

FACULTY SENATE*Approved Minutes of April 8, 2015*<http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/index.html>The 13th meeting of 2014-2015, was called to order at 12:16 pm by President William Faraclas.**Members Present/Absent** (Members absent are designated in **bold**)

Emmanuel Emenyonu (Accounting)	Ramon Vega de Jesus (Couns/Sch Psych)	Luisa Piemontese (WLL/Foreign Language)	Rajesh Elhance (Marketing)	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	Heather Pizzanello (Social Work)
Valerie Andrushko (Anthropology)	Jim Fullmer (Earth Science)	Luke Eilderts (World Literature Language)	Maria Diamantis (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)
Greg Cochenet (Art)	Sam Andoh (Econ/Finance)	Leon Yacher (Geography)	Joe Fields (Mathematics)	Todd Schwendemann (Physics)	Jessica Kenty- Drane (Sociology)
Michael Makubika (Athletics)	Beena Achhpal (Education)	Troy Rondinone (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Kevin Buterbaugh (Political Science)	Patricia Major (Special Ed/Reading)
Jonathan Weinbaum (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Stephen Amerman (History)	Mark Kuss (Music)	Gayle Bessenoff (Psychology)	Ron Tamura (Special Ed/Reading)
Adiel Coca (Chemistry)	Joel Dodson (English)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Chris Denhup (Nursing)	Kevin Colwell (Psychology)	Sheila H. Garvey (Theatre)
Rich Glinka (Communication)	Mike Shea (English)	Elsie Okobi (Library Science)	Lisa Rebesch (Nursing)	William Faraclas (President)	Susan Cusato (Past President)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Scott Ellis (English)	Diane Tomasko (Library Science)	Gene Brady (Part-Time Faculty)	Christine Unson (Public Health)	Deborah Weiss (UCF)
Amal Abdel Raouf (Computer Science)	Matt Rothbard (Exercise Science)	Jeff Dickens (Library Services)	Robin Esposito (Part-Time Faculty)	Michael Dodge (Recreation/Leisure)	Nicole Fluhr (Grad Council)
Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Veronica Gill (Management)	Obiageli Okwuka (Part-Time Faculty)	Catherine Koehler (Environmental and Marine Studies)	Mary Papazian (SCSU President)
Guests: Marianne Kennedy	Jaye Bailey Tracy Tyree				

Approval of Minutes: Senate Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2015, approved as amendedGuests: Strategic Planning committee members laterAnnouncements

- ✓ PACE Seminar Series, this Friday at 1 pm in EN A 120.
- ✓ SCSU Wellness film: "Kindness is contagious" with a panel to discuss compassion initiative on Wednesday at 5 pm at ASC Theater.
- ✓ Senate technology committee is urging faculty to participate in the survey of technology in the classroom. This is a joint effort of technology committee and OIT department. The survey is ready to be distributed and we need to have a strong response from the faculty.

At this time there was a motion to change the order of the agenda to move to the UCF report and present an item for action. There was no objection.

Senator Weiss introduced the following action item for approval:

"UCF requests to extend the pilot process of proposals for one more year and with one ad-hoc committee to deal with the LEP proposals on in their entirety".

After some discussion there was a motion to close debate. No objections. Thus, the main motion to approve the proposal passed unanimously.

President's Report: President Faraclas distributed the report, which can be found at: <http://prd-oucampus-app01.southernct.edu/10/#oucampus/main/www/preview/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/senatepresidentreports/2014-2015.pcf>, and the following items were highlighted.

- The Personnel Policy committee with Gayle Bessenoff's leadership, have worked hard and distributed electronically the Faculty Survey of Administrative Effectiveness. The results of the Survey were distributed to all Senators this morning and the survey summary will be distributed to all faculty later today.
- Faculty Dialogue took place on March 26, 2015 - "*Defining "Teacher-Scholar" : Exploring Faculty Workload and Life Balance*". Much appreciation to Provost Bergeron for participating in this discussion.
- Transform 2020 has a new Transform 2020 Steering committee with 19 members, with 14 faculty members and others; the first meeting on Friday, March 27, a charge was given that seemed not to include the role of "steering". In response to a difference of opinion about what the committee's charge should be, Dr. Gray asked the faculty members on the committee to recommend an alternative charge for the committee, which was developed and sent to Dr. Gray this morning. On April 2, the Faculty Advisory Committee to the BOR passed a resolution on Rebuilding Transform 2020 that reads:
 - Whereas the Faculty Advisory Committee resolved not to support Transform CSCU 2020 in its current form, and the majority of CSCU campus governance bodies have voted to support this resolution;
 - Whereas Transform CSCU 2020 has failed in its original goal of increasing state funding to advance the missions of the institutions;
 - Whereas President Gray created the Transform Steering Committee to review Transform CSCU 2020;
 - Be it resolved that the Faculty Advisory Committee, in the spirit of shared governance, calls on the System leadership to remove all 36 initiatives from Transform CSCU 2020, and
 - Be it resolved that the Faculty Advisory Committee calls on President Gray to charge the Transform Steering Committee to evaluate all removed initiatives and reinstate, modify, or create initiatives that align with the Academic Imperatives, the core values and assumptions, and the distinct missions of the 17 CSCU Institutions.

In addition, as a response to continuing problems with Transform CSCU 2020, the CSU Faculty Leadership Group proposed a resolution (No Confidence Resolution) that has been shared with all 16 CSUs and CCs for their individual actions. The resolution was distributed to the SCSU Faculty Senate today for information and President Faraclas asked all Senators to discuss with your departments and consider this resolution at the next Senate meeting (April 22).

