the UFSAM, a vote by the Robert Holland Faculty Senate to either formally join or officially decline this invitation is needed. Overall, this would be a moot point if the IHL does not recognize this committee, but if our vote is to join, then any input on behalf of the President of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate to the UFSAM committee would be voted on by the Robert Holland Faculty Senate.

Dr. Jim Dunne stated that 46 annual reports out of 59 have been sent to the Standing Committee Review Board. Dr. Dunne also stated that he is hopeful of getting a few more of the annual reports before the first meeting. Since this is the first time these reviews have occurred, the committee will try to review all 59 committees. After this year, the strategy of reviewing will be 1/3 each calendar year. I will be updating as we review these various committees. Our first meeting for the group is January 24, 2024.

A friendly reminder that the deadline for nominations and supporting material to be considered for selection as a William L. Giles Distinguished Professor is to be to the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President by January 31, 2024. Criteria for nominations and selections appear in AOP 13.02.

Spring course evaluation dates are listed below. These dates include the mini-term courses as well as the full term.

Full Term

IOQs open on Monday April 8, close Friday April 12.

Surveys open Wednesday April 17, close Tuesday April 30. (last 10 class days)

Mini 1

Surveys open Thursday February 22, close Wednesday February 28. (last 5 class days)

Mini 2

Surveys open Thursday April 18, close Wednesday April 24. (last 5 class days)

**Reports from Committees on which I Serve:**

**Athletic Council** – This committee met November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in the Templeton Building. Updates were given on athletic branding and organizational structure. Dr. Brent Fountain also attended the Robert Holland Faculty Senate meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and he gave a full report of the updates to the full senate. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Dean's Council** – This committee did not meet in either November or December 2023. AOP 12.21 Veterans' Academic Status had a minor error that was corrected. The AOP passed by email vote on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Vice President Breazeale attended the committee meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. AOPs 12.26 Credit for Prior Learning, 12.04 Final Examination, and 12.18 Academic Amnesty for Graduate Students were all discussed and passed by the Council. All four AOPs are now with standing committees within the Faculty Senate. An email was sent on Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to notify the Faculty Senate of the locations of the AOPs.

**Design Review Committee** – This committee met on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to further discuss the new mechanical plant that is scheduled to be placed between Dorman Hall and the Agricultural and Biological Engineering buildings. This committee discussed the aesthetics of the proposed building and exterior tie-ins to the surrounding facilities.

**Inclusive Excellence Leadership Council** – This committee met on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Ra'sheda Forbes spoke about the rebranding of Access, Diversity, and Inclusion (ADI) to the Division of Access, Opportunity, and Success. The Holmes Cultural Diversity Center (HCDC) name will remain as is. Ms. Forbes will be attending the Senate meeting on Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to give updates on this rebranding. The committee will have regular meetings this semester, beginning with the first meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Executive Council** – This committee met on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023. AOPs 10.05 Nepotism, 12.08 Requirements for Academic Programs and Academic Consortial/Contractual Agreements, and 12.29 Undergraduate Admission Requirements were all passed as presented in Faculty Senate

earlier in the Fall 2023 semester. Along with those, OP 91.123 Service & Assistance Animals was modified to update names of departments, include a section for hazardous environments for service animals, such as laboratories, and updates to the housing and residence life section. OP 91.107 Release of Information by University Police Department was rescinded.

The following policies were updated as technical changes.

- OP 91.122 Students with Disabilities (technical change: added a reference to OP 95.501 for ADA parking concerns)
- OP 91.208 Hazing Policy (technical change: updated name of the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life)
- OP 91.210 Food Handling On-Campus by Registered Student Organizations (technical change: moved the course from Health Education and Wellness Department to Cowbell Connect)
- OP 91.303 Student Publications (technical change: updated student title from “editors” to “editors-in-chief”)
- OP 95.501 Traffic and Parking Rules and Regulations (technical change: updated office name to Disability Resource Center)

**Game Day and Special Events** – No meeting is currently scheduled, and no meeting was held in November or December 2023.

**Information Technology Council** – This committee met on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The council discussed updates to the Information Security Program (v.5). Tier 1 strategic projects were also discussed. Tier 1 (university wide, high priority) projects can be found on the ITS website (<https://www.its.msstate.edu/about> under “Strategic Projects”). Not every project is listed here, as this is a public website.

The committee also met on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The proposed updates of the Information Security Program were approved and sent to the Provost office. A security incident occurred and was discussed where a faculty member lost their paycheck after being hacked. The council stressed that there should be a distinction between personal and work emails. A hack occurred with a DUO passcode and that type of hack should be taken out of the realm of possibilities now. Ellucian held demonstrations of the newest Banner system in December as well. There has not been a decision on the future of staying with Ellucian or moving to another system.

Also, faculty may setup their own faculty pages through the <https://www.faculty.msstate.edu/> website. Less than 20 are posted to the site currently. If you do not have a site and wish to have one, ITS can set up a shell for you and you can control the content posted.

**Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee** – This committee has not met since October 2023.

**Parking and Traffic Regulations Committee** – This committee did not meet in November 2023 nor December 2023. There was an email discussion and vote in mid-December concerning the parking for faculty and staff at the Hill Science Building on the west side of campus next to Newell-Grissom. Due to the renovations of Dorman, employees will be moving into Hill Science and the Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences requested to rezone the Maroon (Any Permit) Permit portion of the lot to staff.

Also discussed was the installation of ten level one charging spaces in our residential zones and creating a residential charging permit with a \$100 per year upcharge from the standard residential permit to cover the cost of charging for the academic year. Below are the locations where the charging stations are being installed. The permit cost would be \$350 per year (regular residential permits are \$250). Only residents with a charging permit can park in the spaces and be actively charging. The spaces will not be open for use if the vehicle is not charging, the non-charging vehicle will need to use a standard residential space. Non-residents are also not allowed to charge in the spaces.

- i. Resident North – Four Total
  - 1. Dogwood – two
  - 2. Zach Village – two
- ii. Resident South – Four Total
  - 1. Cresswell/Fresh – two
  - 2. Moseley/Oak – two
- iii. Greek South – Two total (Greek North permits can charge in the Greek South spaces)

Both proposals passed by email vote.

**Sustainability Committee** – This committee met on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Updates from the undergraduate interns were given about the Fall 2023 efforts, including Green Week of October 16-20, 2023, and glass recycling. Over 6000 lbs. of glass were collected during this drive. A new initiative will be presented concerning recycling locations during the spring semester.

## REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE VICE PRESIDENT

**Committee on Campus Access** - No meetings were held since the last Vice President's report

**Calendar Committee** - No meetings were held since the last Vice President's report, and no meetings are scheduled to date. Proposed dates for all 2025 semesters have been sent out for review and approval. The committee plans to resume meetings later this spring when the chairs will provide all the variables and "constraining factors" that are involved in planning the semesters and discussion of the 2026 calendar will begin in hopes of having it determined and posted by October 1.

**Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee** - No meetings were held since the last Vice President's report

**Undergraduate Research and Creative Discovery Committee** - This committee met on December 8. Campus-wide ORED Research Week is scheduled for the week of April 8. Individual units are encouraged to host their own Research Week the prior week. ORED Undergraduate Faculty Research Grant applications will soon be live on the ORED website. The deadline for applications is April 1. UG faculty can apply for up to \$2000 to be made available as summer funding.

**Dean's Council** - This committee met on January 8. Three AOP's were discussed as listed below:

AOP 12.26 Credit for Prior Learning

AOP 12.04 Final Examination

AOP 12.18 Academic Amnesty for Graduate Students

These, along with AOP 12.21 Veterans' Academic Status, which is now eligible for its regular review cycle, have been sent to the appropriate committees. There was also brief discussion about a plan for the Graduate School to work with individual colleges to develop training for faculty serving as graduate student mentors.

## **REPORTS FROM FACULTY DESIGNATES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

## BUSINESS SENT TO COMMITTEE



**MISSISSIPPI STATE**  
UNIVERSITY™

### AOP 12.04: FINAL EXAMINATION

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Academic Operating Policy and Procedure (AOP) is to define the policy regarding final examinations at Mississippi State University and to define the responsibility of the administrators and faculty.

#### POLICY/PROCEDURE

~~The Examination Schedule starts with a Reading Day. The purpose of the Reading Day is to allow students time to study and prepare for final examinations. No mandatory activity, meeting, assignment, or event for a class should be scheduled on this day. These restrictions apply to all Mississippi State University classes [BT1] (e.g., face-to-face, online, etc.).~~

All final examinations shall be held as specified on the Examination sSchedule except those for classes meeting fewer than two lecture hours per week and/or certain other classes which may be given at particular times by special permission from the Provost and Executive Vice President. Classes meeting fewer than two lecture hours per week and all laboratories will have their examinations at the last regular meeting of the class. Evening classes will have their examination ~~at the~~ on the same night of the week during the Examination Schedule regular meeting hour of the class during the examination period. Classes offered in shortened formats should hold the final exam during the last class period [TB2] when the exams are not scheduled in the University academic calendar.

~~The purpose of the Reading Day, when scheduled, is to allow students time to study and prepare for final examinations. No student activity, meeting, assignment, or event should be scheduled on this day. These restrictions apply to all Mississippi State University classes [BT3] (e.g., face-to-face, online, etc.).~~

When an instructor is teaching more than one section of the same course, permission may be given (by the instructor) to a student registered for the course to take the examination in any one of the sections, provided that procedure does not result in too many examinations for the student in one day.

Students are entitled to sit through the full three hours of the allocated exam time. If a student is late for the examination but no classmates have completed the examination before the student's arrival, then the faculty member must allow the student to take the examination within the remaining examination time.

Asynchronous online classes will have their examination during the regular (normal five-day, may span a weekend) examination period. Examinations must be available to online students for at least 72 hours between the end of Reading Day and prior to the end of the exam period.

