

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of September 6, 2017

<https://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/2017-2018.html>

The 1st meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2017-2018 was held on
 September 6, 2017, at 12:15 pm
 in the Seminar Room of Connecticut Hall.

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

Wafeek Abdelsayed (Accounting)	Natalie Starling (Couns/Sch Psych)	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Len Brin (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Angela Lopez-Velasquez (Special Ed/Reading)
Kenneth McGill (Anthropology)	Mike Knell (Earth Science)	Tom Radice (History)	Klay Kruczek (Mathematics)	Todd Schwendemann (Physics)	Laura Raynolds (Special Ed/Reading)
Greg Cochenet (Art)	Sanja Grubacic (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)	Luke Eilderts (Secretary/World Languages & Literatures)
Sarah Crawford (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Maria Krol (Nursing)	(Psychology)	
James Kearns (Chemistry)	Joel Dodson (English)	Parker Fruehan (Library Services)	Antoinette Towle (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	Deborah Weiss (UCF)
Derek Taylor (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)	Elizabeth Kalbfleisch (English)	Mina Park (Management/MIS)	(Part-Time Faculty)	(Social Work)	Elizabeth Rhoades (Grad Council)
Mohammad T. Islam (Computer Science)	Scott Graves (Environment, Geography & Marine Studies)	Greg Robbins (Management/MIS)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)	(Student)
Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	Peter Latchman (Exercise Science)	Shyam Lodha (Marketing)	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	Greg Adams (Sociology)	Dr. Joe Bertolino, SCSU President
<u>Guests:</u> Ilene Crawford Chris Catchiry Paul Levatino Robert Prezant	Erin Webster-Garrett				

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on May 3, 2017, were approved as distributed.

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

President Diamantis welcomed senators to the new academic year 2017-2018. She also thanked President Bertolino for providing lunch for the meeting.

Senator Faraclas (PCH) moved to change the orders of the day and bring new business before the Senate. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

New Business

President Diamantis provided background of the actions that were taken during the summer to conform to the new CBAC agreement.

Senator Stuzman (PT) moved to ratify actions taken during the Summer of 2017 by Faculty Senate President Diamantis to modify language in the Renewal, Promotion and Tenure, Professional Assessment, Sabbatical, and Retraining documents in order to comply with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

Senator Abdelsayed (ACT) moved to accept the Faculty Senate Resolution on Necessary Modifications of the Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Procedures Document (2017-2018) regarding the Evaluative Category of “Record of Disciplinary Action.” Motion seconded. After discussion, Senator Faraclas (PCH) moved to delete “2017-2018” from the language of the document. Motion seconded. After debate, the amendment was approved. With no further discussion, the motion was approved. (See end of document for resolution.)

For all resolutions, please see the Faculty Senate Website:

<https://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/resolutionsbydate.html>

Guests

President Diamantis welcomed Southern Connecticut State University President Joe Bertolino to speak.

University President Bertolino

- Thanked Senators for their attendance at Convocation as well as all of the beginning-of-the-semester events.
- Welcomed Provost and Vice-President of Academic Affairs Dr. Robert S. Prezant.
- Welcomed ACE Fellow Dr. Erin Webster-Garett, who will be shadowing him this year.
- Reaffirmed his vision of Southern as an institution that champions social justice. Offered advice on how to help students in crisis, especially with the current debate on the DACA program. Please refer them to the office of Dr. Tracy Tyree, Vice President of Student Affairs.
- Clarified that the discussion at the School of Arts & Sciences meeting concerning the division of the school was premature. Affirmed his commitment to transparency in his administration and stated that before any decision is made, a lengthy conversation needs to take place.

- Senators offered questions concerning possible future steps, including faculty fora or a special committee to assess the financial benefits or drawbacks.
- Shared that enrollment currently stands at 10,406, which is nearly stable and thus a positive in our current environment. Stated that we need to work on our retention and would like to aim for at least a 1% improvement in retention per year. Shared that the “word on the street” about Southern is positive, and that a lot of work is being done to bring in new donors to the University.
 - Provost Prezant thanked everyone for their work.
 - Questions
 - Senator Dodson (ENG) inquired about the public relations initiative, as well as the lack of staff support found across campus, asking if this is linked to retention.
- Stated that while inroads have been made, there is still much work that needs to be done.

President’s Report

President Diamantis asked Senators to read and distribute the information found in the President’s Report with their respective departments.

Senators discussed the furlough days and how they should be reported. Human Resources should be sending out information on how to submit the necessary paperwork to take a furlough day.

Standing committee formation

President Diamantis invited previous standing committee chairs to present the work of their committees. Afterwards, Senators chose their standing committee.

The chairs of the standing committees for AY 2017-2018 are as follows:

- Academic Policy: Senators Pettigrew (PHI) and Weiss (CMD).
- Elections: Senator Kruczek (MAT)
- Finance: Senator Abdelsayed (ACT)
- Personnel Policy: Senators Shea (ENG) and Tomczak (SWK)
- Rules: Senator O’Brien (MDS)
- Student Policy: Senator Nizhnikov (PSY)
- Technology: Senator Stuzman (PT)

Reports of Special Committees

- UCF
 - Senator and co-Chair of UCF Weiss (CMD) shared that at the first meeting the chairs of the committees were chosen and their membership determined. The following day will be the first standing meeting. Cindy Simoneau (JRN) will be co-chair of UCF.
- Grad Council: No report.
- FASP: No report.

New Business

Senator Faraclas (PCH) shared his concerns on summer committee work without pay, stating that this work is often taken on by a small group of faculty who volunteer. The overall effect is that it disenfranchises the faculty from decision making.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Luke Eilderts
Secretary

Faculty Senate Resolution on Necessary Modifications of the Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Procedures Document regarding the Evaluative Category of “Record of Disciplinary Action”

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence;

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty;

Whereas, The 2016-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement includes a new evaluative category, namely “Record of Disciplinary Action”;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Procedures document needs to be consistent with the evaluative categories set forth in the CBA;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Procedures include a weighted value and scoring scale for each category; and

Whereas, The new evaluative category “Record of Disciplinary Action” is the lowest weighted category; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the following sections of the P&T Senate document be modified as follows:

I. In **PART III -- STRUCTURE AND PROCEDURES, H. University Promotion and Tenure Files, 1. Contents of the File, a. Candidate's Responsibility**, the following item shall be added as #10 of a list of items the candidate is required to include in his or her file:
“10. Any record of disciplinary action currently in the candidate's personnel file that is not scheduled to be removed prior to the end of the review process.”

II. In **PART IV -- PROCEDURES OF THE PROMOTION AND TENURE COMMITTEE, A. Promotion, 3.**, the following phrase shall be inserted as indicated in the paragraph immediately below: **“and except for category 6 where each Committee member shall assign the candidate a number on an eleven-point rating scale (0-10).”**

“3. After discussion and deliberation on a given candidate are completed, each Committee member shall assign the candidate an integer on a ten-point rating scale for each evaluation category, except for category 5 where 1 point is given for every year of service beyond five years up to a maximum of 15 points, **and except for category 6 where each Committee member shall assign the candidate a number on an eleven-point rating scale (0-10).** (See Part IV., C. below). The integers should measure, as accurately as possible, the candidate’s performance in each of the evaluative categories.”

III. In **PART IV -- PROCEDURES OF THE PROMOTION AND TENURE COMMITTEE, C. Computing and Interpreting Ballots, 3. The total of these weighted averages shall be computed as follows**, the following line in this section shall be modified as follows:

“Record of Disciplinary Action-----average is multiplied by -1”