

*Approved Minutes of February 24, 2016*

[http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/min\\_15\\_16.html](http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/min_15_16.html)

The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of 2015-2016 was called to order at 12:11 pm by President William Faraclas.

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

Emmanuel Emenyonu (Accounting)	<b>Uchenna Nwachuku (Couns/Sch Psych)</b>	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Maria Diamantis (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Cassi Meyerhoffer (Sociology)
Kenneth McGill (Anthropology)	James William Anthony Fullmer (Earth Science)	Tom Radice (History)	Joe Fields (Mathematics)	Todd Schwendemann (Physics)	<b>Patricia Major (Special Ed/Reading)</b>
Greg Cochenet (Art)	Sanja Grubacic (Econ/Finance)	Stephen Amerman (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Jon Wharton (Political Science)	<b>Ron Tamura (Special Ed/Reading)</b>
Lisa Barbaro/Joseph Van Gilder (Athletics)	<b>Joy Fopiano (Education)</b>	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	<b>Jonathan Irving (Music)</b>	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	Sheila H. Garvey (Theatre)
Sarah Crawford (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Elsie Okobi (Library Science)	<b>Maria Krol (Nursing)</b>	Katherine Masland (Psychology)	Jian Wu (World Literature Language)
Adiel Coca (Chemistry)	Joel Dodson (English)	Diane Tomasko (Library Services)	Antoinette Towle (Nursing)	William Faraclas (President)	Luke Eilderts (World Literature Language)
<b>Jane McGinn (Communication)</b>	Mike Shea (English)	Jeff Dickens (Library Services)	Gene Brady (Part-Time Faculty)	Deborah Flynn (Public Health)	Liz Keenan (UCF)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Scott Ellis (English)	Mina Park (Management / MIS)	<b>Robin Esposito (Part-Time Faculty)</b>	Michael Dodge (Recreation/ Leisure)	Elizabeth Rhoades (Grad Council)
<b>Taraneh Seyed (Computer Science)</b>	Scott Graves (Environmental and Marine Studies)	Greg Robbins (Management/ MIS)	<b>Obiageli Okwuka (Part-Time Faculty)</b>	Heather Pizzanella (Social Work)	Julie Gagliardi (Student)
<b>Michelle Lawler (Counseling)</b>	Matt Rothbard (Exercise Science)	<b>Shyam Lodha (Marketing)</b>	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)	<b>Mary Papazian (SCSU President)</b>
<u>Guests:</u> Jaye Bailey Sandra Bullmer					

Approval of Minutes: The Senate Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2016 were approved as submitted.

Announcements

- Update on UCF deliberation process on the LEP reduction credits - Dr. Keenan thanked everyone for agreeing to have the Senate discussion after the UCF's deliberations tomorrow morning. The intend of the UCF meeting tomorrow is to discuss all 6 options

and get a feel about the reaction of all six and encouraged the faculty to be in discussion with UCF reps in their department. UCF will decide what will the next steps be during their March meeting.

- Senator Dunklee asked for clarification if the discussions are limited to those 6 options at this time. Dr. Keenan stated that this is where the UCF will start discussion and that they will not entertain any new ones at this time.
- Dr. Keenan also thank Luke Eilderts for assisting with the Robert's Rules of Order.
- Senator Dodson reminded all of the next First Thursday's Forum, which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> gathering of the Humanities and Social Science Scholarship Forum, on "Race and Class and Neighborhood" on Thursday, March 3, at 4:45-6 pm in the ASC - Theater. This presentation is by Dr. Cassi Meyerhoffer of the Sociology Department. Light refreshments will be offered.
- Senator Dodson also announced that on Friday, February 26, 1-3 pm in EN C 219F, will be the first installment of the Arts and Sciences Faculty Research Roundtable, hosted by Drs. Troy Paddock and Camille Serchuk. Both events this semester are dedicated to widening the conversation about the new ideas and research going on here at Southern.

President's Report - the report was distributed, the full report can be found on the Senate's website: <http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/senatepresidentreports/2015-2016.html>

The following items of the report were highlighted:

- President Papazian will receive a flower arrangement and a fruit basket on behalf of the Faculty Senate and the Administrative Faculty Senate, expressing our condolences for the loss of her mother.
- Welcome to the new Senator, Joy Fopiano, from the Education department.
- Item 3. Special Act 14-11 An Act Concerning a Plan for Participation in a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) Regarding Distance Learning Programs. This is a consideration for a bill by the CT General Assembly that would charge the Office of Higher Education with developing a plan to establish authorization reciprocity with other states for the delivery of online instruction. There will be a meeting tomorrow Thursday 2/25 with Drs. Barbara Aronson, William Faraclas, Elizabeth Rhoades, Cynthia Stretch, and Mr. Walter Stutzman to consider proposing a faculty response to Special Act 14-11. This will require further discussion/action by the Senate.
- Item 4: Faculty Leadership Council was invited by Interim Provost Ellen Durnin to meet with Mr. Mark Rozewski, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration for a budget update. Mark stated that it is difficult to plan next year's budget (along with other universities) since there are so many undefined issues with the Governor's proposals. As far as the current faculty searches under way, 36, the process is continuing and the deans of each school have prioritized their searches. If a search is completed for a priority position, then that will be done. If a search is completed but is not identified as priority, it will be held until the budget is set. It was suggested that departments trying to do searches discuss them with their deans immediately.

