

FACULTY SENATE*Minutes of January 21, 2015*

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

The 8th 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)
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 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)	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)	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: Brad Crerar Dr. Gladys Labas Diane Morgenthaler	Chris Piscitelli Tracy Tyree Joseph Dooley Dr. Marian Evans				

Approval of Minutes: the Senate Meeting Minutes of December 10, 2014 were approved as distributed.

Announcements - reminder for all to attend the 2:30 pm Town Hall meeting on the Master Facilities Plan. The concern is the location of the School of Health and Human Services and since one resolution was disapproved, maybe the faculty should move to a referendum.

Guests:

- Brad Crerar, Director, Michael J. Adanti Student Center. President Faraclas expressed his appreciation to Mr. Crerar for his work on the Seminar Room for the senate meetings. Mr. Crerar announced the details for the usage of the room: tables returned as before; food trash need to be disposed at the end of each

meeting; food payment is only available from the main entrance; food plan is about \$5 per meal; the room is reserved for Senate every Wednesday so that Senate committees can also meet here.

- Joseph Dooley, Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police and Dr. Diane Morgenthaler, Director, Student Health and Wellness Center, are the Co-Chairs of the SCSU Health & Safety Committee. Other members of the committee: Dr. Marian Evans and Dr. Gladys Labas also attended this meeting. The committee was formed when Senator Chris Murphy asked President Papazian to initiate a move for tobacco free campus. So the safety committee joined forces with the Tobacco-free committee. Research shows that some 1400-1500 colleges and universities have gone tobacco free or smoke free across the nation. The initiatives are growing and Gateway CC was the first such campus in the state of CT. Norwalk CC is joining in soon. Dr. Morgenthaler announced of the new website "tobacco free"
:<http://www.southernct.edu/tobaccofree/index.html> . Many SCSU students seem to be favorable to this move, only a few have expressed different opinion; fact: smoking is against the law to smoke within a building or outside less than 25 feet of building; the question is who will enforce this, thus the need to change the culture, however once decision made, teams of people across campus need to work together. Dr. Evans informed the senate that she is a member of the New Haven Community Smoke Free committee and they have created partnerships within and outside the SCSU community to reaffirm the collaborative process. Dr. Labas stated that change is difficult and we hope all will join to go ahead for health and quality of life.

A lengthy discussion occurred with faculty asking questions and the committee members sharing information. One topic was the concerns about enforcing the policy. Recommendation to visit the website and review all data will be important. Another concern was the (a) students' need to take a break during the longer periods of classes; (b) the difficulty asthmatic population has walking outside the building with smoke in addition to the very cold weather; (c) the lack of funds for signage enforcing the policy; (d) the need to provide a plan and create areas where people who smoke can go.

President's Report- the report was distributed and the full report can be found:

<http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/senatepresidentreports/2014-2015.html>

The following topics were briefly discussed:

- Congratulations to Dr. Troy Paddock, the 2014 Faculty Scholar.
- Welcome was extended to Mr. Mark Rozewski, the newly appointed Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration.
- Streamlining our committees is important and the Senate will examine this closely.
- President Faraclas reviewed the goals of the Senate's committees for this semester.
- Summary of the CSU enrollment report was distributed and is posted on the link above.
- Appointment from the Senate was confirmed that Senator Stutzman volunteered to be the OIT senator representative in their governing body.
- Appointment of Dr. Lisa Rebesch as the senate representative on the search committee for Admissions Director.

At this time a motion to move to New Business was approved with no objection. The item to discuss/act is the endorsement of: (a) Transform 2020 Values and Assumptions and (b) Transform 2020 Initiatives Categorized with Notes 1-9-15

Dr. Michael Shea gave a little history of the documents to respond to Transform 2020 written by the FAC, Senate Presidents, and AAUP president. The document presents the issues and concerns to the 17 initiatives, while attempting to highlight that any faculty endorsement, these 17 initiatives must be addressed.

Motion to accept both documents was seconded. Discussion following with many faculty expressing their support for the documents.

Motion to accept both documents, was seconded and carried unanimously.

Motion to endorse the "Values and Assumptions" and "Initiatives Categorization" documents with a statement, was seconded and approved unanimously. The statement reads:

The Southern Connecticut State University Faculty Senate endorses the 'Values and Assumptions Requisite for Transform CSCU2020' and ' Transform CSCU 2020 Initiatives Categorization' documents drafted by the CSU Leadership Group on December 17, 2014, and revised on January 9, 2015.

Standing Committee Updates:

- Academic Policy -- Dr. David Pettigrew reported that the committee hasn't met but will be working on a few items, such as grade change policy, strategic planning and grade appeal procedures
- Elections -- Dr. Matthew Rothbard reported that the results of the FASP elections from School of Business will be announced soon. And they will be assigned to a committee of the Strategic Planning Steering.
- Finance -- Dr. Peter Madonia reported that as of today, the unencumbered FT TA funds are: \$123,559; the PT TA unencumbered funds are: \$16,337; and the unencumbered Creative Activity funds: \$4,012 (which are drawn first due that they are not transferrable to the next year's budget). Senators should be thinking of the amount of remaining TA funds and what are the necessary next steps.
- Personnel Policy -- Dr. Gayle Bessenoff reported that the committee is working on Faculty Evaluation of Administrative Effectiveness and reviewing a few documents.
- Rules -- Dr. Adiel Coca reported that they are working on the chairs' document and trying to finish reviewing the university committees to streamline them.
- Student Policy -- Dr. Kevin Colwell reported the committee hasn't had a chance to meet yet.
- Technology -- Dr. Joel Dodson reported that the committee is working to streamline the Faculty Senate website.

OLD BUSINESS: - none at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ✓ Tobacco Policy -- motion: to endorse the policy as presented:

The Southern Connecticut State University Faculty Senate endorses the Campus Health and Safety Committee's proposed Tobacco-Free Campus policy and its recommenaton that the policy becomes effective at the end of the Spring 2015 semester."

The motion was seconded and discussion followed. (a) Senators expressed gratitude to the committee for their work and draft of the policy; (b) Some Senators expressed concerns on the policy but many Senators support the policy; (c) Many Senators recognize the impact this policy might have; (d) The need to provide and publicize information for this change of culture; (e) There is a need for budgetary and other resources. There has to be some sensitivity towards those folks who do smoke and provide information to try to change this culture.

Since there was no action taken to remove the 1:45 rule, the Senate can't act on this issue today, thus it will be an item on the Old Business at the next Senate meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 2:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Diamantis
Faculty Senate Secretary