

**Fall Convocation
Faculty Senate
2021-2022**

President Mason, Provost Arensdorf: Thank you!

Faculty, Staff, and Administration,

Welcome to a new academic year. It is my distinct honor and privilege to serve you as Faculty Senate President this year. Additionally, I am honored to represent you at the Kansas Board of Regents as the President of the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents.

I stand on the shoulders of giants. Many of you in this room have served on the Faculty Senate, or have been a Faculty Senate officer. Thank you! But I must say a special thank you to our past president, Dr. Kevin Splichal, who served two years, during a global pandemic, and who continues to mentor me and answer all my questions.

Serving on the Faculty Senate is a valuable contribution to the university community. My fellow officers are Vice President Dr. Rob Byer and Secretary Dr. Shane Shartz. At this time, I would like to ask all Faculty Senators to please stand.

The Faculty Senate represents the faculty of Fort Hays State University, participating in governance of the university. The Faculty Senate is advisory to the President, and cooperates with the Student Senate, Staff Senate, and the Alumni Association. This year, the Faculty Senate's guiding principle will be "student success." All faculty, international and domestic, can and should share in the governance of Fort Hays State University through the Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate will conduct its business this academic year in the spirit of shared governance, with Provost Arensdorf and President Mason. This year, we will

- Continue supporting the General Education Committee's work toward the FHSU CORE as courses are aligned and approved,
- Continue to support the work of the FHSU Strategic Plan,
- Do all the other necessary and important work as our responsibility in shared governance, and
- We will continue to work in conjunction with President Mason, Provost Arensdorf, SGA President Mark Faber, and Staff Senate President Jennifer Whitmer. Thank you for your support.

The work of the Faculty Senate extends far beyond the votes that have been passed and approved. The Standing Committees of the Senate are continually collaborating, researching, and approving items that provide all faculty the resources and support needed to be successful, ultimately serving the needs of all students. I would like to extend my thanks to those committees and I look forward to working with you all.

Thank you!

Janet Stramel, Faculty Senate President
Rob Byer, Faculty Senate Vice President
Shane Shartz, Faculty Senate Secretary