

**FACULTY SENATE***Minutes of September 24, 2014*<http://www.southernct.edu/facultysenate/senateminutes/>

The 2nd meeting of 2014-2015 was called to order at 12:14 pm by President William Faraclas.

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

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

Approval of Minutes: The Senate Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2014 were approved as distributed.

### Announcements -

- The Town Hall meeting for Transform 2020 will be held on Monday at 1 pm at the ASC Ballroom.
- Dr. O'Brien reminded all that the fund raising event for Smilow Cancer Center of Yale New Haven Hospital is on October 1.

*Guest:* At this time, President Faraclas introduced the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Bette S. Bergeron. He welcomed her to the Faculty Senate and expressed appreciation for her positive collaborations thus far, hoping that this will continue in the future.

Dr. Bergeron began describing her goals moving forward. Her morning meetings started early as she met with the IT leaders. There is a big need to bridge IT with the academics and more importantly with assessment and accreditation. Another morning meeting involved leaders from New Haven Public School district to assist in ensuring the incoming SCSU students are well prepared. Very promising to have our ENG and MAT align with the HS curriculum.

We are addressing many issues, such as the Student Success Initiatives, the Graduate Prioritization report, and the Master Facilities Plan committee. Not to forget the Strategic Planning committee finishing the Strategic Plan, which is to be vetted pretty soon and it will guide our work in the next few years. At the Board of Regents level, we have the Transform 2020 plan. There will be a Town Hall meeting on Monday September 20 at 1 pm. Dr. Greg Gray will be visiting to address the plan and listen to our comments/suggestions.

SCSU has already taken leadership to address all major programs to have 120 total credits as requested by the Board, with provisions for programs with accreditation issues.

One of the Provost's priority is to reverse the decrease in enrollment, which has huge negative ramifications in everything that happens at the University. She is exploring different ways to increase the enrollment and looking to find students who once they come here, they will be successful. SCSU has a consulting company assisting in this matter. The board is exploring a "new tuition" formula for states located near CT and offering a tuition plan that is more financially attractive to such students from nearby states. Efforts include international students and increase that number. This summer we will have the ESL program making sure that our international students are successful in their studies. Retention is also very important and faculty involvement is crucial for the success of retention.

Community partnerships are growing in New Haven and Bridgeport with many opportunities for our students, thus the discussions continue.

We are trying to increase/improve the STEM areas, thus, Dr. Christine Broadbridge has accepted to serve as the director for a year and examine the opportunities for that endeavor.

The Social Work department is writing a proposal for an EdD program, almost ready to be presented in Hartford.

Another area that will require our attention is how to engage, bring in, and support our veterans. How do we credit for their leadership experiences and apply this into their academics and what can we do for them.

As far as for Creative Activity, discussions will be commencing with a few faculty and administrators to create a task force and start discussions on credit load and time for scholarly research. This needs to be addressed within the budget limitations and we need to look into how the business school is already doing that. We might not be able to implement immediately but the discussions will commence soon.

Another goal is how to engage undergraduate students into faculty research and expand the opportunities to get the students more involved.

She expressed that it is wonderful to work with such energetic faculty and staff and for welcoming her to Southern's family.

At this time questions were raised from the floor and some discussion occurred. The Provost received the questions/comments and she promised to look into each issue and try to address them as much as possible.

Couple such items are:

- Improving engineering at SCSU
- Decreasing "barriers" for the graduate students
- STEM should not leave out the A for arts, thus, STEAM. Not to forget the importance of writing skills
- Increase the number of scholarships for the Honors College students
- Promote and investigate clinical doctorate programs is part of the Provost's priority
- IT staff in the central office of the Board of Regents is being examined for solutions as they are understaffed
- Clearly defined "quality of HS graduates" is important but complicated. We owe to provide opportunities to those who we bring at SCSU
- The role of technology in our students' education. Example is the complicated and antiquated degree evaluation that students have hard time understanding
- Need of support and improvement of the technological resources for on-line courses. Good time to offer such courses is winter-session and summer
- Faculty should play a more active role in the decisions for the Student Success Initiatives

At this time the Provost concluded her remarks and was thanked for her input.

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

- Appointments to represent the Faculty Senate on the University Master Plan Advisory Committee are Drs. James Dolan and Lisa Rebesch.
- First leadership breakfast with President Papazian took place on September 19. Other members present included the Administrative Faculty Senate, executive officers of the campus unions, and members of the Administration leadership.
- Town Hall Meeting on Transform 2020 is scheduled for Monday, September 29, 1-3 pm, at ASC Ballroom.
- Volunteers sought to participate in meeting with new faculty to explain shared governance. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet circulating today.
- Many issues that need to be addressed by FS. One of which is the Departmental Guidelines and the P&T process. The Guidelines were created by department when the policy was passed by the Senate back in November 2009. The guidelines were to inform the P&T process but it wasn't completed as a resolution, thus, was not vetted by the body. The question is how to approach this topic at this time. After some discussion there was a motion: The Senate constitutes the former ad hoc committee and adds new members. The committee brings a plan to the senate for action. The motion was seconded. The discussion continued. Currently the administration doesn't recognize any of the departmental guidelines. Yet some of the departmental guidelines were vetted by some deans and were used in candidates' file. Thus the current ad hoc committee can decide to bring a resolution forward or not. Motion passed unanimously.

## Standing Committee Updates:

- Academic Policy -- Dr. David Pettigrew - student opinion surveys (SOS) - important information for senators to bring to departments:  
The P&T candidates' SOS will not be send directly to P&T but rather to the candidates first. The candidate examines them first and then decides to include them in their file or not. The Institutional Research needs to score them/summarize expeditiously in order to meet the date for the P&T's review, thus candidates should mark their files/envelopes when sent to IR.  
  
The Grade Appeal Procedures document was revisited and refined. Motion to accept the report, was concluded last year. Today after some discussion, if necessary, the Senate needs to move the document with a resolution to President Papazian for approval. Since there was no further discussion and there was no objection in closing the topic. A motion was brought forth, that "the Senate Executive committee writes the appropriate statements to accompany the Grade Appeal Procedures document, and the resolution moves forward for approvals." Motion was approved unanimously.
- Elections -- Dr. Matthew Rothbard reported that Senator Rebeschis is looking into an electronic method for elections. Within the next week, there will be a call for self-nominations or other, for Special Elections on committees that need members.
- Finance -- Dr. Peter Madonia - no report
- Personnel Policy -- Dr. Gayle Bessenoff - we didn't meet last week, first item is the get the Faculty Administrative Survey out. The Technical fixes of the P&T document was submitted and waiting for approval, Sabbatical document fixes will be acted upon at the next meeting.
- Rules -- Dr. Adiel Coca asked for the sense of the senate if it is acceptable to craft a resolution for the All-university committees to (a) submit annual reports; (b) who will be in charge/contact person to call next year's meetings; and (c) to post university committee minutes on the senate web to allow faculty to know what are the committee's responsibilities and to also publicize the active members of each committee. The minutes will be public information and accessible to all faculty for review.
- Student Policy -- Dr. Deb Flynn reported that the committee will be meeting with Dr. Tracy Tyree to continue conversations on the student misconduct procedures.
- Technology -- Dr. Joel Dodson the committee met last week and formulated an agenda for the semester. They will be meeting with IT leaders.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- **Sabbatical Leave Document - Technical Fixes to be examined nest meeting.**

Motion to adjourn at 2:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Diamantis  
Faculty Senate Secretary