

Officers' Musings
7 April 2017

Greetings from your Senate Officers:

The 2017-2018 Senate met yesterday to elect Officers. Your Senate Officers for the coming year (beginning June 1) are:

Chair: Liz Brown, Professor and Chairperson of Mathematics and Computer Science
Vice Chair: Tim Hawkins, Professor of History
Secretary: Lisa Phillips, Associate Professor of History

Discussion at the March 23 Senate meeting was dominated by proposals to revise Section 305 of the Handbook that deals with promotion and tenure. Informed by the preliminary comments from senators and visitors, the Senate officers prepared an updated draft of the proposed language and presented it to the Executive Committee on April 4. Extended discussion followed and will continue on 11 April. The latest version of the document will be reviewed at an informal Senate meeting at 3:30 on April 13 in Dede III. Interested faculty are welcome to attend this meeting. The final version of the proposed changes should come up for a vote of the Senate at its regular meeting on April 20.

The Senate endorsed the proposed Academic Calendar through the Summer of 2019. The question of trying to coordinate ISU's spring break with that of the Vigo County School Corporation was raised. Lisa Phillips agreed to try to open a discussion with their teacher's union to see if we could come to an agreement. A shared spring break would help our numerous faculty, staff, and students who have children in Vigo County Schools.

Senate approved the proposals for a BS in Cyber Security and a BA in Physics, endorsed the proposal for Accelerated Graduate Programs, approved revisions to Handbooks Sections 310 and 315 concerning graduate committees, and approved revisions to Handbook Section 210.2 that define experiential learning, community engagement, and career readiness.

You can find information about the Faculty Senate, including standing committees, Executive Committee and Senate minutes, meeting schedules, etc. at the Faculty Senate website: <https://www.indstate.edu/services/facsenate>. There is also a University Faculty Blackboard Site that all faculty may access. You will find it in your course list as COM-ISUFACULTY: University Faculty. Your Senate officers for 2016-2017 and their contact information are:

Chair: Timothy Hawkins, Professor of History, Timothy.Hawkins@indstate.edu

Vice Chair: Christine MacDonald, Professor of Educational and School Psychology, Chris.MacDonald@indstate.edu

Secretary: Liz Brown, Professor and Chairperson of Mathematics and Computer Science, Liz.Brown@indstate.edu

Please contact one of the officers or your Senate representative with any questions or concerns.