

*Southern Connecticut State University  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
Minutes of December 5, 2012*

<http://www.southernct.edu/facultysenate>

The seventh 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**)

<b>Emmanuel Emenyonu (Accounting)</b>	<b>Michelle Lawler (Counseling)</b>	Susan Calahan (Exercise Science)	<b>Rick Bassett (Management)</b>	<b>(Part-Time Faculty)</b>	Dana Schneider (Social Work)
Valerie Andrushko (Anthropology)	<b>Uchenna Nwachuku (Couns/Sch Psych)</b>	Luisa Piemontese (WLL/Foreign Language)	Mel Prince (Marketing)	<b>(Part-Time Faculty)</b>	Heather Pizzanello (Social Work)
<b>Jeff Slomba (Art)</b>	Tom Fleming (Earth Science)	Alfredo Sosa-Velasco (WLL/Foreign Language)	Maria Diamantis (Mathematics)	Rex Gilliland (Philosophy)	Jon Bloch (Sociology)
<b>Terrence Lavin (Art)</b>	<b>Sam Andoh (Econ/Finance)</b>	Patrick Heidkamp (Geography)	John Scheuermann (Mathematics)	Jim Dolan (Physics)	Patricia Major (Special Ed/Reading)
<b>Meghan Brown (Athletics)</b>	Beena Achhpal (Education)	<b>Marie McDaniel (History)</b>	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Kevin Buterbaugh (Political Science)	Ruth Eren (Special Ed/Reading)
<b>Jane Feng (Biology)</b>	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Ginny Metaxas (History)	Terese Gemme (Music)	Gayle Bessenoff (Psychology)	<b>Kaia Monroe Rarick (Theatre)</b>
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)	<b>Chris Petto (Grad Council)</b>
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Paul Petrie (English)	Rebecca Hedreen (Library Science)	<b>(Part-Time Faculty)</b>	Jim MacGregor (Recreation/Leisure)	<b>Mary Papazian (SCSU President)</b>
Herv Podnar (Computer Science)	Matt Rothbard (Exercise Science)	Sue Clerc (Library Services)	<b>(Part-Time Faculty)</b>	Susan Cusato (Science Ed/Env Stud)	<b>Student Government: Nicole Cassidy</b>

### Approval of Minutes

The November 14, 2012 minutes were approved as submitted.

### Announcements

- Senator Scheuermann announced that his sister will be featured on the "60 minutes" TV show a week from Sunday. The topic of the show is not public knowledge at this time, but it will be an interesting show to watch, related to her health and an extraordinary development on brain power and robotic prostheses.
- President Papazian will have an open forum dialogue on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 1-3 at the ASC Ballroom on topics for P & T. This event is a first of a series of P & T discussions about the process. All senators were urged to announce to their departments and all were urged to attend. This event is not just about P&T but about shared governance.

### President's Report

President Cusato distributed the report and the following items were discussed:

- The current budget situation displays great concerns due to a shortfall of \$7.5 million for this academic year. Low enrollment for fall 2012 has contributed to this shortfall.
- the Presidential Dialogue structure is in question for the future
- Honor's Convocation is Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- many administratively formed committees have been formed and that overburdens the faculty.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- The revisions of the Faculty Senate Constitution will be presented at the next meeting. President Cusato has communicated to president Papazian and President Papazian has received the proposed changes.

At this time there was a **motion to change the order of the Agenda** and move to New Business due to the time sensitivity of that item. Motion was accepted unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- Policy on Academic Misconduct (revised document was distributed electronically)  
--- Senator Madonia updated the senate of the revisions of the document. Lengthy discussion on the documents' revisions. Suggestion was made that language is not fundamentally changed at this time but to rather move forward

and accept the document as revised, this is important as to comply with the Board of Regents policy.

Motion was made and seconded to revise the word "suspects". The motion was approved by 34 yes, 2 no, and 2 abstentions.

Motion to accept the policy as revised was accepted unanimously.

Senator Madonia recognized the committee and thanked them for their work.

### Back to Old Business

- APC Grade Appeal Policy - Senator Bloch updated the senate on the electronic communication he received from Dean Fredeen. Basically the deans wish to have specific authority in the process, thus the need for the two levels in the process, one for the school and one for the university.  
It was recommended that a representative from the deans' council be invited to the senate to address the document's revisions. If the senate doesn't accept all changes made by the deans, the administration will not approve any other revised document.
- Strategic Planning Committee Report - Board of Regents -- President Cusato urged all senators to ask for feedback from their departments on the document.
- Board of Regents Policy on Electronic Communication -- no discussion on this item at this time.

### Standing Committee Reports:

- Student Policy --- Senator Madonia - the committee addressed the policy above.
- Technology --- Senator Tarbox - the security policy as proposed by the Board of Regents has many issues. One main issue is that it is too broad and too general. It is important to have security for sensitive data, but this policy has created a blanket statement that includes other issues and it bans the usage of software from outside sources. For example the use of software from textbook publishers is not acceptable. The two issues need to be separated and the policy should address the data that needs to be safe guarded. The policy needs to be further defined and to be as up-to-date as possible. Faculty needs to have academic freedom and be able to use the open electronic communication that our students are familiar with.

It was suggested that the policy should specify "probable cause" for further action by the administration.

- Academic Policy --- Senator Bloch --- Monica Raffone attended the committee's meeting and discussed readdressing the at-risk students. At the current catalogue, the info reads that the student has to construct a plan of how he/she will improve their grade with a mentor from SCSU. She didn't recommend we make it a policy at this time. Monica also said that the present catalogue states that a student needs to make certain academic improvement in order to be able to receive financial aid, which might not happen at this time due to the federal law.

Committee is also working on the course/student evaluation form. The committee will examine the pre-determined questions and come up with 20 each to compile into a survey.

- Elections --- Senator Rothbard - the committee will be counting ballots on the special election that was just completed.
- Finance --- Senator Calahan - no update
- Personnel Policy --- Senator Bessenoff - The committee is looking to make the P&T candidate form, an electronic version.
- Rules - -- Senator Coca - no report.

- ❖ UCF Update --- Senator Weiss: Tier 2 will allow students to take 2 courses / subject. There is a great need for tier 3 courses, thus, they are working on an expedited process to approve tier 3 courses.

- ❖ Graduate Council Update --- no report.

- ❖ FASP / USPaRC Update -- the committee met twice this semester, Senator Madonia serves as chair. The topic of discussion is Creative Activity funds. FASP is concerned that there should be faculty participation in the strategic planning process once it is initiated. The academic mission is formally recognized for the future actions.

Motion to adjourn at 2:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Maria Diamantis  
Faculty Senate Secretary