

Southern Connecticut State University  
**FACULTY SENATE**

---

Approved Minutes of March 8, 2017

<http://southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/2016-2017.html>

The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2016-2017 was held on  
 March 8, 2017, at 12:17 pm  
 in the Seminar Room of Connecticut Hall.

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

Wafeek Abdelsayed (Accounting)	<b>Uchenna Nwachuku (Couns/Sch Psych)</b>	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Klay Kruczek (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	<b>Ron Tamura (Special Ed/Reading)</b>
<b>Kenneth McGill (Anthropology)</b>	Mike Knell (Earth Science)	Tom Radice (History)	Joe Fields (Mathematics)	Todd Schwendemann (Physics)	<b>Judith Tepstra (Special Ed/Reading)</b>
Greg Cochenet (Art)	(Econ/Finance)	Stephen Amerman (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Jon Wharton (Political Science)	Larry Nye (Theatre)
Lisa Barbaro (Athletics)	Beena Achhpal (Curriculum & Learning)	Yan Liu (Information & Library Science)	Jonathan Irving (Music)	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	
<b>Sarah Crawford (Biology)</b>	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Cindy Simoneau (Journalism)	Maria Krol (Nursing)	<b>Katherine Marsland (Psychology)</b>	Luke Eilderts (Secretary/World Languages & Literatures)
James Kearns (Chemistry)	Joel Dodson (English)	<b>Diane Tomasko (Library Services)</b>	Antoinette Towle (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	Deborah Weiss (UCF)
<b>Anette Madlock Gatison (Communication)</b>	Mike Shea (English)	<b>Kari Swanson (Library Services)</b>	(Part-time Faculty)	Michael Dodge (Recreation/Leisure)	William Faraclas (Faculty Senate Past President)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Scott Ellis (English)	Mina Park (Management/MIS)	<b>Robin Esposito (Part-Time Faculty)</b>	(Social Work)	Elizabeth Rhoades (Grad Council)
Md Shafaeat Hossain (Computer Science)	Scott Graves (Environment, Geography & Marine Studies)	Greg Robbins (Management/MIS)	Obiageli Okwuka (Part-Time Faculty)	<b>Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)</b>	(Student)
<b>Michelle Lawler (Counseling)</b>	<b>Peter Latchman (Exercise Science)</b>	<b>Shyam Lodha (Marketing)</b>	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	<b>Alan Brown (Sociology)</b>	<b>Dr. Joe Bertolino, SCSU President</b>
<u>Guests:</u> Samuel Andoh, Dean (BUS)					

## Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on February 22, 2017, were approved as distributed.

<http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/2016-2017.html>

## Announcements

- Seeking nominations for the Robert Jirsa Service Award.
- Senator Simoneau (JRN) shared that this year's Queen of the New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade is a Southern Student.

## President's Report

<http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/senatepresidentreports/2016-2017.html>

- President Diamantis called Senators' attention to the following items:
  - #2—Midterm Grades: students who have stopped attending and will receive a grade of "FS" must be reported by March 10.
  - #3—P&T: There is some confusion over the wording that should be used at the close of a letter for tenure/promotion. The Senate document states that letters should close with "recommend" or "not recommend," and have no additional qualifiers. A second issue is the possibility of moving to an electronic file format for P&T files. President Bertolino has charged the Senate to craft a resolution to start the process and locate the resources that will be needed. Finally, concern was expressed over abstentions during the P&T committee deliberation process since this action is in essence a "no" vote due to the minimum threshold required to be recommended by the committee (nine of 15 recommend votes).
- #4—Senator Gregory (EXS) inquired about the distribution of Research and Creative Activity Reassigned Time (RCART) among the schools. Discussion continued among Senators on the practices they have witnessed. Dean Andoh (Business) was invited to share his school's process: a committee receives the applications and makes the recommendations to the Dean; rarely does the Dean deviate from the committee's recommendations.
  - Senator Pettigrew (PHI) asked Dean Andoh if the program under which new hires are brought in ("3+1" where faculty have a 3/3 teaching load, but are expected that the "+1" be funneled into Creative Activity) is supported by the RCART the School of Business receives. Dean Andoh answered that it does not.
- Senator Medonia (EDL) requested clarification on the hiring freeze.
  - President Diamantis responded that the Provost and Deans wrote letters of justification to the Board of Regents (BOR) for the positions for which offers had been made. Three positions were not far enough along in the hiring process and therefore could not be justified.
- Senator O'Brien (MDS) inquired about course cancellations.
- Senator Fields (MAT) inquired about President Bertolino's response to resolution [S-2017-04](#).
  - President Diamantis shared that lengthy discussions had taken place.

