

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of October 10, 2018

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

The 4th meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2018-2019 was held on
 October 10, at 12:10 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)
William Farley (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)	Douglas Macur (Theatre)
Steven Brady (Biology)	Sanja Grubacic (Econ/Finance)	Yan Liu (Information & Library Science)	Jonathan Irving (Music)	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	Rubén Pelayo (World Languages & Literatures)
Jeff Webb (Chemistry)	Beena Achhpal (Curriculum & Learning)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Francine Penny (Nursing)	Kevin Colwell (Psychology)	Cindy Simoneau (UCF)
Derek Taylor (Communication)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Parker Fruehan (Library Services)	Lisa Rebesch (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	
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 Petric (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

<p>Guests: Michael Kingan (Institutional Advancement) Robert Prezant (Academic Affairs) Craig Hlavac (Arts & Sciences)</p>					
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I. Minutes of Previous Meetings

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

- Minutes of previous meeting held on September 26, 2018 approved unanimously.

II. Guests:

- Michael Kingan, Vice President, Institutional Advancement/Executive Director SCSU Foundation
 - Vice President Kingan has been in his position for 9-10 weeks. He leads communications, marketing, fundraising, alumni relations, and community relations.

He reported that it is the 125th anniversary of the university, so it is a good opportunity think about how we convey the university to the community. 85% of alumni are within a 50 mile radius of campus.

He reported that he has been spending a lot of time looking at the people in his organization—are they allocated in the right way, do we need to make adjustments, etc.. He is considering best practices, systems, structures, etc. and looking at ways to get people involved, and policies and practices. There will be hiring in his area, but no new FTE positions, only existing vacant positions will be filled.

He reported that \$30 million in private fund are managed through the SCSU Foundation. There will be a fundraising campaign in the future.

- Senator Shea (ENG) asked how we might be able to change the mindset of some of our alumni, which isn't necessarily to be focused back on us. Is there something we can do? Vice President Kingan responded that a lot of it is finding ways to engage people beyond emails and the magazine. For example: social media. To a certain degree being involved in Google ads & analytics. But, first we need to know what is our message. We have to be more compelling telling the story of Southern. Our alums care a lot, but we haven't done much to engage them other than a small group that was already engaged. Some of it has to be done at the grassroots level.

Senator Shea responded that it might be worth letting alumni know how different students are now and how much more they need in order to get their education. Current students are not necessarily like them. We have fewer resources. Economic conditions are worse for them. It used to be easier. There was more state funding.

Vice President Kingan responded that as we start building our funding priorities it will largely be around supporting people. Monies for experiential learning for example.

- Senator Fruehan (Library Services) inquired about the progress of the website redesign. Vice President Kingan reported that the project is a bit behind schedule. He doesn't think the launch will happen by the end of October. If we do not hit the late October deadline then the new website implementation will move forward to late January/early February.
- Senator Dunklee (JRN) asked if they are reaching out to employers of our alumni. Vice President Kingan stated that this is something he has done elsewhere.
- Senator Webb (CHE) stated that the alumni list is woefully out of date. Vice President Kingan reported that this is an area that can and will be changed. It is an area in which Southern stopped investing and he is very aware of this issue.
- Senator Pettigrew (PHI) mentioned last spring's unanimous resolution regarding the strategic vision for academic excellence. Senator Pettigrew stated that we seem to have a problem with our academic reputation, and faculty research would enhance our academic reputation. Senator Pettigrew will send the document to Vice President Kingan.
- Senator Forbus (MKT) asked why we are not doing a better job of conveying to those outside of our institution that we only receive 1/3 of our budget from the state. Additionally he asked what are other things, besides scholarships, for which donors give money. Vice President Kingan responded that they are willing to give for a whole range of things that include scholarships, faculty support, and programmatic support. Buildings are very, very hard to get support for. Any gift over \$15 million is never for one purpose. It's almost always divided into 2-3 areas of interest for that particular donor.

III. President's Report

President Diamantis asked that Senators note in particular number 1, and to please ask colleagues to respond to the survey for White Paper, and number 4 on the President's Report.

Senator Webb (CHE) stated that 3a should include reduction of course caps, not courses. President Diamantis will revise the President's Report to provide clarification of this.

Senator Dunklee (JRN) moved to change the order of business so that reports of special committees could be heard, Senator Shea seconded. Hearing no objections the order of business was changed.

V. Reports of Special Committees

- a. UCF—Cindy Simoneau (JRN) stated that UCF will bring a small change in their constitution regarding STAR (replacing PRAC). Monday will be the first meeting of STAR.

Cindy Simoneau (JRN) reported that she and President Diamantis met with the Provost regarding school curriculum committees which were suspended for program review. The suspension of school curriculum committees is part two of a pilot program to stop having school curriculum committees for program review. The pilot program will be reviewed in March.

