

Resolution of the Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Senate

October 14, 2020

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate of Stephen F. Austin State University recommends that the following actions be taken:

- a) That university administration (including the cabinet, deans, and unit heads) collectively issue a statement of support for staff and faculty that acknowledges that caregiving plans are subject to shift and adapt to changing conditions at schools / care facilities and based on governmental and public health recommendations and that adjustments may result in schedule shifts, gaps in caregiving needs, and other unforeseen challenges.
- b) That the Guidelines for Faculty, Updated for Fall 2020 document dated September 3, 2020, be updated so that all the provisions mentioned, including Budgets and Travel, Service and Research Expectations for Faculty, Student Evaluation of Instruction, and Telecommuting, be extended through the remainder of the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters.
- c) That the Guidelines for Faculty be evaluated during the Spring 2021 semester to determine if further modifications or extensions are needed beyond Spring 2021.
- d) That the [Telecommuting Arrangements for Staff Employees Policy 11.27](#) be applied to staff not faculty. Faculty should arrange telecommuting with their unit head.
- e) That the form used for staff to request telecommuting arrangements be amended so that “Caregiving Responsibilities” be included as an option along with “ADA accommodations,” “COVID-19 high-risk conditions”, and “Other.”
- f) That deans, unit heads, and tenure and promotion committees review and/or modify their tenure and promotion and annual evaluation guidelines, policies, and timelines in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Guidelines for Faculty to ensure that current conditions do not negatively impact faculty.