Synchronous online classes will follow the normal exam schedule. For courses delivered in a mode other than asynchronous online, the faculty member may opt to offer the final examination through asynchronous online means. In these cases, the final examination due date must include

at a minimum the full three-hour session allotted by the academic calendar.

Exceptions to the published ~~E~~examination ~~s~~Schedule are discouraged. If an exception is deemed necessary, the request must be approved by the respective department head and dean and copies of these approvals placed on file in the dean's office. Approval for a request to change the final exam schedule must be secured at least 2 weeks prior to final exam week. Exceptions to the published ~~E~~examination ~~S~~chedule will be emailed and announced to the affected classes at least 2 weeks prior to final exam week.

### **Three or More Final Examinations in One Day**

Students should not have to take more than two final examinations in a given day. To resolve the problem of multiple final examinations, students will initiate the process and administration will become involved if necessary. The rescheduled final examination ideally should be a time that is convenient for both the instructor and the student. The rescheduling should be completed prior to the beginning of the ~~final examination period~~ Examination Schedule and the resulting examination must be administered during the Examination Schedule~~final examination period~~. Any exception to these guidelines must be approved by the Office of the Provost.

Student Responsibilities to Resolve Multiple Examinations: If the schedule has three or more final examinations scheduled on one day for a student, the student should take the following actions:

- The student should notify all instructors at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the examination period to explore if one of them can easily reschedule an examination.
- If no instructor is willing to voluntarily reschedule a final examination for the student, the student should notify the Office of the Provost so that this issue can be resolved administratively.

Administrative Responsibilities to Resolve Multiple Examinations: If the student contacts the Office of the Provost, the Associate Provost will coordinate the next steps of contacting the associate dean(s) in the college(s) of the student and the professors who are giving the final examinations. The following provisions will apply:

- The affected associate dean(s) will resolve the situation and decide who will reschedule which examination.
- The lead associate dean will be the associate dean representing the college of the student.
- The decision of the lead associate dean on which examination is to be rescheduled will be the final decision.

Students should report any violation of the above policy to the instructor's department head.

### **REVIEW**

This AOP will be reviewed every four years (or whenever circumstances require an earlier review) by the Executive Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School with recommendations for revision presented to the Provost and Executive Vice President.

REVIEWED:

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Executive Vice Provost and Dean, Graduate School

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Date

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Provost and Executive Vice President

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Date

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President, Robert Holland Faculty Senate

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Date

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Associate Vice President, Institutional Strategy & Effectiveness

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Date

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General Counsel

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Date

APPROVED:

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President

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Date





## AOP 12.18: ACADEMIC AMNESTY FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Academic Operating Policy (AOP) is to assist graduate students in their pursuit of graduate education by giving them the option of invoking academic amnesty.

### POLICY/PROCEDURE

Academic amnesty is designed to provide those graduate students previously enrolled at Mississippi State University the opportunity to have up to 9 hours of previously completed graduate courses eliminated from the computation of ~~his or her~~ their grade point average upon successful readmission.

To be eligible for the program, an individual ~~may~~ must not have been enrolled as a graduate student at Mississippi State University for at least three years. Academic amnesty may be requested through the student's academic dean's office after either provisional admission to a graduate program or provisional readmission has been granted by the department. Upon successful completion of at least 9 credit hours with a 3.0 or higher GPA provisional admission is removed, and the student can then request academic amnesty until the end of the semester preceding that in which the student graduates.

The ~~R~~egistrar's ~~e~~Office will ~~segment~~ update the student's academic record showing all courses and grades to be included in academic amnesty and recalculate the graduate GPA accordingly. Academic amnesty will be applied to the student's record only once and the new grade point average will be noted on the transcript at the end of the semester during which the request was approved.

The student is permitted to retake courses that were included as part of the 9 hours of coursework eliminated under the academic amnesty. All courses and grades will remain a part of the student's academic record. A notation will appear on the transcript indicating the student was approved for academic amnesty. Those courses approved for academic amnesty and then granted cannot be revalidated or applied toward the completion of another graduate degree.

The academic amnesty policy is applicable only to credits earned at MSU as part of current curriculum requirements to earn a degree. Students must be advised that the academic amnesty provision pertains only to Mississippi State University and ~~may now~~ will not necessarily be honored by other institutions of higher learning.

### REVIEW

This AOP will be reviewed every four years or whenever circumstances require an earlier review by the Executive Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School with recommendations for revision to the Provost and Executive Vice President.

REVIEWED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Vice Provost and Dean, Graduate School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost and Executive Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Robert Holland Faculty Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Vice President, Institutional Strategy & Effectiveness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Counsel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## AOP 12.26: CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING~~UNDERGRADUATE CREDIT BY~~ EXAMINATION

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Academic Operating Policy and Procedure (AOP) is to describe how students can receive credit for prior learning (CPL)~~promote an understanding among the holders of this manual regarding the issuing of undergraduate credit by examination.~~

### POLICY~~/PROCEDURE~~

Mississippi State University accepts ~~three~~ <sup>(TB4)</sup> forms of credit for prior learning (CPL) as fulfilling academic course requirements as defined in AOP 12.08 Requirements for Academic Programs and Academic Consortial/Contractual Agreements.

