

**Kansas State University Faculty Senate
Faculty Affairs Committee
Minutes
Tuesday, Feb 4th, 2025, 3:30 pm
Zoom <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/96438217422>**

Attendance:

Name	College	1/21/25	2/4/25	2/18/25	3/4/25	3/18/25	4/1/25	4/15/25	5/6/25	5/20/25
Jessie Vipham	Agriculture	X	X							
LaBarbara Wigfall	Architecture, Planning, and Design	E	E							
Donald Crawford	Architecture, Planning, and Design	N/A	N/A							
Martha Smith Caldas	Arts and Sciences	X	X							
Brandon Savage	Business Administration (Co-Chair)	X	X							
Grace Liang	Education	X	X							
Amir Bahadori	Engineering	X	X							
Rachael Clews	Extension	X	A							
Paige Adams	General University	X	X							
Ashley Noll	General University (alternate)	X	X							
Kristin Anders	Health and Human Sciences	X	X							
Roger Adams	K-State Libraries	X	X							
Merta Scott-Hall	Technology & Aviation, K-State Salina	X	X							
Brad Cunningham	Term Appointment (Co-Chair)	X	X							
Michael Apley	Veterinary Medicine	X	X							
Matt Basel	Veterinary Medicine	N/A	N/A							
Alexa Haseltine	Student Representative	X	E							
Margaret Mohr-Schroeder	Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Innovation	X	E							
Charlotte Self	Liaison for Human Resources	X	X							

E = Excused, X = Present, A = Absent, P = Proxy

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order by Brandon Savage. Several members were noted as absent due to scheduling conflicts or other commitments. The committee began by approving the minutes from the previous meetings on December 17, 2024, and January 21, 2025, following motions by Amir Bahadori and seconds by other committee members. Both sets of minutes were approved without objections.

New and Continuing Business

Inclement Weather Policy Discussion

The committee reviewed a proposed revision to the inclement weather policy, focusing on faculty discretion for finals in cases of severe weather. The proposed options included allowing scheduled in-person exams to be shifted online, modifying deadlines, and requiring faculty to outline contingency plans in their syllabi. Concerns were raised about potential conflicts with departmental directives, faculty autonomy, and the logistics of online exam proctoring. The committee noted that existing final exam scheduling policies would need revision if the proposed changes were to be implemented. Vice Provost Mohr Schroeder provided feedback, emphasizing the need for consistency across departments and a common alternative scheduling method. After discussion, the committee decided to return the proposal to its originator for revisions.

IT Policy and Faculty Email Retention

The committee discussed the recent IT policy changes, particularly the termination of email access for former faculty, staff, and students. Faculty members expressed concerns over inadequate communication regarding these changes, noting that the email notifications sent to affected individuals lacked sufficient explanation. Questions were raised about whether cost savings or cybersecurity concerns were the primary motivations for the policy. Suggestions were made to explore an alumni email forwarding service as an alternative. Additionally, concerns were expressed regarding how inactive student accounts were classified and whether students who take a semester off might lose their email access. The committee decided to seek clarification from IT and explore potential faculty-driven policies to ensure continued access for retiring faculty.

Notice of Non-Reappointment (NRR) Discussion

The committee revisited the ongoing discussion regarding the NRR policy. A recent memo from the Office of General Counsel reaffirmed their position that K-State does not have a legally recognized grandfathered class of employees exempt from KBOR's new policy. Faculty members expressed frustration that relevant information was only recently shared, despite the issue being debated for months. Some members suggested that if faculty wanted to challenge the ruling, forming a collective bargaining unit would be the most viable option. It was also noted that an alternative resolution is being prepared for the next Faculty Senate meeting. While some faculty members support continuing the debate, others believe the legal standing of the policy is clear and that further challenges may be futile.

KBOR Faculty of the Year Award

The committee reviewed updates to the KBOR Faculty of the Year Award, including new categories for tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-track faculty. It was noted that the process for selecting faculty nominees at K-State had yet to be finalized. A subcommittee had been formed to manage nominations, but the criteria for selection were still under review. Concerns were raised about whether the selection criteria would be overly restrictive, potentially limiting faculty recognition.

Parking Issues on Campus

Concerns were raised regarding ongoing faculty and staff parking shortages, particularly in W-lots and handicapped spaces. Reports indicated that students were frequently parking in faculty/staff-designated areas, with some allegedly receiving permits due to a shortage of student parking passes. Faculty expressed frustration over enforcement inconsistencies and the lack of available

parking for those who need to leave campus and return throughout the day. Additional concerns included the loss of alternative transportation options, such as scooters, and the impact of ongoing campus construction on parking availability. Several suggestions were made, including increasing parking enforcement, revising parking permit structures, and considering remote parking with enhanced shuttle service.