

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of February 6, 2019

<http://www2.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/2018-2019.html>

The 10th meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2018-2019 was held on
 February 6, 2019 at 12:14 p.m. in the
 Seminar Room of Connecticut Hall.

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

Wafeek Abdelsayed (Accounting)	Matthew Ouimet (Counseling)	Peter Latchman (Exercise Science)	Robert Forbus (Marketing)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Angela Lopez-Velasquez (Special Ed/Reading)
William Farley (Anthropology)	Natalie Starling (Couns/Sch Psych)	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Joe Fields (Mathematics)	Binlin Wu (Physics)	Douglas Macaur (Theatre)
Jeff Slomba (Art)	Beena Achhpal (Curriculum & Learning)	Tom Radice (History)	Klay Kruczek (Mathematics)	Jon Wharton (Political Science)	Luke Eilderts (Secretary/World Languages & Literatures)
Lisa Barbaro (Athletics)	Adam Goldberg (Curriculum & Learning)	Darcy Kern (History)	Jonathan Irving (Music)	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	(World Languages & Literatures)
Sarah Crawford (Biology)	Mike Knell (Earth Science)	Yan Liu (Info & Library Sci)	Frances Penny (Nursing)	Kate Marsland (Psychology)	Cindy Simoneau (UCF)
Jeff Webb (Chemistry)	Sanja Grubacic (Econ/Finance)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Lisa Rebesch (Nursing)	William Faraclas (Public Health)	Elizabeth Lewis Roberts (Grad Council)
Jim Dempsey (Com Disorders)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Parker Fruchan (Library Services)	Obiageli Okwuka (Part-time Faculty)	Michael Dodge (Recreation/Leisure)	Mia Forgione (Student)
Wilfredo Alvarez (Comm, Media & Screen Studies)	Mike Shea (English)	Kari Swanson (Library Services)	Eric Hoffman (Part-Time Faculty)	Paul Levatino (Social Work)	Dr. Joe Bertolino, SCSU President
Derek Taylor (Comm, Media & Screen Studies)	Paul Petrie (English)	Mina Park (Management/MIS)	Mary Ellen Minichiello (Part-Time Faculty)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)	
Mohammad T. Islam (Computer Science)	Scott Graves (Environment, Geography & Marine Studies)	Alison Wall (Management/MIS)	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	Greg Adams (Sociology)	
<u>Guests:</u> Ilene Crawford (AA) Bob Prezant (Provost)	Marie Nabbout-Cheiban (Assoc. Dean, EDU) Bruce Kalk (Dean A&S)	Stephen Hegedus (Dean EDU) Tracy Tyree (SA)		Dennis Reiman (IT) Amanda Mojica (IT)	

Call to order at 12:14 p.m.

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

<http://www2.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/2018-2019.html>

- January 23, 2019
 - **Accepted as distributed.**

II. Guests

- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Robert Prezant presented his plan for Faculty Cluster hiring.
 - Current faculty will identify a theme or themes in areas of current strength and future potential and propose hiring several new faculty who would contribute to those themes/research areas. These new faculty would be housed across schools and departments, thus contributing to the interdisciplinary nature of the proposed themes. An informational meeting will be held on February 8, 2019, at 1 p.m. in the EN A120. An official call for proposals will be sent out soon.
 - Questions
 - S. Crawford: Will these positions be tenure track and how will they be evaluated?
 - R. Prezant: New faculty will be housed in a single home department, and they will be tenure-track. All the evaluation processes will be the same.
 - J. Dunklee: Will these faculty have a four-course teaching load? Will they be hired by the department?
 - R. Prezant: They will ultimately be hired by the department, but we are hoping this will foster collaboration. All stakeholders should be a part of the hiring process, for example.
 - J. Dunklee: Will they only teach courses in their cluster, or will they also teach courses in their department?
 - R. Prezant: The individual will be hired into a department and there will be expected teaching in the department to fulfill their credit load. New faculty are generally given a reduced load when hired, so this would probably continue.
 - J. Webb: How many schools must be involved in the proposal? Since Arts & Sciences is a very large school, there may be opportunities between STEM and Social Sciences, for example.
 - R. Prezant: Will consider the language for the proposal guidelines carefully.
 - B. Achhpal: Would these new cluster hires be in lieu of some faculty positions that haven't been filled? Or are they new additional hires?
 - R. Prezant: We will do both.
 - J. Fields: Have you considered asking the Governor's office what kinds of themes they might think of?
 - R. Prezant: Wants this initiative to come from the faculty.
 - J. Dunklee: Would team-teaching be a part of these clusters?

- R. Prezant: That would be ideal.
 - M. Diamantis: Requests the status of the search for an ombudsperson.
 - R. Prezant: No update at this time.
- Dean of the School of Education Dr. Stephen Hegedus and Interim Associate Dean of the School of Education Dr. Marie Nabbout-Cheiban present to Faculty Senate the document titled “Student Opinion Survey for Student Teaching Supervisors” (attached at the end of this document).

III. Annoucnement

- R. Gregory: Anyone interested in participating in a study that will help people with diabetic foot ulcers, please see the flyer that will be circulated.