Senator Shea (ENG) made a motion to bring forward the WACC bylaws for approval. The motion was seconded by Senator Dunklee (JRN). Discussion ensued. A motion to approve the WACC bylaws was made and seconded. The motion to approve the WACC bylaws passed with one objection.

- b. Graduate Council—no report.
- c. FASP/USPaRC—FASP is studying our strategic vision and thinking of a survey of faculty to select priorities from the list so they have talking points for meeting with admin, faculty EC, etc..

IV. Standing Committees

- a. Finance—The Secretary provided Senator Abdelsayed's report of funds as follows:
FT AAUP \$226,998
PT AAUP \$26,554
Creative Activity \$43,246
- b. Personnel Policy—Senator Shea (ENG) reported that at the last meeting of the committee they had Provost Prezant as a guest. They discussed the emeritus policy. At Southern emeritus is tied to a pragmatic issue to having access to email, etc. as opposed to an honorary title. Provost Prezant is asking that we make it more of an honorary title. The committee will discuss it further. President Diamantis asked that all departments send their process for recommending emeritus status to Senator Shea (ENG) to further inform the discussion.

Senator Shea reported that there is pending discussion on survey of administrative effectiveness. A couple more steps are required in the committee before the survey can be distributed.

- c. Rules—Written provided by Senator Gregory (EXS).
- d. Student Policy—Senator Nizhnikov (PSY) reported that the question of ceasing to require the SAT for admission was considered. The committee has had conversations with multiple stakeholders.
- e. Technology—Written report provided by Senator Stutzman (Part-Time Faculty).
- f. Academic Policy—Senator Pettigrew reported that they discussed grade appeal process. Of primary interest was clarifying the meaning of palpable injustice and the process of appeal during summer. There is no provision for summer appeals. The deans are willing to pay the Academic Standing Committee members to be present during the summer to consider such appeals. The Collective Bargaining Agreement does not require faculty members who are not on 12 month contracts to be present during the summer. One possible compromise was summer appeals in certain conditions.

Associate Vice President/Dean of Student Affairs Tetreault asked that an appeals form be filed at the beginning of the process, but that's not when it is currently filed. They are going to bring forward a proposal.

The dean wanted a broader appeals process for dissatisfaction with the instructor. The deans feel there are other professional deficiencies to be addressed through another appeals process. The committee suggests there IS a process for this: renewals, P&T, assessment, etc..

Assistant Vice President/Dean of Student Affairs Jules Tetreault asked that an appeals form be filed at the beginning of the process, but that's not when it is currently filed. The committee will bring forward a proposal.

- g. Elections—Senator Swanson (Library Services) asked that ballots for the All University Committees election please be submitted by noon on the following Tuesday.

VI. Old Business

- a. Approval of Faculty Development Advisory Committee (FDAC) By-Laws

Senator Weiss (CMD) had questions. No representative was present to answer. We will ask them to come to the next meeting and put it on the agenda.

VII. New Business

- a. Draft Proposal Proposal for Changing Faculty Advisory Committee Representation (Senator Shea)

Senator Shea (ENG) explained that the principles are: right now on the FAC not all Community Colleges are represented. There is one representative for small Community Colleges, one for medium Community Colleges and one for larger Community Colleges. This is a total of 3 representatives. Legislation established the voting membership. The proposal does seek to change the voting membership, only the alternates. It would keep the ratio the same, but have a new alternate from each CSU, plus one alternate from each Community College.

The sense of the Senate is that this is a good idea.

- b. Senator Grubacic (ECO) reported that she was told that no one is currently in charge of Scantron processing for testing and the student opinion surveys.

Provost Prezant responded that he appreciates we are still using Scantron. He hopes we will be moving to computer electronic testing and surveys in the future. His office is buying two new Scantron machines which he thinks brings the total of machines to four. The four machines will be dispersed on campus. The deans will be in charge of Scantron usage. One will be in Davis or somewhere in the Nursing department, one in Business, and one somewhere in the middle.

Senator Rebeschi (NUR) indicated that Dean Bullmer asked for the Scantron to be put in Jennings. Senator Rebeschi reported that she was told faculty would be responsible for scanning their own sheets. Senator Rebeschi indicated that this is something new: faculty members being responsible for scanning. Provost Prezant stated that the deans are supposed to work on their own individual solutions.

It was noted that contractually the faculty cannot handle their own student opinion

surveys. It was not clear how the student opinion surveys would be processed.

President Diamantis will discuss the issue with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and charge of the of the Faculty Senate committees to address this issue.

Executive Committee Meeting: Ten minutes following adjournment

Fall 2018 meetings: 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