### Definitions

- Credit by Examination is an external, standardized test used to demonstrate the level of knowledge a student has in a particular subject.
- Portfolio-based or individual assessment is a method where students prepare evidence that demonstrates their competency of course content based on their experiences or other non-credit activities.
- Non-college training programs are instructional programs as part of the students' employment or military training that offer comparable course content (e.g., American Council on Education (ACE) or military credits).

### Guidelines

- CPL applies to current Mississippi State University students for courses approved by the University Committee on Courses and Curricula (UCCC).
- CPL may be awarded at any time after the student is admitted to the university.
- CPL may not apply toward residency requirements.
- The combination of all forms of CPL must be less than 25% of the credit hours required for the academic credentials for which the student is enrolled.
- Coursework fulfilled by CPL receives an "S" grade and therefore is not calculated in the grade point average.
- Students may apply for CPL up to the last day to withdraw in the semester prior to degree completion.

### Undergraduate Credit by Examination

~~Undergraduate credit by examination is included as part of the overall limit of 25 percent of non-traditional credit that may be counted toward graduation. Credit for these exams does not affect grade point averages.~~

~~1. **Advanced Placement Examinations.** Students entering Mississippi State University for the first time are allowed credit on the advanced placement examination administered by the College Entrance Examination Board. **Grades of Satisfactory (S) appear on the transcript for courses in which advanced placement credit is earned. Applicability of such credit to a specific degree is to be determined by the dean and/or head of the academic unit where the course is housed.**~~

~~2.1. \_\_\_\_\_ A list of specific courses approved for Advanced Placement credit may **be be** obtained from the University Registrar. **As more high schools develop Advanced Placement courses, Mississippi State University will consider their inclusion in this listing for credit** found in the university catalog at <http://catalog.msstate.edu>.~~

~~3.2. \_\_\_\_\_ **College-Level Examination Program (CLEP).** Mississippi State University serves as an open testing center for both the General and Subject Examinations. Academic credit on the Subject Examinations is awarded to students who are enrolled at the University and who make a scaled score as indicated in the university ~~bulletin~~ catalog. **Credit is considered the same as extension credit and is subject to the same limitations** ~~(TBS). The applicability of credit to a specific degree is determined by the dean and/or head of the academic unit where the course is housed.~~ A <sup>[BT6]</sup> list of courses for which credit may be obtained can be ~~found in the university catalog at <http://catalog.msstate.edu>. found in the current Bulletin of Mississippi State University. The bulletin is available online at <http://www.registrar.msstate.edu/> or in print.~~ If you have any questions concerning CLEP credit, contact the Registrar's Office.~~

~~4.3. \_\_\_\_\_ **The International Baccalaureate (IB):** Mississippi State University recognizes the IB Program. Advance standing credit will be considered for the higher level subject examinations with scores of 5, 6, or 7 pending approval of dean and/or head of the academic unit where the course is housed.~~

~~A-Students must request a final official IB transcript ~~will be sent by from~~ the International Baccalaureate North America (IBNA) regional office following the grade awarding ~~and upon the request of the student.~~~~

~~5.4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Cambridge International:** Students entering Mississippi State University for the first time may be granted credit for examinations administered by Cambridge International. Courses taken as part of the AS level or A-level curricula will be considered. **Grades of Satisfactory (S) appear on the transcript for courses in which Cambridge credit is earned. Applicability of such credit to a specific degree is to be determined by the dean and/or head of the academic unit where the course is housed.** Contact the Office of the Registrar for details on how credit is ~~presently~~ assigned in the various subject areas.~~

### Credit by Portfolio, Individual Assessment, and Non-College Programs

Demonstration of learning from prior work/military experience may be used on a limited basis to count as academic credit. Work experience may also count toward internship credits in the major. It will be incumbent upon the student to demonstrate how the knowledge and experience is equivalent to the learning outcomes of the selected course. Prior learning will be denoted on the transcript with the select course. These credits may not necessarily transfer outside of Mississippi State University.

- Credit is awarded based on the student's demonstration of competency in the course learning outcomes, as opposed to experience in the field.
- Assessment of student learning for CPL is equivalent to the assessment of student learning in the course and may use the same rubrics or checklists for evaluation. Demonstration of learning outcomes may include but are not limited to the following:
  - Report, paper, brief, or other form of written document
  - Presentation, poster, podcast, or other form of multi-media scholarship
  - Peer-reviewed or juried scholarship (journal article, conference presentation, exhibition, recital)
  - Comprehensive examination (written, oral, or combination)
- Assessment of student learning is completed in accordance with AOP 13.09 by academically qualified faculty members who are from the department that offers the course.
- Qualified faculty from the student's academic program communicate with the student how credit earned through CPL will be applied to the student's program of study.
- Students will be notified in writing about the determination of the assessment.
- Students may submit evidence of learning at most two times for a given course. The second attempt cannot be submitted within 30 days after the written notification of the determination of the first attempt.
- Prior learning will be denoted on the transcript with the select course (see example).

