

*Southern Connecticut State University  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
Minutes of May 2, 2012*

<http://www.scsu.ctstateu.edu/organiations/facultysenate>

The 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of 2011-2012 was called to order at 12:15 pm by President Susan Cusato.

**Members Present/Absent** (Members absent are designated in **bold**)

Emmanuel Emenyonu (Accounting)	Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	Matt Rothbard (Exercise Science)	Sue Clerc (Library Services)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Susan Cusato (Science Ed/Env Stud)
Valerie Andrushko (Anthropology)	Uchenna Nwachuku (Couns/Sch Psych)	Susan Calahan (Exercise Science)	Rick Bassett (Management)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Dana Schneider (Social Work)
Jeff Slomba (Art)	Tom Fleming (Earth Science)	Resha Cardone (WLL/Foreign Language)	Mel Prince (Marketing)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Heather Pizzanello (Social Work)
Terrence Lavin (Art)	James Thorson (Econ/Finance)	Lisa Vitale (WLL/Foreign Language)	John Scheuermann (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Jon Bloch (Sociology)
Meghan Brown (Athletics)	Maria Diamantis (Education)	Patrick Heidkamp (Geography)	Cynthia Gubitose (Mathematics)	Jim Dolan (Physics)	Patricia Major (Special Ed/Reading)
Jane Feng (Biology)	Beena Achhpal (Education)	Marie McDaniel (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Kevin Buterbaugh (Political Science)	Ruth Eren (Special Ed/Reading)
Adiel Coca (Chemistry)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Ginny Metaxas (History)	Terese Gemme (Music)	Gayle Bessenoff (Psychology)	Kaia Monroe (Theatre)
Annette Madlock-Gatison (Communication)	Judy Tarbox (English)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Leslie Neal-Boylan (Nursing)	Cheryl Durwin (Psychology)	Marty Hartog (UCF)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Mike Shea (English)	Elsie Okobi (Library Science)	Barbara Aronson (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	Chris Petto (Grad Council)

Herv Podnar (Computer Science)	<b>Paul Petrie (English)</b>	Rebecca Hedreen (Library Science)	<b>(Part-Time Faculty)</b>	Jan Jones (Recreation/ Leisure)	
--------------------------------------	----------------------------------	--	--------------------------------	---------------------------------------	--

Approval of Minutes: Senate Minutes of April 25, 2012 - approved.

### **Elections of Faculty Senate President and Treasurer for the 2012-2013 Academic Year**

Secretary Diamantis introduced Senator Reisha Cardone, member of the Elections Committee to preside for these elections. Senator Cardone is assisting the chair of Elections committee, Matthew Rothbard who is attending to the birth of his baby girl - Ginger. Senate extends their congratulations and best wishes.

#### **Senate President:**

Senator Cardone opened the floor for nominations.

- Senator Bloch nominated Senator Susan Cusato for the position of Faculty Senate President, seconded by Senator Dunklee. Senator Cusato accepted the nomination.
- Senator Shea nominated Senator Kevin Buterbaugh for the position of the Faculty Senate President, seconded by Senator Diamantis. Senator Buterbaugh respectfully did not accept the nomination at this time.
- Being no further nominations, there was a motion to close the nominations. Unanimously accepted.
- Secretary Diamantis did cast a vote for the nominee. The President of Faculty Senate for the 2012-2013 academic year is Senator Susan Cusato. Congratulations!

Senator Cardone opened the floor for nominations for the Treasurer of the Senate for the 2012-2013. Senator Gubitose nominated Senator Susan Calahan, seconded by Senator Diamantis. Senator Calahan accepted the nomination.

- Being no further nominations for Treasurer, there was a motion to close nominations. Unanimously accepted.
- Secretary Diamantis did cast a vote for the nominee. The Treasurer of Faculty Senate for the 2012-2013 academic year is Susan Calahan. Congratulations!

Secretary Diamantis expressed the Senate's appreciation to Senator Gubitose who her service as Treasurer for the past 3 years.

#### Announcements -

- The travel creative activity funds will be increased by  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  of 1% of the budget for the next year.

#### President's Report -

President Cusato distributed the report. President Cusato highlighted the announcement of "hard" freeze on the budget but this will not impact faculty issues.

There was a brief update from the President's Dialogue on the recent P & T concerns where the Provost reversed 4 of the 6 recommendations from the P & T committee.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- **Policy on Academic Misconduct** - Senator Madonia addressed the proposed policy on Academic Misconduct and answered questions from the floor. After lengthy discussion there was a motion to call the question was approved. Motion to accept the Policy on Academic Misconduct was approved by majority, two opposed, one abstention.
- Discussion occurred for additional language to be included in the police, a statement such as: "a faculty member shall be permitted to consult the Office of Judicial Affairs and obtain information on past infractions". If this is permissible to be included, then the policy will be amended accordingly.
- There was a motion to amend the main motion's policy. Motion approved: yes 13, opposed 11, abstentions 4.

At this time, President Cusato requested for a motion to approve a change in the order of Agenda and take action on Faculty Travel Funds. Motion accepted.

#### **Finance Committee**

**Travel Funds:** Senator Gubitose motioned that the Faculty Senate Travel Funds be at the \$1500 per full time faculty and \$ 750 for part time faculty. There was lengthy discussion on the full time faculty allocation. Senator Gubitose explained that the limit of \$1500 was the contractual limit.

There was a friendly amendment (Senator Dunklee, seconded by Senator Shea) to propose \$1500 per full time faculty with the AAUP breakdown of 50% for the fall, 50% for the spring and no summer allocation.

After discussion, the question was called. There were 4 yes, 23 no, 2 abstentions. Amendment did not pass.

After further discussion, the question was called and accepted. The main motion of \$1500 per full time and \$750 per part time faculty, with no limits on fall/spring allocations was approved with 24 yes, 5 no, 1 abstention.

Final resolution on the Travel Funds to be presented to President Papazian for approval will be: \$1500 per full time faculty and \$750 per part time faculty.

There was further discussion and a recommendation was accepted that in the fall the Finance committee will be charged to examine the method of allocations and procedure of funds encumbered by faculty, so that the process is more fair and equitable to all disciplines.

There was a request that communication with the deans (School of Arts and Sciences) is necessary that there is no need for "official" acceptance for faculty to apply for travel funds.

At this moment another motion to change the order of the Agenda from New Business, was requested due to the time sensitive issue of catalogue printing. Motion accepted.

**Academic Standing Policy** - documents were provided electronically. Senator Bloch announced that this vote from the senate is needed for the catalogue publication. The main issue is to update the catalogue as per the Federal Law changes to state the language on the minimum 2.0 GPA.

The question was called, no opposition, no objections. The recommended language change to the catalogue was approved unanimously.

Due to time limitations, no further actions were taken by the Senate.

Announcement from Senator Pettigrew on FASP: the committee is prioritizing issues from the strategic plan, such as: bringing forward the 9 credits of teaching load and reassigned time; flexible leave policy if an opportunity to publish books in between sabbatical leave; linking IT to our intellectual projects; and other issues.

Motion to adjourn at 1:51 was accepted.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Maria Diamantis  
Faculty Senate Secretary