

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of September 12, 2018

<https://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/2018-2019.html>

The 2nd meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2018-2019 was held on
 September 12, at 12:14 p.m. in the
 Seminar Room of Connecticut Hall.

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

Wafeek Abdelsayed (Accounting)	Mohammad T. Islam (Computer Science)	Peter Latchman (Exercise Science)	Robert Forbus (Marketing)	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	Greg Adams (Sociology)
Kenneth McGill (Anthropology)	Matthew Ouimet (Counseling)	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Maria Diamantis (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Angela Lopez-Velasquez (Special Ed/Reading)
Jeff Slomba (Art)	Natalie Starling (Couns/Sch Psych)	Tom Radice (History)	Alain D'Amour (Mathematics)	L. Evan Finch (Physics)	Laura Reynolds (Special Ed/Reading)
Lisa Barbaro (Athletics)	Mike Knell (Earth Science)	Darcy Kern (History)	Joe Fields (Mathematics)	Jon Wharton (Political Science)	Larry Nye (Theatre)
(Biology)	Sanja Grubacic (Econ/Finance)	Yan Liu (Information & Library Science)	Jonathan Irving (Music)	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	Rubén Pelayo (World Languages & Literatures)
James Kearns (Chemistry)	Beena Achhpal (Curriculum & Learning)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Francine Penny (Nursing)	Katherine Marsland (Psychology)	Cindy Simoneau (UCF)
Derek Taylor (Communication)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Parker Fruehan (Library Services)	Lisa Rebesch (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	William Faraclas (Faculty Senate Past President)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Mike Shea (English)	Kari Swanson (Library Services)	Obiageli Okwuka (Part-time Faculty)	Michael Dodge (Recreation/Leisure)	(Grad Council)
Wes O'Brien (Communication, Media & Screen Studies)	Paul Petrie (English)	Mina Park (Management/MIS)	Eric Hoffman (Part-Time Faculty)	Paul Levatino (Social Work)	Mia Forgione (Student)
Derek Taylor (Communication, Media & Screen Studies)	Scott Graves (Environment, Geography & Marine Studies)	Allison Wall (Management/MIS)	Mary Ellen Minichiello (Part-Time Faculty)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)	Dr. Joe Bertolino, SCSU President

<u>Guests:</u> Ilene Crawford (Academic Affairs)	Bob Prezant (Provost)	Alicia Carroll (Registrar's Office)	Craig Hlavac (Arts & Sciences)	Tom Fleming (Earth Science)	Helen Marx Bob Drobish
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I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

- August 29, 2018
 - **Approval delayed to subsequent meeting pending suggested revisions.**

II. Announcements

- Senator Pettigrew (PHI) announced that Friday, September 14 from 1-2pm in the Student Center Theater an information session on the Digital Professional Assessment pilot will be held.

III. President's Report

- President Diamantis noted number one on her report regarding President Ojakian's visit to SCSU on September 28. President Diamantis encourages all members to attend the meeting with President Ojakian they can. Those who cannot attend were encouraged to please send questions to President Diamantis and she will share them.
- President Diamantis reported that the Executive Committee discussed some issues with President Bertolino as indicated in her report. In particular there was a discussion of the power outage. It was suggested that emergency announcements can be made via alert or the PA system regarding power outages.
- President Diamantis reported that item 3 b is important for us. SCSU will be regionalized with GCC, HCC, and Norwalk CC. We are visible with signage in those locations. Noted the pilot for classes at GCC and HCC.
- President Diamantis noted item 3 d is good news-Mark Rozewski reported that we ended the year with a surplus and did not need to dip into the reserves.
- Item 3 e. -decline in graduate students, but 10,160 students.
- President Diamantis reported that President Joe is continuing efforts to have an ombudsperson (item f). Senator Dunklee asked for clarification regarding the necessity of this position. A discussion of the necessity of the position took place among Senators. President Diamantis stated that we will get further information. We do not need to deliberate. We will find out directly from the Provost and President.
- President Diamantis reminded everyone that November is Social Justice Month.
- President Diamantis reported Dr. Tyree reported that the campus climate survey report will come out and will be shared with the leadership groups. Dr. Tyree has been invited to come to the Senate end of October or beginning of November.
- President Diamantis reported that SCSU's 125th anniversary is this year and there will be many events taking place starting with a kickoff event 11am-2pm on September 24.
- President Diamantis reported that President Bertolino's State of the University Address will take place at noon on Tuesday 9/18 followed by the faculty staff appreciation celebration.

- President Diamantis reported that on Friday 9/14 an information session on the pilot Digital Professional Assessment will be held in the ASC Theater.

Senator Shea moved to change the order of the agenda to permit members of the Academic Year Scheduling Task Force to give their presentation . Hearing no objections the order of the agenda was changed to allow the task force to present.