<u>XX</u>	<u>1103</u>	<u>Starkville</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>3.00</u>	<u>0</u>
			<b>XX-1103: Prior Learning Assessment</b>			

- Experiences completed prior to enrollment at Mississippi State University will be denoted on the transcript in the same manner as transfer credits, and experiences

while enrolled at Mississippi State University will be denoted in the semester the credit is issued.

### **Implementation**

A Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Committee will be formed with membership comprised of faculty and staff from affected academic programs, along with representatives from the Registrar's Office, the Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness, and the College of Professional and Continuing Studies. This committee will address the following topics:

- Uniform fee structure
- Uniform CPL appeal process
- Guidance for departments to develop internal assessment tools
- For-credit course to help students build portfolios
- Process through the Office of University Registrar to uniformly record CPL experiences on students' transcripts

This policy may be implemented for credit by portfolio, individual assessment, and non-college training programs as soon as the CPL Committee has finalized its process and the University Registrar is prepared to transcript the credits.

### **REVIEW**

This AOP will be reviewed every four years (or whenever circumstances require an earlier review) by the Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs with recommendations for revision presented to the Provost and Executive Vice President.

REVIEWED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost and Executive Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Robert Holland Faculty Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Vice President, Institutional Strategy & Effectiveness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Counsel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## AOP 12.21 VETERANS' ACADEMIC STATUS

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Academic Operating Policy and Procedure (AOP) is to ensure understanding and present a standardized approach to matters relating to veterans' academic status.

### POLICY/PROCEDURE

1. Students receiving educational benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) must meet the academic standards as specified in Mississippi State University's (MSU) AOP 12.165 Academic Suspension and Dismissal for Undergraduate Students or the Graduate Catalog from the year in which they were admitted to the degree program. The provisions of AOP 12.165 or the Graduate Catalog determine the student's academic eligibility to enroll in future semesters or the requirement to be placed on academic suspension or dismissal. ~~This policy~~ These policies also specify ~~iesy~~ when a student is eligible to re-enroll after a period of suspension or dismissal and applies to all ~~undergraduate~~ students including those who receive VA benefits.
2. A student's continued entitlement to the Department of Veterans Affairs educational benefits is determined as follows: If a student's cumulative average falls below the acceptable level as specified in AOP 12.15 or the Graduate Catalog6, he or she will be placed on "first probation to receive VA benefits." If during the first probation semester, a student does not improve his or her cumulative GPA, VA benefits will be suspended at the end of the semester. If a student's cumulative GPA improves but an acceptable level is still not achieved, a "second probation to receive VA benefits" semester will be allowed. If the standards of progress are not achieved at the end of the second probation semester, VA benefits will be suspended. Students may not receive further benefits until approved by the VA.
3. Based on VA rules and regulations, students receiving VA educational benefits will receive benefits only for courses that apply toward a degree program. NOTE: Any change in student status, such as drops/adds, change of major or withdrawals from the University, must be reported to the Veterans Administration Supervisor.

### REVIEW

This ~~Academic Operating Policy and Procedure (AOP)~~ will be reviewed every four years or whenever circumstances require an earlier review by the Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs with recommendations for revision presented to the Provost and Executive Vice President.



REVIEWED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Vice Provost and Dean, Graduate School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost and Executive Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Robert Holland Faculty Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Vice President, Institutional Strategy & Effectiveness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Counsel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **BUSINESS TO BE SENT TO COMMITTEE**

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

##### **Report to the Robert Holland Faculty Senate**

##### **Academic Affairs Committee**

##### **Report on AOP 12.11: Undergraduate Student Requirements for Graduation**

**January 15, 2024**

#### **Background**

At the November 10, 2023, meeting of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate, AOP 12.11, Undergraduate Student Requirements for Graduation, was sent to the Academic Affairs Committee for review. This AOP had been modified to more clearly state the university-wide graduate requirements while remaining in compliance with SACSCOC standards and included a change to the name of the AOP.

#### **Recommendation**

The Academic Affairs committee recommends that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve AOP 12.11: Undergraduate Student Requirements for Graduation as received, noting the additional comment made by a member of the committee.

#### **Discussion**

The Academic Affairs committee reviewed AOP 12.11 and only one comment was made but did not necessarily mean an edit to the AOP had to be made. Senator Adams indicated that within item 4 “Second Baccalaureate Degree Requirements” the AOP does not restate the number of transfer hours that can apply to the degree as is stated in 1f of the AOP. He questioned if that number should be restated in item 4 as well. This could potentially add unnecessary redundancy, but it might also add clarity. Thus, the committee would like Dr. Shaw and the Executive Council to determine if it’s best to leave it as is since the number of transfer hours are stated in 1f or if it’s best to stated them again and if so, to make that edit.