Standing Committees Updates:

- Elections - Senator Matthew Rothbard reported that the ballots have been sent out for the CSU Professorship Advisory Committee with due date of February 26<sup>th</sup>. The committee will count ballots next week and will announce the results.
- Finance - Senator Peter Madonia stated that he had no accounting report for TA's today. But we are aware that we have a very positive balance. A senator has requested to craft a possible resolution asking President Papazian to extend to maximum allowance of \$1500 for faculty traveling during the rest of this academic year. The request was also raised that we ask for some data, such as how many faculty have travelled in the past few years, how many have paid on their own and how much, and how many faculty chose not to travel due to lack of money. Support was voiced that the faculty should complete the TA's with all needed funds and not with the allowable amount only.

With a motion from the floor and a second, the following resolution was presented for discussion:

**Whereas**, there are significant available funds in the CSU-AAUP Travel Fund account for 2015-2016;

**Resolved**, that the 2015-2016 fiscal-year reimbursement cap for full-time faculty travel be raised \$300 to a maximum amount of \$1,500 for each member, including completed and remaining travel, with allowance for revised Travel Authorization for pending trips and completed travel, for which the TA has not yet been reconciled.

The Executive Committee was charged to finalize the format and appropriate language and to immediately present the resolution for approval to President Papazian.

The resolution was approved unanimously.

Senator Madonia invited volunteers to work with finance committee and research for further information/data on the travel funds. Senator Pettigrew informed the Senate that such information/data does exist and it has been discussed with the Provost and the Chief of Staff on different meetings. So this could be received rather fast.

- Personnel Policy - Senators Michael Shea and Stephen Tomczak reported that the committee is continuing to work on four issues: A) editing the faculty survey for administration, hoping it will approve it on March 2 and after some feedback to refine the survey for a fall administration. B) to edit a unified DEC document and finalize the document for approval. C) working on the recusal issue from the P&T committee. They have discussed section 3F d, and will present some findings today to the EC and move forward. D) discussion on possible electronic P&T file and will present pros and cons of this discussion from the committee soon.

Question was raised if it is worthwhile to complete the administrative survey this fall based on the instability of the administration or wait to administer the survey next year. The feeling is that the survey is evaluating the "office" and not the "person". Furthermore the revised version will also be more precise and improved.

- Rules - Senator Adiel Coca reported that the committee continues to examine the Senate Bylaws and will meet with the Provost for the Chair's Document soon.

- Student Policy - Senator Deborah Flynn reported that the committee met with Jack Mordente, Veterans Affairs Office, and he gave the committee an overview of what his office does as well as some experiences that our veteran students are experiencing. She suggested that Jack visits the senate to inform us all of the veterans experiences as we have about 340 such students, although the numbers fluctuate semester after semester.
- Technology - Senator Walter Stutzman reported that the committee is finalizing and hopes to launch the new faculty senate web site soon. They are also working on having "brown bag" sessions to share technology information. The student photos on Banner will be finalized on each class rosters with three proposed formats. This issue has to be treated as very confidential once finalized. Question was raised if he knows of any Blackboard archiving processes? He will look into that. So far, if a student has withdrawn from your class, his/her name will remain on Blackboard.
- Academic Policy - Senator David Pettigrew stated that the committee finally had their first meeting of the semester and discussed seven possible items:
  - a) Work on reducing class sizes to support student success. Previously, Provost Williams had temporarily increased class sizes from 20 to 23 for the LEP Tier I and W courses; thus, committee is crafting a resolution to adjust the enrollment.
  - b) Fact finding on transparency on the awarding of research and reassigned time funds and approvals and how funds are distributed across schools.
  - c) Seeking to increase the creative activity funds, maybe by end of the semester
  - d) Increasing travel funds for this semester, but left it to the EC
  - e) Reduction of the LEPC credits, the committee decided to wait for two weeks and see what the UCF will be proposing
  - f) Student surveys continues to be discussed
  - g) Academic implications of the proposed new degree programs that integrate undergraduate/graduate programs, i.e. a five-year degree.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

Special Committees' Reports:

- ❖ UCF -- no further report
- ❖ Graduate Council -- Dr. Rhoades reported that the Graduate Council is discussing the issues of online teaching and to implement last year's online committee and seeking IT support and personnel for a 24/7 assistance. Programs are going through for approval at this time, but there are no guidelines yet. The APC committee will work with Grad Council on these.
- ❖ FASP / USPARC - Senator Pettigrew reported that the committee will be meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> and they will be invited to join the APC meetings, so that they can be assisted to present/craft resolutions as needed.

Student Government representative, Ms. Gagliardi reported that the SGA will be working with Admissions. The SGA meetings are every Friday at 1 pm in this room, if anyone wishes to join them. The SGA is discussing the LEP issue on reducing credits, ie dismissal of the critical thinking courses, which is beneficial to all students. The SGA doesn't agree on proposals that will benefit a few students, but rather proposals that benefit all students.

At this time some questions/concerns were raised on the Presidential search and some rumors going around. The Faculty Leadership Committee will contact President Mark Ojakian to discuss this. President Faraclas will also reach out to President Ojakian to discuss this further and urge him to make the process more transparent.

At this time there was a motion to suspend the 1:45 rule. With one objection, a vote was taken: all in favor except one objection, the motion carries.

There was a motion from the Senate that President Faraclas communicates to President Ojakian that the "Faculty Senate recommends to commence the search process in an expeditious manner with a very thoughtful way and with faculty participation, reminding him of the past instability and the need for future stability and also that the search of the Provost commences".

The motion was seconded and discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

President Faraclas thanked the committees for their hard work but he reminded everyone, that they need to be diligent on the time constraints and bring any recommendations/resolutions on the Senate floor soon. Also, a comment from the floor was made that the Senate needs to address the issue of including the academic impact statement when the administration is making/crafting a new policy. This was an approved resolution and needs to be brought to the forefront.

Motion to adjourn at 1:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Diamantis  
Secretary, Faculty Senate