V. New Business

- Alicia Carroll (Registrar's Office) and Craig Hlavac (Arts & Sciences) presented the work of the Academic Year Scheduling Task Force. President Diamantis and other members of the Senate raised questions. Presentation slides will be distributed to the Senate. President Diamantis will arrange for a separate meeting for further discussion of this topic.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

- Academic Policy—Senator Pettigrew reported that the committee met and discussed strategic vision for academic excellence to find initiatives to bring forward in the form of conversations with admin and possible resolutions. One was reducing the size of W classes from 22 to 21. Also, they will look at grade appeal process and invite Jules Tetreault and there is some indication that students are being advised to do grade appeals when there is no palpable injustice. There has been a multiplication of grade appeals. Related to this is the problem of having grade appeals during summer, but we are being pressured from admin to provide them. President Diamantis is asking the committee to reach out to the grade appeal chair, and hold a workshop on grades/grade appeals and how this is represented in syllabi. Also, the committee needs to give the Senate a report of last year.
- Elections—Senator Swanson reported that the committee is working towards electronic elections for University-wide Committee elections.
- Finance—Senator Abdelsayed reported that FT AAUP Travel fund balance is \$226,037 and PT AAUP Travel fund balance is \$28,804. The Creative Activity fund balance is \$78,932.
- Personnel Policy—Senator Shea reported that some deans expressed concerns about people in their offices being able to be on P&T. PPC will invite them to that committee or whole senate to present their concerns. Senator Tomczak reported that the committee discussed the faculty survey of administrative effectiveness—additional admin changes, reviewing existing version of survey and then members will review and discuss, edit at next meeting. Also considered a proposal presented by the Provost regarding the emeritus policy and the committee will invite him to come meet with them to discuss his proposal (October 3). Also discussed intellectual property use policy and procedures, in particular the review committee. When the policy was distributed in June the language regarding exceptions was removed. We have requested that that language be restored. Senator Dunklee asked for clarification—once it is registered does it have to be registered again? President Diamantis answered that it was every 2 years, but she will verify.
- Rules—Senator Gregory reported that the Rules committee did not meet last week. We need to address the topic of whether Senators are unable to attend for the full meeting whether the department needs to send another representative.

President Diamantis also indicated that she will be balancing committee membership.

- f. Student Policy—Senator Nizhnikov reported that there was a mistyping of a sentence in the student misconduct policy. As soon as there are two misconducts a panel will be formed. That was the spirit of the document. This will be addressed. The other two issues the committee will be discussing are a bit larger. One is Latin Honors, the assertion is we are giving out a lot of them. There will be discussions of this and data will be gathered. The other issue is much larger, and the committee will be inviting other stakeholders: the university would like us to consider removing the SAT for consideration for admission. The committee will invite Registrar, English Department Math Department, and others. ECSU and WCSU have already done this. The argument is if it is not a predictive test for everyone then it should perhaps not be used.
- g. Technology—Senator Stutzman reported that the Technology committee invited Betsy Beacom and others to present to their committee regarding the revised web site. The web site is being revised because our web site has two functions: recruiting and serving as a resource for our students. What we see is close to what it will look like, but there will be new tabs that will enhance it. There will be another tab: inside southern that will include the things we regularly use. They also invited members of English and questions regarding how quickly this can be updated and how much latitude departments will have. IT staff are willing to meet regarding whether issues will be met. The other issue is making faculty visible to the outside world. Extracting faculty biographies from Digital Measures is not working, so that is problematic for using as the biography for the web site. Not all faculty have access to Digital Measures, so that is another issue. At the next meeting they will show the committee a mock-up. Contact Senator Stutzman and/or Senator Fruehan with concerns. Also, you will be receiving a survey about online education—do you, do you want to, do you need help, etc... Please respond to it.

VII. Reports of Special Committees

- a. UCF—UCF representative Cindy Simoneau (JRN) reported that UCF began its meetings on 8/30. In order to address the accelerated degree programs, the Provost's office asked for the committee to continue to meet after the end of the deadlines last academic year. The departments that were working hard with Grad Council and UCF were intending to implement their programs as soon as the summer. There is a provision in the constitution that the steering committee can meet to address issues, so they did that. The steering committee approved the in-progress programs with one exception and submitted for approval. President Diamantis asked if ad hoc could have been done instead, and the Senate should have been informed of this. Cindy Simoneau reported that the biggest concern is that there is a calendar, we should follow it. The Provost indicated there should be flexibility with the calendar. The Departments involved never intended to touch the undergrad programs, but it started to change the dynamic when they started considering use of undergrad courses in the grad programs. This necessitated UCF reviewing the programs due to exigent circumstances.
- b. Graduate Council—The Graduate Council will not be sending a representative to the Faculty Senate. President Diamantis will attend the Graduate Council meetings and provide reports to the Faculty Senate.
- c. FASP/USPaRC— FASP/USPaRC—Senator Pettigrew reported that they have not met yet.

Senator Pettigrew asked to report on Social Justice Task Force. The committee will meet 9/24 and 9/25, because it is a very large committee. It is a curricular task force on social

justice and human diversity. They are trying to identify courses we teach in these areas, document them, archive and let people know about them. And see if there are other courses we need to offer? Do we need to hire faculty to teach those courses? This is a response to student concerns, but more narrowly curricular. There are students on the committee. We are looking at pedagogy which could be used across different kinds of courses. There will be a report by the end of spring semester and updates along the way.

VIII. Adjournment

- Adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

Executive Committee Meeting: Ten minutes following adjournment

Fall 2018 meetings: September 26, October 10, October 24, November 7, November 28,
December 5.

Spring 2019 meetings: January 23, February 6, February 20, March 6, March 27,
April 10, April 24, May 8.

Kari Swanson
Secretary