

## Resolution 1516-03

We, the members of the McNeese State University Faculty Senate, in order to facilitate shared governance and equitable decision-making, do call upon the university leadership to include faculty representation in the Senior Staff for policy decisions directly impacting faculty.

In the McNeese State University Faculty Senate

*March 2, 2016*

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### RESOLUTION

1. **Whereas**, McNeese State Faculty can be personally and professionally impacted by policy decisions made by the University President, and
2. **Whereas**, “University Policy proposals or revisions are brought to Senior Staff by the President, or Senior Staff members may propose policies and revisions for their respective areas of responsibility. Upon review, the Senior Staff makes a recommendation for approval to the President, and the President is responsible for the final approval,” (from [www.mcneese.edu/policy/policy\\_on\\_policies](http://www.mcneese.edu/policy/policy_on_policies)) and
3. **Whereas**, McNeese faculty are not included in the list of “Senior Staff” (“The President's Senior Staff is composed of the President, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, Vice President of Business Affairs and University Services, Vice President for University Advancement, Chief Diversity Officer, Chief Information Technology Officer, Assistant Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, Budget Officer, and the Director of Human Resources and Student Employment. The Assistant Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs reports to the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs. The Vice Presidents, Chief Diversity Officer, and the CITO report to the President. The Assistant Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, the Budget Officer, and the Director of Human Resources and Student Employment provide resource information to the Staff.” - [www.mcneese.edu/policy/president-s-senior-staff](http://www.mcneese.edu/policy/president-s-senior-staff)) and
4. **Whereas**, the faculty are consequently dependent on the good faith and generosity of the President and Senior Staff to propose policies or policy changes impacting us.

### **Therefore, be it resolved by the McNeese State University Faculty Senate that**

1. The University President be asked to (a) expand the understanding of “Senior Staff” to include a faculty representative when considering policies directly impacting our professional concerns and responsibilities, or (b) informally include faculty in the decision-making process to ensure our input for policies directly impacting our professional concerns.
  - a. “Direct impact” policies will be understood to refer to those like (but not limited to) hiring/firing, tenure and promotion, SEI administration, course loads and scheduling, and physical teaching resources on campus (classrooms, equipment, etc.). It will be understood not to include other sensitive policy areas (e.g., construction, student housing/welfare, etc.), within the realm of good faith interpretations of these issues.
  - b. Faculty representation will not occur via proxy (e.g., an administrator speaking for faculty needs), but via direct faculty representation (e.g., Faculty Senate member or other tenured faculty).
  - c. The faculty representative will be selected by an open nomination process (all current tenured McNeese faculty are eligible), closing on a date selected by the Faculty Senate. The nominations will be discussed and a representative elected by a majority vote at the next Faculty Senate session. A faculty representative will be elected for each academic year.
  - d. Instructors or other non-tenured positions will be similarly represented when policies impacting them have been proposed.