

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of February 8, 2017

<http://southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/2016-2017.html>

The 9th meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2016-2017 was held on February 8, 2017, at 12:10 pm in the Seminar Room of Connecticut Hall.

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

Wafeek Abdelsayed (Accounting)	Uchenna Nwachuku (Couns/Sch Psych)	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Klay Kruczek (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Ron Tamura (Special Ed/Reading)
Kenneth McGill (Anthropology)	Mike Knell (Earth Science)	Tom Radice (History)	Joe Fields (Mathematics)	Todd Schwendemann (Physics)	Judith Tepstra (Special Ed/Reading)
Greg Cochenet (Art)	(Econ/Finance)	Stephen Amerman (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Jon Wharton (Political Science)	Larry Nye (Theatre)
Lisa Barbaro (Athletics)	Beena Achhpal (Curriculum & Learning)	Yan Liu (Information & Library Science)	Jonathan Irving (Music)	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	
Sarah Crawford (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Cindy Simoneau (Journalism)	Maria Krol (Nursing)	Katherine Marsland (Psychology)	Luke Eilderts (Secretary/World Languages & Literatures)
James Kearns (Chemistry)	Joel Dodson (English)	Diane Tomasko (Library Services)	Antoinette Towle (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	Deborah Weiss (UCF)
Anette Madlock Gatson (Communication)	Mike Shea (English)	Kari Swanson (Library Services)	(Part-time Faculty)	Michael Dodge (Recreation/Leisure)	William Faraclas (Faculty Senate Past President)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Scott Ellis (English)	Mina Park (Management/MIS)	Robin Esposito (Part-Time Faculty)	(Social Work)	Elizabeth Rhoades (Grad Council)
Md Shafaeat Hossain (Computer Science)	Scott Graves (Environment, Geography & Marine Studies)	Greg Robbins (Management/MIS)	Obiageli Okwuka (Part-Time Faculty)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)	(Student)
Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	Peter Latchman (Exercise Science)	Shyam Lodha (Marketing)	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	Alan Brown (Sociology)	Dr. Joe Bertolino, SCSU President
Guests: Richard Ricardi AVP Institutional Effectiveness Mark Rozewski EVP Finance & Administration					

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on January 25, 2017, were approved as distributed.

<http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/2016-2017.html>

Announcements

- AAUP Letter writing campaign moved to February 16 from 10:30-2:30 in Engleman B121.
- Reminder about open fora for Provost search.

President's Report

<http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/senatepresidentreports/2016-2017.html>

Guests

- President Joe Bertolino: Upon return from the System Presidents Meeting, shared with the Senate news on Governor Malloy's proposed state budget.
 - Proposed 4.5% cut in higher education funding, with the assumption that concessions from SEBAC and other agencies will be made. If concessions are not made, cuts can be expected to rise. System President Ojakian will release a statement soon.
 - Questions and comments from Senators included issues relating to campus closures and/or mergers, department closing and/or mergers, and system-wide resources.
 - Pres. Bertolino shared that he did not believe we should fear a campus closure; suggested we consider how we may create partnerships both with the private sector as well as our sibling institutions; believes that the discussion around World Languages may be the starting point of a larger discussion on curriculum and discipline structures; feels that there are still many variables, but strongly believes President Ojakian and the BOR will advocate strongly for CSU.

With unanimous consent, the Senate took up the Undergraduate Curriculum Forum report.

At the conclusion of D. Weiss's report and the discussion that followed, W. Abselsayed moved to adopt the "Resolution Regarding Inaction on Curriculum Proposals Presented to the Office of the Provost for Action," which reads,

“Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence; and

Whereas, academic excellence is a function of curricular integrity; and

Whereas, curriculum is the domain of the faculty; and

Whereas, changes and innovations in the curriculum are governed by an established process; and

Whereas, the faculty has followed the established process for the UCF flow of proposals; and

Whereas, not all proposals submitted by the UCF to the Office of the Provost have been processed in a timely way, including some that were submitted as early as November 2016; and

Whereas, requests made by the UCF to the Office of the Provost to act on the delayed proposals have been ignored in violation of the established process; and

Whereas, all of the proposals on hold have implications for curriculum, and some of the proposals on hold are necessary to conform to the 120-credit normalization mandate of the legislature; and

Whereas, not processing the proposals being held will prevent their inclusion in the 2017-2018 academic offerings; and

Whereas, not including the proposed curriculum changes and innovations in the 2017-2018 academic offerings will harm students; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Office of the Provost shall follow the established process for reviewing and acting on all proposals put before it by the UCF; and

Resolved, That, given the time sensitive nature of proposals that already have been delayed, the Office of the Provost shall act on all pending proposals immediately in order for them to be available for inclusion in the 2017-2018 academic offerings; and

Resolved, That the Office of the Provost shall act immediately on all future proposals put before it by the UCF.”

The motion was adopted.

Standing Committee Reports

- Personnel policy: Working on revision of documents for uniformity. President Diamantis asked the committee to look closely at the recusal rule as action must be taken before the end of the semester.
- Academic policy: Working on grade appeal policy.
- Rules: Working on bylaws.
- Finance: FT AAUP travel funds: \$102,023; Faculty Creative Activity Fund: \$3,457; Part-time AAUP travel funds: \$2,807.
- Student Policy: Review of Academic misconduct document.
- Technology: Committee is looking for volunteers to help with improvements to Blackboard.
- Elections: Elections will begin in March.

Special Committee Reports

- Graduate Council: no report.
- FASP/USPaRC: With President Bertolino’s approval, the committee will begin work on an Academic Strategic Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 2:03.

Luke Eilderts
Secretary