

Southern Connecticut State University  
**FACULTY SENATE**

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**Approved Minutes of March 6, 2019**

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

The 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2018-2019 was held on  
 March 6, 2019 at 12:10 p.m. in the  
 Seminar Room of Connecticut Hall.

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

<b>Wafeek Abdelsayed (Accounting)</b>	Matthew Ouimet (Counseling)	Peter Latchman (Exercise Science)	Robert Forbus (Marketing)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	<b>Angela Lopez-Velasquez (Special Ed/Reading)</b>
William Farley (Anthropology)	Natalie Starling (Couns/Sch Psych)	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Joe Fields (Mathematics)	Binlin Wu (Physics)	<b>Douglas Macur (Theatre)</b>
Jeff Slomba (Art)	Beena Achhpal (Curriculum & Learning)	Tom Radice (History)	Klay Kruczek (Mathematics)	Jon Wharton (Political Science)	Luke Eilderts (Secretary/World Languages & Literatures)
<b>Lisa Barbaro (Athletics)</b>	<b>Adam Goldberg (Curriculum &amp; Learning)</b>	Darcy Kern (History)	<b>Jonathan Irving (Music)</b>	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	William Flores (World Languages & Literatures)
<b>Sarah Crawford (Biology)</b>	<b>Mike Knell (Earth Science)</b>	<b>Yan Liu (Info &amp; Library Sci)</b>	Francess 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/Jess Gregory (Grad Council)
Deb Weiss (Com Disorders)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Parker Fruchan (Library Services)	Obiageli Okwuka (Part-time Faculty)	Michael Dodge (Recreation/Leisure)	Mia Forgione (Student)
<b>Wilfredo Alvarez (Comm, Media &amp; Screen Studies)</b>	<b>Mike Shea (English)</b>	Kari Swanson (Library Services)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Paul Levatino (Social Work)	<b>Dr. Joe Bertolino, SCSU President</b>
Derek Taylor (Comm, Media & Screen Studies)	Paul Petrie (English)	Mina Park (Management/MIS)	<b>Mary Ellen Minichiello (Part-Time Faculty)</b>	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)	
<b>Mohammad T. Islam (Computer Science)</b>	Scott Graves (Environment, Geography & Marine Studies)	Alison Wall (Management/MIS)	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	<b>Greg Adams (Sociology)</b>	
<u>Guests:</u> Ilene Crawford (AA) Robert Prezant (Provost) Craig Hlavac (A&S)	Trever Broliar (IT) Chris Perugini (IT) Kathryn Jervis (ACE)	Sandy Bulmer (Dean HHS)			

Call to order at 12:10 p.m.

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

- February 20, 2019
  - **Accepted as distributed.**

II. President's Report: M. Diamantis

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

III. Standing Committee Reports

1. Elections (K. Kruczek)
  - a. Committee worked toward electronic voting for the next round of All-University elections.
  - b. **Moved** to accept the following resolution: Resolution Regarding the Size of the University Academic Standing Committee (see below).
    - i. M. Nizhnikov **moves** to amend the motion as follows:
      1. **Resolved.** That the Academic Standing Committee be increased in size from seven (7) members (1 from each school and 3 at-large members) to ~~nine (9)~~ **eleven (11) members** (1 from each school and ~~5~~ **7** at-large members). The committee will have the same eligibility requirements, only permitting one member per department. Affected SCSU documents shall be revised to conform to the new committee structure.
        - a. **Motion to amend passes.**
  - c. **Motion is approved after discussion.**
2. Finance (S. Grubacic)
  - a. AAUP Full-time:       \$ 72,453.63
  - b. AAUP Part-time:       \$           0
  - c. Creative Activity:       No report
3. Personnel Policy (W. Faraclas)
  - a. Finalizing the faculty opinion survey of administrative effectiveness.
  - b. Working on reconciling the ambiguities and contradictions in the Sabbatical Leave document.
4. Rules (R. Gregory)
  - a. Committee worked on roles of a parliamentarian and webmaster for inclusion in the bylaws.
5. Student Policy (M. Nizhnikov)
  - a. **Moved** to accept the following resolution: Resolution Regarding the A+ Grade at Southern Connecticut State University (See below).
    - i. After much discussion, J. Fields **moved** to postpone the motion until the next regular Faculty Senate meeting.
    - ii. Motion seconded.
    - iii. Motion **approved.**

- b. **Moved** to accept the following resolution: Resolution Regarding the WF / WP Designation at Southern Connecticut State University (see below).
  - i. W. Faraclas **moved to amend** the motion so that it includes the traditional preamble.
    - 1. Motion seconded.
    - 2. Motion **approved**.
  - ii. After discussion J. Dunklee **moves** to call the previous question.
    - 1. Motion seconded.
    - 2. Motion **approved**.
  - iii. Motion **approved**.
- 6. Technology (W. Stutzman)
  - a. A discussion concerning Digital Measures (DMI) will soon take place.
  - b. Information on the Learning Management Software replacement discussion will be distributed once available.
- 7. Academic Policy (D. Pettigrew)
  - a. **Moved** to accept the following resolution: Faculty Senate Resolution on the Creation of a Policy for the Awarding of Posthumous Degrees and Certificates of Academic Achievement *In Memoriam* (see below).
    - i. **Motion approved**.