FYI of an article on Hartford Current about the closing of Middlesex CC of its Meriden campus and SCSU's cutting of classes for next fall.

If the resolution is approved at the next couple weeks by the 16 CSUs and CCs, it will be reported to the Board of Regents, the State Department of Higher Education committee, Governor Malloy, and news media. This would represent all 16 CSU's (except Charter Oak which has no full time faculty).

Senators thanked President Faraclas for his updates and work on this issue and expressed appreciation that we are moving in the same direction as our sister universities. There is certainly uniformity with our sister universities against the current plan that will be very harmful for our students. Our students need top notch

education and the current Transform 2020 leaves room for such proposals as "canned curriculum" taught by facilitators with BS degrees, thus it doesn't provide the educational experiences that our students need or deserve.

Six of the 12 faculty members from the Faculty Leadership Council met with the Governor's officials yesterday and we need to know what happened.

The universities presidents are in a position to agree with us on getting the right resources, they are concerned and want to have our universities being recognized for their uniqueness. It seems that presidents' ability to locally work and collaborate has been changed from above by taking away their authority to make decisions and collaborate with other members, including faculty.

At this time, there was a motion to reorder the Agenda and vote on the resolution for the CBA Travel Funds for 2015-2016. There was no objection and the resolution was presented by Senator Madonia. Senator Madonia stated that as of today there are \$79113 unencumbered funds for FT, \$9755 for PT faculty, and \$2100 in the Creative Activity funds. Our sister universities have the following breakdown:

Eastern provides \$600 to the faculty who are attending a conference and \$1000 if the faculty is presenting at a conference.

Western provides \$1290 for any travel.

Central provides \$1500 for travel with \$800 from the department and \$700 from the Dean's budget.

With no objection to calling the question, the motion to accept the resolution passed by majority, one opposition. Question called. No objection in calling the question.

A senator asked for an update on the resolution to increase this year's TAs. The Resolution was not approved.

Standing Committee Updates:

- Student Policy -- Senator Colwell reported that the committee continues to discuss the sexual misconduct and mandatory reporting policy. Further information will be distributed as it is finalized.
- Technology -- Senator Dodson - announcement of the survey of technology in the classroom.
- Academic Policy -- Senator Pettigrew - the committee is working to clarify the contractual research reassign time, such as where do the funds are coming from and how they are distributed. They will write a letter to the Provost on how much funds is received, how is the amount per school assigned, and how is it distributed/awarded to the faculty. Student opinion surveys will remain with current form but the committee will look into other methods of student surveys, such as classroom observations. The committee is considering starting a dialogue with presentations before making a final decision.
- Elections -- Senator Rothbard reported that the committee is currently working on sending out the call for nominations and will prepare the ballots, pending the approvals of latest resolutions.
- Finance -- Senator Madonia - presented the resolution of TA funds (done earlier).
- Personnel Policy -- Senator Bessenoff reported that Faculty Survey of Administrative Effectiveness results were shared this morning.
- Rules -- Senator Coca reported that the committee will be presenting two resolutions under New Business.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ✓ Reducing the size of the Sabbatical Leave Committee -- Senator Coca presented the resolution and he mentioned that he talked to all chairs of each committee, and they are in favor of this change. During the discussion, concerns were raised that decreasing the number of members in the committees, will

negatively impact the intellectual level of the committee. There are currently 4 vacancies and the Sabbatical committee has run with less than the required number of members, for the last couple years. Lengthy discussion on pros and cons on the resolution. Other committees that run with small membership members, they still do a good job.

Motion to amend the resolution "to reduce the numbers as indicated and try it for one year and revisit this issue in October to reconsider the changes". The amendment was seconded. After some discussion there was a call to close debate. It passed by more than two-thirds votes.

All in favor of the main motion as amended: It passed unanimously.

- ✓ Second Resolution: to reduce the size of the Promotion and Tenure Committee. Since time was of essence, there was a motion to table this resolution until the next meeting. Motion passed by majority.
- Strategic Planning discussion - Senator Rothbard asked the Senators to give their feedback to the draft document as it is posted. The Strategic Plan has four goals, with about six objectives each. Which are finalized and we need to hear your comments on the initiatives per objective.
- ❖ Time restriction - the committee will finalize the process by end of April. In May the committee will identify metrics and resources.
 - Additional feedback can be given electronically.
 - "Student centered" definition is old fashion and problematic, suggestion to re-word this item. Student Success was also another area of concern but it is in our core values as defined in the previous strategic planning.
 - Senator Pettigrew stated that the Senate passed a resolution and the APC has provided feedback to the Strategic Planning Steering committee, which has had positive development and appropriate adaptations to the plan. Action steps should be looked carefully and feedback should be given as soon as possible; the other concern is the areas of faculty prerogatives such as advising and contractual issues. On goal 3 : community engagement, is academic, and goal 2 - is this something new? The FASP members were not invited to the last meeting and they are not on the list of committees. FASP is meeting this Monday to discuss the plan.
 - Encourage all senators to send out the message that we are looking for feedback on this strategic plan.
 - Still concerns for Student Centered, which is a teaching learning model which has been used in the k-12 environment.
 - Document should be clear to whoever reads it, thus, the plan needs to be totally clear.
 - As an institution of higher education, it is inconceivable that this document will not come back to the senate for approval.

A recommendation was made that feedback and comments should be placed on line as soon as possible.

Updates:

- ❖ UCF - motion for action was considered earlier.
- ❖ Graduate Council - none
- ❖ FASP / USPARC - none

Motion to adjourn at 2:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Diamantis
Faculty Senate Secretary