

FACULTY SENATE*Minutes of December 10, 2014*<http://www.southernct.edu/facultysenate/senateminutes/>The 7th meeting of 2014-2015, was called to order at 12:10 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)
Jeff Slomba (Art)	Sam Andoh (Econ/Finance)	Leon Yacher (Geography)	John Scheuermann (Mathematics)	Todd Schwendemann (Physics)	Jessica Kenty-Drane (Sociology)
(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)	John Jacobs (Psychology)	Sheila H. Garvey (Theatre)
Jane McGinn (Communication)	Mike Shea (English)	Elsie Okobi (Library Science)	Lisa Rebeschi (Nursing)	William Faraclas (President)	Susan Cusato (Past President)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Scott Ellis (English)	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)	Chris Petto (Grad Council)
Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	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 Marianne Kennedy					

Approval of Minutes: the Senate Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2014 were approved as distributed.

Announcements - none at this time

University Strategic Plan discussion:

- Proposed stronger language to commitment and prioritizing resources for academic research; and need to be more clear in Goal 2 under c, "the become recognized leader "
- Clarity on technology is missing. The plan is broad, overlooking technology. More clarification on technology and resources for such are important.
- The mission, vision and values of SCSU need to be reexamined - these were reviewed a few years ago, might need to change them.
- Suggestions to use: "focusing on students or student-focus" rather than student-centered.
- Consider an added objective on academic support services.
- Consider innovation and what it means - some students come with a goal but they are limited to what they can or cannot do outside SCSU.
- Goal #2 sounds "jargon" - "why not" should be revised.
- Resources are not clear as there is no priority on Goal #2 items.
- Objective f. for Goal 2, what does the word: institutionalization mean? A suggestion for revision: "Become a model among peer institutions in the region for academic support services, including thriving writing, tutorial, and disability resource centers".
- "student centered" is misleading, not clearly defined.
- Concern that "academic faculty" or "faculty centered" theme is missing.

The next steps are: spring 2015 the four groups will flush out the plan (make changes as the comments are gathered) then they will identify resources, create metrics, etc, and the plan will go out to the university for input. Once that is done, the plan will be implemented by August 2015.

President's Report: distributed and following highlighted:

1. President Faraclas thanked all Senators for their hard work this semester.
2. The executive committee will include Dr. Kevin Colwell for the spring 2015 who will chair the Student Policy committee while Dr. Deborah Flynn is on sabbatical.
3. The CSU Faculty Leadership Group will be meeting on December 17 and the following update was reported:
 - We begin with the Faculty Advisory Committee resolution that concluded:
"Whereas, after careful consideration of Transform CSCU 2020, the Faculty Advisory Committee finds that it lacks focus on academic excellence, consolidates our distinct missions, is so vague as to be meaningless, and removes autonomy from local institutions in a manner that has enormous and negative consequences for the educational experiences of our students. In short, it is neither transformational nor aspirational. Resolved: we cannot endorse Transform CSCU 2020 in its current form."
 - The CSU Senates indicated their support of the FAC resolution.
 - The community colleges council endorsed the resolution, as well.
 - When that was made known, Dr. Gray met with the CSU faculty leaders on Nov. 21 to ask what was needed to gain support of the faculty.

- Our answer: Include the faculty as a planning partner, which would mean re-imagining the initiatives after faculty review, and having full faculty participation henceforth.
 - Dr. Gray agreed, noted his error in ignoring the faculty, committed to focusing planning on an academic imperative, and eliminated the time table for completing Transform, but at the next meeting (on Dec. 1) asked for Initiative prioritization to be completed by Dec. 19.
 - CSU faculty leaders in attendance left the meeting and were joined by Dr. Gray, who recommitted to the Nov. 21 agreement.
 - The CSU faculty leadership group is meeting on Dec. 17 to consider next steps.
 - So, where does Transform stand at present?
 - Across institutions, the faculty deems Transform flawed in its present form; however, the system office continues to push it forward, nonetheless.
 - Attempts by the faculty to establish trust with the CSCU Administration have been set back by a lack of understanding about both shared governance and the necessity for a strategic plan to have an academic imperative at its core.
 - The faculty throughout the system has made it clear that top-down planning that excludes faculty partnership, promotes corporatization of higher education and pushes other priorities ahead of academics is not acceptable.
4. The Faculty Senate is meeting in EN B 121 for about a year. There is a renovated room in the Student Center that could be dedicated for our Senate meetings. The executive committee will look into the space and will decide if it provides the right space and equipment for the Senate's use.
 5. At this time, there was a motion to open discussion on the resolution of the SHHS document. No objections. There was lengthy discussion on this topic with many concerns raised from faculty/students/library resources if this move is to happen. The word is that the move might happen as early as next February/April. The consulting company and/or administration is saying that there are no plans, but it seems that the plan has been moving forward. The feasibility study for this move is still pending and the master facilities report from Perkins and Well consulting company, is not finalized yet. The faculty at the SHHS were told repeatedly that there is enough room on campus to be assigned to SHHS, thus, no need to move.

Motion to approve the resolution passed by majority with 2 oppositions. No objections.

Committee reports:

Technology - Senator Dodson - no report

Academic Policy - Senator Pettigrew - discussed the Strategic planning report which resulted in a resolution from the APC. The resolution was presented and its historical genesis was discussed.

It was suggested that the resolution is presented to President Papazian as an FYI

At this time, there was a **motion**: to suspend the 1:45 rule and extend business till 2 pm. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was a **motion** to bring the resolution as "For Information". Motion passed by majority, 2 opposed.

Main Motion: passed by majority, 2 opposed. The Resolution will go to President Papazian for "Information".

Elections: the FASP elections are in the process of being completed.

Finance: Senator Madonia reported the available FT Travel Funds: \$140,623; the PT Travel Funds: \$17,712 and the Creative Activity Travel Funds: \$3974.

The Senate needs to discuss the amount of approved funds for next year as it seems there are remaining funds every year.

Personnel Policy: Senator Bessenoff referenced the President's Report on the committee's responsibilities: review of the Faculty Evaluation of Administrative Effectiveness - to be completed in the Spring 2015; the Review of Renewal, Professional Assessment, and Sabbatical documents; and create a separate DEC document.

Rules: Senator Coca reported that the committee is working on Faculty Senate Bylaws, the Chairpersons document based on President Papazian's suggestions, and the streamlining of the All-University committees.

Student Policy: Senator Flynn urged all to attend the presentation by Provost Bette Bergeron on February 9 to discuss Mandatory Reporting with the committee and other leadership bodies.

Motion to adjourn at 2:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Diamantis
Faculty Senate Secretary