

TO: USM Faculty and Staff

EMAIL DATE: February 22, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

On January 12, 2018 the faculty and staff reorganization committees presented their proposals to the University community in Bennett Auditorium. More than 50 dedicated faculty and staff members of these committees – from across all campuses, teaching, and research sites – were represented on stage. An additional 250 faculty and staff were in attendance or viewing from the coast via IVN. We truly were humbled to see that crowded stage of committed leaders, and we sincerely appreciated all of you who took the time to be present for this important event.

The implementation proposals shared that day were the culmination of the tireless efforts of the many faculty and staff members who came together from across the University to guide this transformation of Southern Miss, both those actively serving countless hours on reorganization committees and those who provided them with input. In the three weeks following the proposal presentations, strong and productive feedback was again submitted that will guide the next phase of implementation.

On February 6, 2018, President Bennett approved [my recommendation](#) to move forward with establishing an implementation committee to work expeditiously throughout spring 2018 in order to put critical pieces in place by July 1, 2018, and to identify the timeline by which remaining proposals will be addressed over the next two years. We are thus now moving into Phase II, implementation of the proposals.

