

I am Dr. Joyce D. Johnson, Professor of Biology in the Department of Natural Science. I have been a Southwest Tennessee Community College (Southwest) faculty member since, fall 2004. I have worked closely with the Faculty Senate in a variety capacities during my tenure at Southwest. The foundation of my leadership style includes collaboration and inspiration. These characteristics establish professional respect by engaging in collegial interactions. Valuing the views of faculty members and encouraging their participation in decision-making processes.

I consider the faculty senate as a branch of the shared governance of Southwest. As such the responsibilities of the Faculty Senate are 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; and make recommendations to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and College President regarding faculty concerns and potential solutions to improve our institution for the benefit and overall objective of student success. With the shared mission and vision of Southwest as our guiding principle, the Faculty Senate is poised and ready to work in conjunction with all departments of administration to ensure student success.

If elected as your next Faculty Senate President, I plan to initiate, encourage, and ensure faculty voices are recognized and heard to facilitate academic and intellectual freedoms, faculty well-being, and equitable treatment. My priorities will include 1) strengthening the Senate's mission of supporting faculty interests; 2) encouraging and promoting faculty engagement in the college; and 3) reviewing all matters directly affecting faculty. In addition, as your next Faculty Senate President, I will be an active liaison between faculty and administration working to keep the lines of communication open.