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## Faculty Senate Recommendations 1 - 2019

USM Faculty Senate

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# THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI®

## **FACULTY SENATE RECOMMENDATION #1 2018–2019**

The USM Faculty Senate recommends and advocates for greater openness and communication in the reorganization process moving forward. The Faculty Senate recognizes that the level of secrecy involved with the reorganization process has led to a high level of anxiety and mistrust among the university community. Further, because many reorganization committee members are prohibited from openly discussing the process, rumors abound on campus. While we recognize that the members of the various reorganization committees worked diligently toward the end of improving the university, they represent a very small percentage of the USM community. This is not a sustainable model for university governance. The Faculty Senate Governance Committee initially contemplated preparing a draft resolution for the Senate to consider stating that the secrecy involved in the reorganization is inconsistent with the foundational principle of shared governance and to urge a more open and inclusive process for the reorganization moving forward. After some discussion, the Faculty Senate came to the conclusion that greater communication of the activities of the reorganization committees and subsequent developed initiatives, as well as regular updates to the Academic Reorganization portion of the Office of the Provost website, could help to reduce the levels of stress and anxiety felt by the faculty, staff, and students of USM.