**Committee Members: Rebecca Robichaux-Davis (Chair), Frank Adams, Jenna Altomonte, Skip Jack, Jesse Morrison, Neeraj Rai, Amber Robinson, James Sobaskie**



## AOP 12.11: UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION DEGREE REQUIREMENTS – UNDERGRADUATE

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Academic Operating Policy and Procedure (AOP) is to provide a better understanding of the policies relating to the undergraduate degree program requirements at Mississippi State University.

### POLICY/PROCEDURE

#### 1. University-wide Requirements:

~~To complete a baccalaureate degree, a student must~~

- a. ~~A student must S~~satisfactorily complete the degree curriculum requirements.
- b. ~~A student must M~~ake an overall ~~C average~~ (2.00 GPA) on all hours scheduled and rescheduled at all institutions attended, including Mississippi State University.
- c. ~~A student must M~~ake a ~~C average~~ (2.00 GPA) on all hours scheduled and rescheduled at Mississippi State University.
- d. ~~A student must C~~omplete ~~from Mississippi State University no less than at least 25 percent of 30 -semester credit hours of his/her/their~~ degree program in ~~junior and senior subjects~~ upper-division courses (courses numbered 3000 through 5000) at Mississippi State University. approved by the dean of the college or school in which he or she is enrolled Any exception to the 30 semester credit hour requirement must be approved in writing by the student's dean.
- e. ~~A student must C~~omplete at least ~~the last~~ 25 percent of semester credit hours of course work taken to fulfill degree requirements from Mississippi State University. ~~(Any exception to the 25 percent requirement must be approved in writing by the student's dean prior to taking course work at another institution.)~~ Any course in the student's degree program that carries academic credit from Mississippi State University will fulfill these requirements. Hours earned at an approved exchange institution will count toward the 25 percent requirement <sup>[BT8]</sup>.
- e.f. ~~Students must complete N~~ot more than 25 percent of any curriculum (any and all coursework, laboratory, internships, externships that may be part of or meet the academic requirements for a degree) ~~may be earned~~ by Advanced Placement (AP) course, advanced standing examinations, College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Cambridge International, evaluated military service credits, tutorial, ~~and~~ extension courses, and prior learning assessment. Evaluated military training courses granted academic credit are classified as MSU (institutional) academic pass/fail credit with a grade of S and annotated as "ACE Guide Military Credit." Military training courses include all branches of the United States Armed Services,

except the United States Air Force. The Air Force provides a Community College of the Air Force transcript and credit is entered as transfer courses. [Refer to AOP 12.26 Undergraduate Credit by Examination for more information.](#)

~~f.g.~~ The limit on the acceptance of credit from junior or community colleges is one-half the total requirements for graduation in a given curriculum.

~~g.~~ No more than 12 hours of Directed Individual Study (DIS) may be used to complete degree requirements. The creation of DIS courses must be approved in advance by the department head.

~~h. Prior job/work experience may be used on a limited basis to count as academic credit. Such credit will require approval by the Provost and Executive Vice President. University studies grants up to six hours of credit toward experiential/work experience.~~

## ~~2. Board of Trustees Core Curriculum:~~

~~To be awarded a baccalaureate degree, all students must complete the Board of Trustees of the Institutions of Higher Learning for the State of Mississippi core curriculum consisting of the following:~~

English Composition	6 semester hours
College Algebra, Quantitative Reasoning, or higher math	3 semester hours
Natural Science	6 semester hours
Humanities and Fine Arts	9 semester hours
Social or Behavioral Sciences	6 semester hours
TOTAL	30 semester hours

~~NOTE: These requirements are included in the University General Education Curriculum.~~

## ~~3. University General Education Curriculum:~~

~~All students graduating from Mississippi State University must earn a minimum of 36 semester hours of credit (or equivalency) in courses making up the General Education Curriculum. (Specific courses to satisfy the General Education Curriculum will vary by academic major.) (For details on University General Education Curriculum, see [Bulletin of the Mississippi State University](#).)~~

## ~~4.2. Catalog Terms:~~

Students must meet the graduation requirements stated in the MSU catalog under which they first enrolled or the graduation requirements in a subsequent catalog with approval, providing they graduate within seven years. If a student interrupts his/her enrollment at Mississippi State University for two consecutive years or longer, the graduation requirements stated in the catalog under which the student resumes enrollment apply. Students changing

majors or programs must meet the requirements listed in the catalog that is current at the time they make such changes. Students may request fulfilling the requirements outlined in a subsequent catalog after their first enrollment. If this option is selected, then all college and major requirements in the later catalog must be met. The student must complete an approval form to switch to a more current catalog, obtain signatory approval of his/her advisor, and submit it to the office of the appropriate dean for notification of the change. In cases where course work is outdated or requirements have changed, reasonable substitutions may be required.

