

*Southern Connecticut State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes of October 17, 2012*

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

The fourth 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)	Alfredo Sosa-Velasco (WLL/Foreign Language)	Maria Diamantis (Mathematics)	Rex Gilliland (Philosophy)	Jon Bloch (Sociology)
Terrence Lavin (Art)	Sam Andoh (Econ/Finance)	Patrick Heidkamp (Geography)	John Scheuermann (Mathematics)	Jim Dolan (Physics)	Patricia Major (Special Ed/Reading)
Meghan Brown (Athletics)	Beena Achhpal (Education)	Marie McDaniel (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Kevin Buterbaugh (Political Science)	Ruth Eren (Special Ed/Reading)
Jane Feng (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Ginny Metaxas (History)	Terese Gemme (Music)	Gayle Bessenoff (Psychology)	Kaia Monroe Rarick (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)	Elsie Okobi (Library Science)	Pennie Sessler Branden (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)	Mary Papazian (SCSU President)
Herv Podnar (Computer Science)	Matt Rothbard (Exercise Science)	Sue Clerc (Library Services)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Susan Cusato (Science Ed/Env Stud)	Guests:

Approval of Minutes: An addition was made to the Senate Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2012 by Rex Gilliland. The minutes were then approved.

Announcements:

- President Susan Cusato announced the Senate was looking for a webmaster. Herv Podnar volunteered.
- Mike Shea announced there will be an SCSU/AAUP Academic Forum, Monday October 29th, 1:00-3:00 in the Adanti Center Theater. The Forum topic is shared governance.
- Wes O'Brien announced there will be a film screening of 'The Thing' in the Adanti Theater on Monday October 29th.

President's Report: President Cusato distributed the report.

- ✓ Midterm Grades. There was a lengthy discussion with several questions and concerns raised regarding the submission of midterm grades on Banner. Some senators indicated the grade would not reflect a true midterm grade because it would not be 50% of the grade and it could give some students a false sense of security. Senators asked if the grade could be reported in some other way. Some senators expressed that midterm grades give an indication of how students are going and gives them a chance to mentor, guide, and encourage.

President Cusato said submitting the midterm grade can help reduce the fine for the Financial Aid office especially for students with low GPAs. If there was an audit they must be able to report how the midterm grade was determined and what feedback the student received.

- ✓ Senator Faraclas asked why winter session and spring break courses were not eligible for financial aid.

- ✓ Bookstore Innovation Group

Many senators wanted to know what this group was about. President Cusato explained that this group addresses how the bookstore can better serve students and faculty. Senator Hedreen indicated she would like to be a part of the group.

- ✓ Resignations of Board of Regents President Bob Kennedy and Executive Vice President Mike Meotti. There was discussion regarding how these resignations might impact Southern as well as the other CSUs. Concerns were expressed regarding the direction the Board of Regents is taking us particularly in terms of possible consolidation as well as shared governance.
A vote for the sense of the Senate was taken and passed by majority to ask Vijay Nair, President, Connecticut State University AAUP if he will agree to send a letter to the other three CSU Senates addressing the overcompensation/pay raise of system administrators and how it is perceived by the public, consolidation with an assurance that there is no action taken to remove community college presidents, and to ask formally for input from faculty as to who the next Board of Regents president is going to be. If Vijay agrees it will be sent the Board of Regents and copied to the Governor as well as anyone else who might be suggested.

Email Concerns: A University Email Committee has been created by Ken Spelke. Heidi Lockwood is the only faculty member on the committee. Concerns were raised about the email policy from the central office. It seems security is trumping functionality. Faculty will be receiving an email draft of the policy and Ken would like feedback.

Old Business:

- Revisions to Faculty Senate's Constitution. Senator Coca, chair of the Rules Committee presented three options for revisions to constitution regarding the University President's membership on the Senate.

Option 1: Remove language from the constitution stating the President is an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the senate.

Option 2: Remove the ex-officio status and change to the President can attend when invited or if there is a need to communicate something to the Senate. This would require communication in advance to the Faculty Senate President.

Option 3: Leave the language in the constitution as is.

There was lengthy discussion about the options. Due to time limitations, a sense of the senate on the options was taken for further guidance for the Rules committee to proceed.

Option 1: 4 votes

Option 2: 9 votes

Option 3: 9 votes

Another sense of the senate was taken about changing the language in the document regarding this issue.

In favor of changing the language: 15

Do nothing to the language: 13

Motion to adjourn at 1:55 pm was accepted.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Calahan
Substituting for
Maria Diamantis
Faculty Senate Secretary