

*Southern Connecticut State University  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
Minutes of April 10, 2013*

<http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/>

The thirteenth meeting of 2012-2013 was called to order at 12:10 pm by President Susan Cusato.

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

Emmanuel Emenyonu (Accounting)	Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	Susan Calahan (Exercise Science)	Rick Bassett (Management)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Dana Schneider (Social Work)
Valerie Andrushko (Anthropology)	Uchenna Nwachuku (Couns/Sch Psych)	Luisa Piemontese (WLL/Foreign Language)	Mel Prince (Marketing)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Heather Pizzanello (Social Work)
Jeff Slomba (Art)	Tom Fleming (Earth Science)	Lisa Vitale (World Literature Language)	Maria Diamantis (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Jon Bloch (Sociology)
Terrence Lavin (Art)	<b>Sam Andoh</b> (Econ/Finance)	<b>Patrick Heidkamp</b> (Geography)	John Scheuermann (Mathematics)	Jim Dolan (Physics)	Patricia Major (Special Ed/Reading)
Meghan Brown (Athletics)	Beena Achhpal (Education)	Chris Petto (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	<b>Kevin Buterbaugh</b> (Political Science)	Ruth Eren (Special Ed/Reading)
<b>Jonathan Weinbaum</b> (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	<b>Ginny Metaxas</b> (History)	<b>Terese Gemme</b> (Music)	Gayle Bessenoff (Psychology)	Larry Nye (Theatre)
Adiel Coca (Chemistry)	Judy Tarbox (English)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Chris Denhup (Nursing)	Kevin Colwell (Psychology)	Marty Hartog (UCF)
Annette Madlock-Gatison (Communication)	Mike Shea (English)	<b>Elsie Okobi</b> (Library Science)	<b>Pennie Sessler Branden</b> (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	Chris Petto (Grad Council)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Paul Petrie (English)	Rebecca Hedreen (Library Science)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Jim MacGregor (Recreation/Leisure)	<b>Mary Papazian</b> (SCSU President)
Herv Podnar (Computer Science)	<b>Matt Rothbard</b> (Exercise Science)	Sue Clerc (Library Services)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Susan Cusato (Science Ed/Env Studies)	<b>Student Government:</b> <b>Sarah Green</b>

Approval of Minutes: the minutes of March 20, 2013 were approved as submitted.

Announcements:

- Jail and Bail event is scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8 am to 5 pm.
- Senator Bloch reported that according to the contract, a department has to approve the student survey evaluations.

- Senator Petto announced that the last Graduate Council meeting will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup>, from 1-3 pm in B 121. This meeting is open to all faculty.
- Senator Pettigrew announced that the last Holocaust event will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm, at the ASC. Also tonight the last film show will be shown tonight. All are welcome and please announce. Senator Pettigrew also informed us why the Holocaust Museum was founded in Illinois.
- Senator Shea announced that the last two university dialogues will be held on 4/29 and 5/2 at 1-3 pm at the ASC Ballroom.
- Senator Nye announced that Shakespeare's Julius Caesar will be performed on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30-11:30 at Lyman Center.

President's Report: was distributed and the following items were discussed:

