

My name is Joyce D. Johnson. I am an Associate Professor of Biology in the Department of Natural Science. I have been a member of the Southwest faculty, beginning the fall of 2004. Since becoming a member of the faculty, I have worked with the Faculty Senate in many different capacities:

- From 2006-2010, I was selected as the department representative to the faculty senate. During this time, I served on the Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee, the Election Committee, and as Vice- President of the Senate.
- From 2010-2012, I served as Faculty Senate President and also as the Southwest's representative to TBR Faculty Sub-Council. During my tenure as President, some of the accomplishments were: revising the faculty evaluation process for fully tenured and promoted faculty; secured faculty parking at Macon and Union campuses; organized a new senate committee – Faculty Advising Committee; held forums to ensure faculty concerns were integrated with new policies being developed in academic freedoms, funding formula, class scheduling, and compensation.
- 2012-2013, I served as a member of the senate committee – Faculty Advising Committee.
- 2013 to present, I have served as the Chairperson for the Faculty Advising Committee.
- Presently, I am representing the Arts and Science Division as a division senator.

My leadership style is democratic, which respects the views of faculty stakeholders; encouraging participation in the decision making process. As President, I envision the faculty senate as a branch of the Institution's governance. As such its role is to assist in the development and implementation of the College's strategic plan; inform faculty of substantive changes, policies, and procedures made in conjunction with the administration; make recommendations to the Provost and President regarding faculty issues and ways to improve our institution for the benefit of students. Together, administration and faculty can meet the many challenges in preparing students to face the future. As President of the Senate, it is my plan to initiate, encourage, and ensure faculty that their concerns—academic and intellectual freedoms—as well as any matter relating to faculty status and welfare will be heard.

As Southwest embarks on an era of reconstruction, as Senate President, I will work to develop and maintain an effective partnership with our administration. I will provide our Senate with effective leadership. Working together we can achieve success. As Senate President, you can expect an open flow of information; maximum coordination and cooperation for the betterment of all. My view is that the relationship between the senate and the administration should be collegial. As we look forward to Southwest rebranding to a “one institution model,” I will work tirelessly with the administration on our shared goal of a quality education for our students. I will work tirelessly to ensure issues that are important to faculty are heard, identified, and resolved.

In conclusion, these priorities would guide me: strengthening our mission of supporting faculty interest; encouraging professional development; and providing a means of communicating common concerns. In addition, my role as President of the Senate is to be a liaison between faculty and administration working to keep the lines of communication open.