### 5.3. Other Degree Requirements:

The announcements of the various colleges and schools specify the additional requirements for the bachelor's degree in the various departments and programs.

### 6.4. Second Baccalaureate Degree Requirements:

For a student who has received a baccalaureate degree to qualify for a second baccalaureate degree, requirements for the second degree must be certified by the appropriate dean as having been met and must include 30 hours in courses numbered 3000 or above from Mississippi State beyond the requirements for the first degree<sup>[FA10]</sup>.

### 7.5. Advisement and Registration:

Every student in the University will have access to quality academic advising as described in *AOP 12.38 Undergraduate Academic Advisement*.

Every student in the University will plan their schedule and register for classes as described in *AOP 31.10 Schedule Planning and Registration*.

## REVIEW

This AOP will be reviewed every four years or whenever circumstances require an earlier review by the Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs with recommendations for revision presented to the Provost and Executive Vice President.

REVIEWED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost and Executive Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Robert Holland Faculty Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Vice President, Institutional Strategy & Effectiveness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Counsel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPROVED

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## ANCILLARY AFFAIRS

Report to the Robert Holland Faculty Senate

### **Ancillary Affairs Committee**

#### **Report on the 10.1 Resolution for Dean of Libraries Evaluation by all faculty**

**January 15, 2024**

#### **Background**

10.1 - Resolution for Dean of Libraries Evaluation by all Faculty. Given how central the library is to faculty and students the Faculty Senate resolves that the Dean of the Libraries should be evaluated by all faculty in the annual Faculty Confidence Survey conducted by the Faculty Senate.

#### **Recommendation**

**The committee voted unanimously not to act on the 10.1 Resolution for Dean of Libraries Evaluation by all Faculty.**

#### **Discussion**

Members of the committee have had extensive and robust discussion on the resolution. The committee decided not to act on the resolution because there is already a library survey circulated to the Mississippi State University community. The survey is distributed by the Library and called LibQUAL+. The last survey was distributed in 2022. The survey covered topics ranging from basic library statistics; a demographic summary of library users by user groups, subgroups, and disciplines; satisfaction with library services; and library use. Unfortunately, the survey participation rate was relatively low. The committee would like to encourage faculty to participate in future library surveys and provide feedback on library services.

**Committee Members: Robert Grala (Chair), Charles Freeman, Rocky Lemus, Derek Marshall, Lauren Priddy, Tara Sutton, Paul Tseng, Kevin Williams**

## CHARTER & BYLAWS

### FACULTY AFFAIRS

Report to the Robert Holland Faculty Senate

**Faculty Affairs Committee**

**Report on AOP 13.21 Faculty Released Time for Specified Committee Chairs**

**January 12, 2024**

#### **Background**

AOP 13.21 – Faculty Release Time, provides clear direction as to the funding percentages and/or release time for the Faculty Senate President, Faculty Senate Vice-President, Faculty Athletics Representative, and the University Committee on Courses and Curricula Chair. This AOP accounts for 9-month and 12-month faculty that may hold any of these positions.

#### **Recommendation**

The Faculty Affairs Committee recommends that AOP 13.21 – Faculty Release Time be accepted with minimal edits from the Holland Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Affairs Committee desires for AOP 13.21 to be approved with the edits listed below.

1. For the Faculty Senate President and the Faculty Senate Vice-President, replace “This” with “The summer pay”.
2. For the Faculty Senate President and the Faculty Senate Vice-President, replace “summer appointment request form” with “Summer Appointment Request Form (SARF)”.
3. For the Faculty Senate President, Faculty Senate Vice-President, and the University Committee on Courses and Curricula Chair, replace “he/she” with “they”.

#### **Discussion**

AOP 13.21 is a much-needed policy and is clearer and less ambiguous with the addition of the Holland Faculty Senate language.

**Committee Members: Jason Barrett (Chair), Russel Carr, Alexis Gregory, Kimberly Kelly, Krish Krishnon, Adrian Sescu, Jacob Tschume, Kimberly Walters**





## AOP 13.21: FACULTY RELEASED TIME FOR SPECIFIED COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Academic Operating Policy and Procedure (AOP) is to promote an understanding among the holders of this manual regarding faculty reassigned time for the Robert Holland Faculty Senate President, the Robert Holland Faculty Senate Vice President, the Faculty Athletics Representative, and the University Committee on Courses & Curricula Chair.

### POLICY/PROCEDURE

The University operates under the philosophy that certain committee positions filled by faculty members carry specified released time in order to perform the assigned functions. There are four such positions.