#### V. Special Committees

- 1. UCF (C. Simoneau)
  - a. UCF Forum on the future of the School Curriculum Committees was rescheduled for March 18, 2019.
  - b. WACC has a pilot program where the “W” designation is attached to the course rather than the instructor. Also looking to streamline the process.
  - c. UCF leadership has reached out to the Student Government Association concerning the LEP. Also working with the Registrar’s office to make LEP/Major requirements clearer, especially those LEP requirements dictated by the Major.
- 2. Graduate Council: No report.
- 3. FASP (D. Pettigrew)
  - a. Committee is working on making the academic strategic plan more visible and relevant to our daily lives and operation.
  - b. During community hour on April 8, 2019, a forum will take place, taking into account a previously distributed survey asking for participants to identify priorities within the plan.

#### VI. New Business

- Students First Petition (S. Tomczak)
  - Reminded Senators about the petition to oppose the Community College consolidation plan.
  - There will be a press conference March 8, 2019, at the LOB 11:30-12:30.
- W. Faraclas: Encouraged Senators to begin thinking about the upcoming elections for the Faculty Senate President and Treasurer.

VIII. Adjournment

- Adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

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Luke Eilderts  
Secretary

**MOTION POSTPONED**

**RESOLUTION REGARDING THE A+ GRADE AT SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY.**

**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; and

**Whereas,** The SCSU Faculty Senate and the University is committed to transparency and clarity regarding academic policies; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved,** That the grade of A+ will no longer be used as a final grade given on transcripts and that the top grade given will be an A.

**SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY  
SENATE**

**RESOLUTION REGARDING THE SIZE OF  
THE UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC STANDING  
COMMITTEE**

**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** within the context of shared governance faculty participation furthers such

excellence; **Whereas** the Faculty Senate is charged with maintaining and filling All-

University committees; **Whereas** the Faculty Senate strives to maintain active and efficient

All-University committees;

**Whereas** an approach to such efficiency includes increasing the size of committees appropriately; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved.** That the Academic Standing Committee be increased in size from seven (7) members (1 from each school and 3 at-large members) to eleven (11) members (1 from each school and 7 at-large members). The committee will have the same eligibility requirements, only permitting one member per department. Affected SCSU documents shall be revised to conform to the new committee structure.

**RESOLUTION REGARDING THE WF / WP DESIGNATION AT SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY.**

**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; and

**Whereas,** The primary function of the Faculty Senate is to serve as the agency by which the faculty can actively participate in the governance and policy-making decisions of the University on the basis of the principle of shared authority;

**Whereas,** The SCSU Faculty Senate and the University is committed to transparency and clarity regarding academic policies; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved,** That there will no longer be a designation of WF or WP if a professor allows a student to withdraw from their class past week 9 and will now simply be a W.

## **Faculty Senate Resolution on the Creation of a Policy for the Awarding of Posthumous Degrees and Certificates of Academic Achievement *In Memoriam***

**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 primary function of the Faculty Senate is to serve as the agency by which the faculty can actively participate in the governance and policy-making decisions of the University on the basis of the principle of shared authority;

**Whereas**, The passing of a student is a tragedy for the University community and for the student's family and friends;

**Whereas**, A Posthumous Degree or a Certification of Academic Achievement *In Memoriam* provides compassionate recognition for the student's achievement, honors the student's memory, and provides a source of solace for the bereaved family; and

**Whereas**, SCSU does not currently have a policy for the awarding of posthumous degrees; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, That the following Policy on the award of Posthumous Degrees or a Certificates of Academic Achievement *In Memoriam* be adopted and implemented upon approval by the University President.

### **Southern Connecticut State University Policy on the award of Posthumous Degrees or Certificates of Academic Achievement *In Memoriam***

Undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in degree or certificate programs at the time of their death, who will have completed at least 75% of their degree or certificate program requirements will be eligible to receive their degree or certificate posthumously.

Undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in degree or certificate programs at the time of their death, who will have completed less than 75% of their degree or certificate program requirements will be eligible to receive a Certificate of Academic Achievement *in Memoriam*.

To receive a Posthumous Degree or a Certificate of Academic Achievement *in Memoriam* a student must be in good standing at the University at the time of his or her death.

A request for either a Posthumous Degree or a Certificate of Academic Achievement *in Memoriam* would usually be made by the relevant Department or Program, following consultation with the student's family, and forwarded to the appropriate Dean.

The Department's request would be reviewed by relevant Dean, in consultation with the University Registrar, and also by the Dean of Graduate Studies if the student is a graduate



student. If approved by the appropriate Dean, the request would be forwarded to the Provost.

The Provost will render the final decision of the request in consultation with and approval by the University President, and will have the authority to determine whether the student will be awarded Posthumous Degree or a Certificate of Academic Achievement *in Memoriam*.

In the case of a Posthumous Degree the family of the deceased student will have the option of receiving the degree at the commencement ceremony following the student's death or in a private ceremony in the department or program, to be attended by the University President or his or her designated representative.

In the case of a Certificate of Academic Achievement *in Memoriam* the family of the deceased student will have the option of receiving the Certificate in a private ceremony in the department or program, to be attended by the University President or his or her designated representative.