

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of September 7, 2016

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

The 1st meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2016-2017 was held on September 7, 2016, at 12:12 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)	Alan Brown (Sociology)
Kenneth McGill (Anthropology)	Mike Knel Anthony Fullmer (Earth Science)	Tom Radice (History)	Ray Mugno (Mathematics)	Todd Schwendemann (Physics)	Judith Tepstra (Special Ed/Reading)
Greg Cochenet (Art)	Sanja Grubacic (Econ/Finance)	Stephen Amerman (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Jon Wharton (Political Science)	(Theatre)
Lisa Barbaro (Athletics)	Beena Achhpal (Education)	Yan Liuu (Library Science)	Jonathan Irving (Music)	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	Rubén Pelayo (World Languages & Literatures)
Sarah Crawford (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Maria Krol (Nursing)	Katherine Masland (Psychology)	Luke Eilderts (Secretary/World Languages & Literatures)
Adiel Coca (Chemistry)	Joel Dodson (English)	Diane Tomasko (Library Services)	Antoinette Towle (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	Deborah Weiss (UCF)
Jane McGinn (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)	Lee deLisle (Grad Council)
Hossain Shafact (Computer Science)	Scott Graves (Environment, Geography & Marine Studies)	Greg Robbins (Management/MIS)	Obiageli Okwuka (Part-Time Faculty)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)	Julie Gagliardi (Student)
Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	Peter Latchman (Exercise Science)	Shyam Lodha (Marketing)	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	Ron Tamura (Special Ed/Reading)	Dr. Joe Bertolino, SCSU President
Guests: Yan Searcy (Associate Dean HHS) Ilene Crawford (Int. Associate VP Academic Affairs)	Karen Musmanno (IT) Christine Broadbridge (Int. Dean Graduate School)	Sam Andoh (Int. Dean BUS) Tracy Tyrec (VP Student Affairs)	Jules Tetreault (Dean Student Affairs) Jean Breany (PCH)	Richard Riccardi (Associate VP of Institutional Advancement) Mark Rozewski (Executive VP Finance)	

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on May 4, 2016, were approved.

Introduction of Senators

President Maria Diamantis invited new and returning Senators and Guests to introduce themselves.

Guest Speakers

President Diamantis welcomed SCSU President Joe Bertolino and Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ellen Durnin and invited them to address the assembly.

President Bertolino highlighted several important issues:

- Full-time enrollment is on target with 1400 new incoming students. Challenge remains with part-time enrollment and retention.
- Major concerns with the office of Financial Aid [FA]. University has been placed on a probation for the second time. President Bertolino will funnel resources to FA and asks that during this time of limited resources that the faculty support this decision.
- Issues concerning IT and Blackboard have, to the best of Pres. Bertolino's knowledge, been resolved.
- University will move forward with several large building projects (School of Business and School of Health and Human Services); Strategic Plan.
- Pres. Bertolino is committed to raising SCSU's profile and has already participated in many PR opportunities, with many more scheduled in the future. He will continue to pursue relationships with potential donors.

Provost Durnin highlighted several important issues:

- A discussion around shared values has been initiated at the level of the Provost's Council (Provost, Deans, Assistant VPs) and a draft of a document will soon be shared among faculty for discussion and feedback. Values currently included in the draft are
 - Share values
 - Collaboration and cooperation
 - Effective Processes
 - Communication
- Faculty should have received information on the Faculty Creative Activity Research Grant. A total of 31 awards are estimated for this year's competition. 34 grants were awarded in the previous cycle.
- Discussion has begun on creating a Senior Faculty Award similar to ones awarded to Junior and Mid-Level faculty.
- Terrel Ward Bynum (PHI) has been named CSU Professor. Official announcement will be made on Friday September 16, 2016, which coincides with the BOR meeting held on SCSU campus.

Once President Bertolino and Provost Durnin finished their remarks, the floor was opened to questions from the assembly.

- Senator O'Brien asked about what went wrong with Financial Aid.
 - Pres. Bertolino: FA has not been managed properly and requirements from the Department of Education [DOE] have grown more stringent.
- Senator Graves asked about the status of our programs.
 - Provost Durnin: Approval is set by the DOE rather than the BOR. We must focus internally; the DOE will be in contact with us when they are ready.

- Senator Pettigrew clarified that the main focus from DOE last year was on attendance reporting.
 - Provost Durnin: The requirements from DOE have quickly grown in light of major FA problems nationwide, mainly around for-profit institutions; difficult to keep up.
- Senator Pettigrew asked about the role of the faculty in the drafting of values proposed by the Provost.
 - Provost Durnin: Wanted to get the conversation started, but only a first step; this should be a conversation.
- Senator Dunklee asked about President Bertolino's thoughts on faculty input and the role of shared governance.
 - President Bertolino: Assured Senators of his commitment to thorough debate and conversation with stakeholders.
- Senator Okwuka asked about President Bertolino's thoughts on diversity on campus.
 - President Bertolino: Reiterated his commitment to social justice, and offered a vision where SCSU could be *the* social justice campus in the system.

Emergency Election: Faculty Senate Treasurer

After nominations were opened, made, and subsequently closed, Senators elected Wafeek Abdelsayed (ACC) to serve as Faculty Senate Treasurer. Senator Abdelsayed will serve as chair of the FS Finance Committee and will be a member of the FS Executive Committee.

President's Report

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

President Diamantis drew Senators' attention to items 3, 6, 7, and 8.

After discussion, Senator McGill moved to elect two FS representatives, Senators Michael Shea and Peter Madonia, to the Budget & Planning Committee for one more year. The motion was adopted after debate.

After nominations, Senators elected David Pettigrew (PHI), Alan Brown (SOC), Wafeek Abdelsayed (ACC), and Beena Achhpal (EDU) to serve on the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee for one year. Re-elections/elections for members of this committee will be run by the All-University Elections process in the Spring 2017.

Standing Committee Formation

Senators joined the six standing Faculty Senate committees and elected their chair (except the Finance Committee, which is chaired by the Faculty Senate Treasurer). Discussion ensued on the role of each committee and some of the proposed future work of each. Committee rosters will be posted on the Faculty Senate website. In addition to the Faculty Senate President, Past President, and Secretary, the chairs of the Standing committees also sit on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Membership for the AY 2016-2017 Faculty Senate Executive Committee is as follows:

- Dr. David Pettigrew, Chair, Academic Policy Committee
- Drs. Alan Brown & Klay Kruczek, Co-Chairs, Elections Committee
- Dr. Wafeek Abdelsayed, Chair, Finance Committee
- Drs. Michael Shea & Stephen Monroe Tomczak, Co-Chairs, Personnel Policy Committee

- Dr. Adiel Coca, Chair, Rules Committee
- Dr. Mike Nizhnikov, Chair, Student Policy Committee
- Walter Stutzman, Chair, Technology
- Dr. Luke Eilderts, Secretary
- Dr. William Faraclas, Past President
- Dr. Maria Diamantis, President

New Business

Discussion ensued on the following issues: 15-minute rule; Travel funding; Helpdesk improvements; Decreasing class sizes for certain courses; SPAR; Role faculty play in shared governance; Unintended results of P&T language change (removal of qualifying language, e.g. “strongly recommend”).

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.



Luke L. Eilderts
Faculty Senate Secretary