



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

Hello everyone!

My summer experience could unfortunately be made into a country song, so I hope you had an amazing one.

Being a FHSU Tiger for more years in my life than not, I'm truly excited to serve in this new role as Faculty Senate President. Many past presidents including Kevin, Janet, Rob, and most notably Elodie, have been inspirational and have provided true guidance. I appreciate you all.

I recently participated in a Kansas Leadership Center workshop, called Your Leadership Edge. The workshop identified that, as faculty, some of our challenges are related to processes and transparency. I hope, together as faculty, we dive into our processes that affect faculty and students and refresh those processes to work for us, instead of us working for them.

Transparency was an unofficial ongoing theme last year, and I hope it continues this year. Removing information gatekeeping and reducing the use of information as a currency are key to reaching true transparency. This will be crucial for the continued improvement of shared governance across the university, and inclusion of stakeholders as decision makers.

I believe with refreshed processes and true transparency we can adaptively improve the larger faculty issues. These include workloads, retention, lack of decision-making power, and most importantly compensation and satisfaction.

If you haven't interacted with faculty senate, please have a discussion with your senator or any officer or member of the executive committee. Communication is key, and if you are looking for university service opportunities consider becoming a senator!

Thank you, I'm looking forward to a fun and productive year of faculty senate.

Shane Schartz, Faculty Senate President.