IV. President’s Report: M. Diamantis

<http://www2.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/senatepresidentreports/2018-2019.html>

- Provost Prezant has scheduled a meeting to address questions about Faculty Cluster Searches, this Friday, February 8th, at 1 pm in EN A 120.
- The University Dialogue is scheduled for Monday, February 11, at 1 pm at the ASC Theater.
- The FS Executive Committee and the Faculty Leadership Committee (UCF chair, Graduate Council Chair,
- AAUP President, 2 co-chairs of the Council of Academic Chairs – CAC- and myself) met with President Bertolino, Provost Prezant, and Maureen Gilbride-Redman to discuss the Faculty Workload report from the Digital Measures Activity Insight (DMAI). Thanks to Maureen some concerns that were reported by the CAC were discussed in detail and further collaborations to resolve them will be necessary. Those concerns include reporting errors, overloads/underloads credits, access to DMAI for PT faculty as is with FT, and some faculty’s inability to access DMAI (ie Library faculty, Counselors, etc). The Provost will follow through these issues and will report back to us.
- The Women’s Studies Steering Committee has reached out to me seeking the Faculty Senate’s endorsement of their proposed name change from Women’s Studies (WMS) to Women’s & Gender Studies (WGS). Since this is an all-university interdisciplinary program, which might potentially include cross-listed courses, it will be contractually appropriate for the Faculty Senate’s endorsement. UCF and the Graduate Council have both endorsed this name change on 1/28 and 1/31 respectively.
 - J. Dunklee **moved to approve the change of Women’s Studies (WMS) to Women’s & Gender Studies (WGS)**. Seconded.
 - **Motion passes.**

V. Standing Committee Reports

1. Elections (K. Kurzcek)
 - a. Electronic voting should be in place for the next round of All-University elections.
2. Finance (S. Grubacic)
 - a. AAUP Full-time: \$ 96,939
 - b. AAUP Part-time: \$ 2,147
 - i. Some concern was raised since faculty had received an email stating the part-time funds had been exhausted.

- c. Creative Activity: No report
- 3. Personnel Policy (S. Tomczak)
 - a. No Report
- 4. Rules (R. Gregory)
 - a. No Report
- 5. Student Policy (M. Nizhnikov)
 - a. No report.
 - b. Explanation of the committee's decision on keeping the SAT as a part of the admission process to Southern: Every high school in the state gives the SAT, and since the vast majority of students at Southern are from CT, and the exam is used to determine placement for certain departments, committee decided to keep the requirement.
- 6. Technology (W. Stutzman)
 - a. No Report
 - b. Invites Vice President of Technology and CIO Denis Reiman and Director of IT Strategic Initiatives and Special Projects Amanda Mojica.
 - i. There are some serious known issues, and IT is working to fix them as quickly as possible.
 - ii. As a reminder, the main landing page
 - iii. Any issues, please use the footer at the bottom of every web page or email feedback@southernct.edu.
- 7. Academic Policy (D. Pettigrew)
 - a. Working on the proposal to the BOR for guidelines on awarding posthumous degrees.

V. Special Committees

- 1. UCF (C. Simoneau)
 - a. We will discuss the UCF constitution at our next meeting since the wrong version of the document was distributed.
 - b. Presents the draft of guidelines for creating Interdisciplinary Programs.
 - i. Questions
 - 1. P. Petrie: Concerned that the way the document is written may create a situation where faculty do not have control over the curriculum. Is this the correct reading?
 - a. C. Simoneau: Yes, that is the correct reading, but does not feel that would be the ultimate result.
 - 2. Dean of Arts & Sciences Dr. Bruce Kalk: Students may also be members of these interdisciplinary committees, so not all members would be faculty, for example.
 - 3. Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Ilene Crawford: The intent behind the policy is to lay the framework for the governing structures for interdisciplinary programs we have on campus.
 - 4. M. Diamantis: Expressed concerns over the use of language from the CBA and the way it is cited.
 - 5. C. Simoneau: Will bring comments back to the UCF.
- 2. Graduate Council

- a. No Report
 - b. W. Farclas: Asks if the Graduate Council should also be looking into enrollment issues. Would like to see a report on what the Graduate Council is doing and plans to do to help resolve the enrollment crisis.
 - i. R. Prezant: Believes that Graduate Council would be the relevant group to work on that, especially with the arrival of the new Dean of Graduate Studies.
3. FASP (D. Pettigrew)
- a. Plans to send out the existing academic strategic plan approved by the senate and the university president and then to have a public forum.

VI. Unfinished Business

- Approval of Faculty Development Advisory Committee (FDAC) By-Laws – Postponed for Spring 2019.
- Clarification was sought concerning the procedure for completing the previous meeting's motion "Do you think it's a good idea to have a university-wide faculty satisfaction survey of the Faculty Senate?"
- Senators discussed the satisfaction survey of the Faculty senate and several asked if the discussion should instead focus on shared governance before any self-assessment be done. Others supported the idea that the senate should be assessed, while others pointed out that if faculty are not satisfied with their senator(s), they should vote in new representation. Concern was also raised over the role of faculty in the university.

VII. New Business

VIII. Adjournment

- Adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Luke Eilderts
Secretary