#### Nine-Month Faculty

The University will ~~reimburse release time for~~ the appropriate departments ~~for the percent of the~~ faculty ~~serving in the following roles time released~~ based upon 9-month salary or equivalent for these activities according to the following:

1. Faculty Senate President – Released time of 50% during the fall and spring terms, plus 16.67 % ~~for the summer. The summer pay is to be paid to the employee via a sSummer Appointment Request Form (SARF) for the summer time period in service to Faculty Senate. The summer timeframe includes May 16 through August 15. The rate for the summer is based on the salary of the faculty member at the time they he/she serves as chairpresident. These equivalent funds will be transferred to the faculty member's department in August of each year. In the event the faculty member fails to complete the year's obligation, the funds remaining revert to the Office of Academic Affairs.~~
2. Faculty Senate Vice President – Released time of 25% during the fall and spring terms plus 8.33% for the summer. ~~Theis summer pay is to be paid to the employee via a sSummer Appointment Request Form (SARF) for the time period in service to Faculty Senate. The summer timeframe includes May 16 through August 15. The rate for the summer is based on the salary of the faculty member at the time they he/she serves as vice president. These equivalent funds will be transferred to the faculty member's department in August of each year. In the event the faculty member fails to complete the year's obligation, the funds remaining revert to the Office of Academic Affairs.~~
3. Faculty Athletics Representative – Released time of 25% during the fall and spring terms. ~~These equivalent funds will be transferred to the faculty member's department in August of each year. In the event the faculty member fails to complete the year's obligation, the funds remaining revert to the Office of Academic Affairs.~~

4. University Committee on Courses and Curricula Chair – Released time of 25% during fall and spring terms ~~plus 8.33% for the summer. This is to be paid to the employee via a summer appointment request form for the time period in service to UCCC. The summer timeframe includes May 16 through August 15. The rate for the summer is based on the salary of the faculty member at the time they he/she serves as chair.~~

~~The summer pay for the Faculty Senate President, Vice President, and UCCC Chair will ordinarily be paid in July and June of a single fiscal year.~~

### Twelve-Month Faculty

~~The University will reimburse the appropriate departments for the percent of faculty time released based upon 12-month salary or equivalent for these activities according to the following. No additional pay is needed for summer because of the 12-month appointment.~~

The salary for twelve-month faculty serving in these roles will be treated as follows:

1. Faculty Senate President – Released time of 50% of their 12-month appointment.
2. Faculty Senate Vice President – Released time of 25% of their 12-month appointment.
3. Faculty Athletics Representative – Released time of ~~25%~~ 2.25 months of their 12-month appointment (equivalent to 25% of a 9-month appointment).
4. University Committee on Courses and Curricula Chair – Released time of 25% of their 12-month appointment.

Twelve-month faculty with less than full-time appointments can negotiate released time with their department through their appropriate reporting channels with final approval from the Provost's Office.

### REVIEW

This AOP will be reviewed every four years (or whenever circumstances require an earlier review) by the Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs with recommendations for revision presented to the Provost and Executive Vice President.

REVIEWED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and  
Dean of the Graduate School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost and Executive Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Robert Holland Faculty Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Vice President, Institutional Strategy & Effectiveness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Counsel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

STUDENT AFFAIRS  
UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

**United Faculty Senates Association of MS Letter**

Motion to Accept Invitation and Join the United Faculty Senate Association of Mississippi  
(presented by Senator Jason Barrett)

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate votes to accept the invitation to join the United Faculty Senate Association of Mississippi (UFSAM). Any and all input to the UFSAM on behalf of the President of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate (or any other representative of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate) will be voted on by the Robert Holland Faculty Senate, and any yay/nay votes by each institutional representative(s) in any UFSAM meetings must be recorded and made public.

# UNITED FACULTY SENATES ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

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Daniel W. Durkin, President | [dwdurkin@olemiss.edu](mailto:dwdurkin@olemiss.edu)

12/14/2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Alfred Rankins, Jr., Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
State of Mississippi Institutes of Higher Learning

Dear Commissioner Rankins:

As you may know, for many years the leadership of the faculty senate organizations at the eight publicly sponsored colleges and universities in Mississippi met routinely and formally as the University Faculty Senates Association of Mississippi (UFSAM). Unfortunately, the UFSAM became somewhat disbanded for a time, but in recent years the UFSAM has been revived. Indeed, we currently have active participation by representatives from all nine faculty senates.

We are therefore writing this letter to inform you that the UFSAM has been reconstituted and urge the Mississippi Institutes for Higher Learning (IHL) to recognize this body and reinstate the practice of inviting Faculty Senate leadership to IHL Board Meetings (as it does with student leadership). We look forward to once again working with the IHL to help support the growth of strong academic programs and institutions throughout the state, and to maintaining open lines of communication to help serve those interests.

Respectfully,



Anant Singh, Alcorn State University



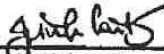
Dawn McLin, Jackson State University



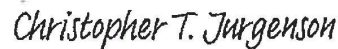
Holly Krogh, Mississippi University for Women



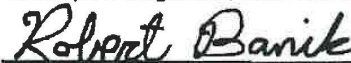
Daniel Durkin  
University of Mississippi



Jennifer Counts, University of Southern  
Mississippi



Christopher Jurgenson, Delta State University



Robert Banik, Mississippi State University



Chetara Epps, Mississippi Valley State  
University



Savannah Duckworth, University of Mississippi  
Medical Center

ADJOURN