- Travel funds - faculty can process second request for travel since there are significant full-time funds left. Many questions and concerns were raised at this time on this issue. Does Travel have to be done prior to June 30? And/or when is the deadline for applications for TA? Unencumbered funds are available after July 30, but as AAUP funds will be carried over, there might be more flexibility. All were advised to fill out TA applications now.
  - Last report on travel funds from Senator Pettigrew: at the beginning of the academic year: \$113,000 in AAUP and \$43,000 in Creative Activity Funds. NOW the remaining is: \$112,057 and \$42,636. We need to find a way to protect of the creative activity funds.
  - The current situation should use up the funds which last year was very transparent, but this year is has not followed the previous transparent process. Meaning that we were not allowed to enter more than one TA, thus, it was suggested that this year's travel funds resolutions should include a statement on the transparency of the applications.
- President Cusato announced that she received an email of a new proposed second TA's process, which will be initiated at this time.
- Senator were urged to announce to all faculty to submit TA's again.
- The TA's at this time, should be delivered directed to the provost.
- Are there cutoff daters for summer conferences? Lise Brule has specific dates for deadlines and the Creative Activity vs AAUP due dates are different.
- Faculty should also label their TA as 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> travel for the year.
- The only University Dialogue for the spring 2013 has been cancelled. Other sister schools do have some type of such dialogues. What can we do to reinstate those meetings? The dialogues on P and T are not the same type of meetings. President Papazian is proposing that next year she will meet with 2 schools in the fall and 2 schools in the spring as well as with students. These meetings will replace the University Dialogues. That means 4 such dialogues in each semester (2 for the academic schools, 1 for the students, and 1 university wide).
- The other three universities do meet with AAUP president and university president regularly.
- Academic Misconduct Policy - what was the revision from Provost Kennedy's document was not clear.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Strategic Planning Committee Report - Board of Regents - to endorse the letter from the CSU faculty on the creative activity and research. We should endorse the letter and the following motion was proposed:**

" the Faculty Senate of SCSU, endorses the CSU professors' position on research stated on their letter of March 7, 2013 to the Board of Regents. Research is clearly an essential part of the mission of the four CSU campuses."

The motion was unanimously accepted.

The senate's executive committee will design the letter and discuss who will receive this letter.

- Resolution to commence the strategic planning process - there was a unanimous agreement that the senate should endorse the administration's move to start the strategic planning process in the fall. We also wish to endorse that the process is transparent to faculty as possible.  
During the senate's executive committee today a draft resolution will be crafted and it will be voted upon at the next senate meeting.
- Travel Committee Report -- senators were urged to review the document distributed by the committee and we will have a discussion before the final travel decision at the last senate meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- ConnSCU mission statement - concerns on the teaching vs research and the fact that the system-wide award for outstanding research was not awarded this year. The Board's reason was that the award was not inclusive of all seventeen colleges and universities.  
At this time, there was a motion that the executive committee writes up a resolution stating that the awards will be on schedule for next academic year. The motion was unanimously accepted.
- Discussion of Travel Funds in Preparation for Senate vote -- Senator Callahan and her committee will be preparing the resolution for the last senate meeting of the semester.
- Discussion on Senate President candidacy - elections for Senate President will take place on April 24<sup>th</sup>. President Cusato explained her duties as president and the responsibilities that a president carries. Senate president has to participate on many university committees across the disciplines/areas. Such committees include but not limited to: enrollment management, graduate prioritization, all graduation ceremonies, honors convocation, new faculty orientation, joint meetings with AAUP (which are usually held on Saturdays), student issues, work force task committees, P and T in the fall. Basically the Senate President is the "peace keeper". Also May 15<sup>th</sup> is the date for the meeting at Central with all leaders. P and T and renewal calendars are revised in the summer and Senator Bessenoff assists in this task. The faculty senate president received six credits release time. President Cusato stated that it has been a privilege and honor for her to serve as the faculty president for the past three years.
- Senator Bloch expressed his appreciation to President Cusato for her positive contributions as president for the past three years. Working with President Cusato has been a privilege and she was recognized for her outstanding work. All applauded her commitment and successful leadership.
- President Cusato invited further discussion on candidate's who are interested in the position.
- At this time President Cusato did call for a special meeting for next Wednesday, April 17 to address unfinished business.

- Discussion of the new University web site -- Senator Dolan shared his concerns about the new web site. He provided many examples of missing information, wrong entries or no entries for specific information. Some pages were not written in English. Not to mention that many parts are not accessible to the departments yet to make changes.
- Sense of the senate is to communicate to the university president and Patrick Dilger that there are many issues, thus, they really need to be fixed immediately, if not by department, then by someone who has authority and knowledge to make the corrections.

Motion to adjourn at 1:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Diamantis  
Faculty Senate Secretary