

FACULTY SENATE AND COMMITTEE SERVICE

Faculty members are encouraged to actively participate in the governance of the College through the Faculty Senate and by serving on various committees organized across the campus.

As defined in the Senate Bylaws, “The Faculty Senate of Dalton State College is a deliberative and representative body of the faculty that serves as the voice of the faculty and as the mechanism for shared governance at the College.” The purposes of the Faculty Senate include developing new policies and prescribing policy changes to the President of the College and faculty, creating and staffing committees, serving as a forum for faculty to discuss concerns and important issues, and providing a voice for faculty concerns to the administration and President of the College. The Senate performs a vital role in the shared governance at the college and faculty are encouraged to engage with the Senate, either by serving as an officer or Senator or by communicating regularly with their representatives in the Senate.

The Senate is led by an Executive Committee that includes a President, President-Elect, Secretary, Parliamentarian, and Webmaster. These individuals are full-time faculty members who are elected by the faculty and serve in their positions for two years. Senators are also elected by faculty and serve as representatives from their departments or schools for three-year terms. Any full-time faculty member, lecturer, or certified librarian who does not hold a full-time administrative position at the College can be elected as a Senator following their first year of employment at Dalton State. Each school is allocated Senators based on the number of full-time faculty in the school and elections are held within departments and schools. The Faculty Senate meets three times each semester. The meetings are open to the public and all faculty are encouraged to attend.

There are ten standing Faculty Senate Committees that are staffed and administered by the Senate. These committees are the Academic Conduct Committee, the Academic Programs Committee, the Assessment Committee, the Faculty Development Committee, the Faculty Evaluation Committee, the Faculty Resource Committee, the Faculty Welfare Committee, the Strategic Planning Monitoring Committee, the Student Success Committee, and the Tenure and Promotion Committee. The Faculty Senate Bylaws explain in detail the purposes and duties of each Senate Committee, along with the committee composition and terms of service. In addition, ad hoc committees are established as needed by the Senate throughout the year.

Beyond the Senate, faculty have extensive opportunities for committee service to help move the institution forward. This includes service on various committees in departments and schools across campus, including Tenure and Promotion committees for faculty colleagues. Search Committees for faculty or administrative positions include faculty representation as an essential part of the hiring process. The Office of Academic Affairs organizes and oversees numerous committees that require faculty representation. Other bodies on campus, such as the Dean of Students Office, the Student Government Association, and the Library, also administer committees that seek faculty involvement. Faculty engagement in committee service is vital to the success and growth of Dalton State College.