## Standing Committee Reports

- Academic Policy: Senator Pettigrew (PHI) shared that the committee is working on the final draft of the grade appeal procedure. The committee has been approached about inquiring with the Provost concerning reassign time. Senator Fields (MAT) inquired about the actual numbers at the other CSUs, which is not known.

- Elections: Senator Kruczek (MAT) shared that the election process has started.
- Personnel policy: Senator Shea (ENG) shared that the committee is working on the recusal rule for P&T.
- Finance: No report.
- Rules: Senator O'Brien (MDS) shared that the committee is working on the bylaws.
- Student Policy: No report.
- Technology: Senator Stutzman (PT) asked that those who teach in A120 to please complete the survey they received. After Spring Break, another survey will be distributed inquiring about technology in the classroom. The committee is still looking for volunteers to consider what plugins would be useful for Blackboard on this campus.
  - Senator O'Brien (MDS) asked about the removal of VHS machines from classrooms. Senator Stutzman answered that VHS is no longer supported because the technology is no longer produced.

### **Special Committee Reports**

- UCF: UCF President and Senator Weiss (CMD) shared with the senate the most relevant motions recently passed at UCF.
  - Any student who writes an honors thesis, but who is not in the Honors College, will be waived from the LEP tier-III requirement.
  - Students who complete at least a semester-long study abroad experience will be exempt from any two courses among the nine areas of knowledge (tier-II), with the caveat of only one from the two "Natural World" categories. They would therefore need to complete six tier-II courses.
  - Tier-I Multilingual requirement: students are exempt who transfer in 60+ credits upon enrolling in Southern; students who transfer 30-59 credits are exempt from the requirement if they have either completed level-3 of high school or level-2 at a university or college; and students who transfer 1-29 credits would need to complete the requirement.
    - Senator Fields (MAT) asked if this incentivizes students not to come here as native freshman. Senator Weiss explained that we are unable to know that at this time. However, we do not currently have a problem filling our freshman class. This question was raised, and some were doubtful that this would really be an incentive. The impetus behind this was that Southern is seen as the most difficult school to transfer into, and we wanted to be more flexible.
    - Senator O'Brien (MDS) expressed that this had been a very difficult decision to make for World Languages & Literatures, and Resha Cardone (Chair, WLL) deserves recognition for this.
    - Senator Pettigrew (PHI) shared that this was a proposal that grew out of WLL. With this gesture, it is the hope that there will no longer be a push to remove the tier-I Multilingual requirement from the LEP. We should make sure that President Bertolino is aware of all of these changes so that he can share this with the larger state community.
    - President Diamantis inquired about who this would affect. Senator Weiss explained that this is currently being worked out, but that current students should be able to take advantage of these changes. The details are very complicated, but the Provost has shown her commitment.

- Senator Weiss explained the flow of proposals at UCF and provided context for the reason why Deans were not apprised of new/revised courses. The flow of proposals is being revised so that everything is becoming electronic. Deans will now be able to see those documents on a network drive, but will not have the authority to “weigh in” on proposals.
  - Senator Shea (ENG) urged the UCF to consider inviting the Deans to UCF so that a clear conversation on everyone’s role can take place.
- Graduate Council: Graduate Council Representative Rhoades shared that the graduate certificate only programs within the School of Education have become much less attractive with the changes that had to be made; program prioritization is still being refined; the company that publishes our theses and dissertations is causing issues for our students.
- FASP/USPaRC: Senator Pettigrew (PHI) is working on the priorities in the academic strategic plan.

### **Unfinished Business**

- Senator Faraclas (PCH) moved to accept the Statement on Human Rights, Civility, and Respect. After discussion and a motion to remove the 1:45 “rule” by Senator Stutzman (PT), amendments were made to make the statement more general, followed by a second amendment to mention the upcoming Fall Forum. The motion was postponed due to loss of quorum.

Quorum lost at 1:47 p.m.

---

Luke Eilderts  
Secretary