

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of April 13, 2016

http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/mins/min_15_16.html

The 13th meeting of 2015-2016 was called to order at 12:16 pm by President William Faraclas.

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

Emmanuel Emenyonu (Accounting)	Uchenna Nwachuku (Couns/Sch Psych)	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Maria Diamantis (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Cassi Meyerhoffer (Sociology)
Kenneth McGill (Anthropology)	James William Anthony Fullmer (Earth Science)	Tom Radice (History)	Joe Fields (Mathematics)	Todd Schwendemann (Physics)	Patricia Major (Special Ed/Reading)
Greg Cochenet (Art)	Sanja Grubacic (Econ/Finance)	Stephen Amerman (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Jon Wharton (Political Science)	Ron Tamura (Special Ed/Reading)
Lisa Barbaro/Joseph Van Gilder (Athletics)	Joy Fopiano (Education)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Jonathan Irving (Music)	Michael Nizhnikov (Psychology)	Sheila H. Garvey (Theatre)
Sarah Crawford (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Elsie Okobi (Library Science)	Maria Krol (Nursing)	Katherine Masland (Psychology)	Jian Wu (World Literature Language)
Adiel Coca (Chemistry)	Joel Dodson (English)	Diane Tomasko (Library Services)	Antoinette Towle (Nursing)	William Faraclas (President)	Luke Eilderts (World Literature Language)
Jane McGinn (Communication)	Mike Shea (English)	Jeff Dickens (Library Services)	Gene Brady (Part-Time Faculty)	Deborah Flynn (Public Health)	Liz Keenan (UCF)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Scott Ellis (English)	Mina Park (Management / MIS)	Robin Esposito (Part-Time Faculty)	Michael Dodge (Recreation/Leisure)	Elizabeth Rhoades (Grad Council)
Taraneh Seyed (Computer Science)	Scott Graves (Environmental and Marine Studies)	Greg Robbins (Management/MIS)	Obiageli Okwuka (Part-Time Faculty)	Heather Pizzanello (Social Work)	Julie Gagliardi (Student)
Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	Matt Rothbard (Exercise Science)	Shyam Lodha (Marketing)	Walter Stutzmann (Part-Time Faculty)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)	Dr. Mary Papazian, SCSU President
Guests: Dr. Sam Andoh, Interim Dean, School of Business	Dr. Tracy Tyree, Student Affairs	Jaye Bailey, Chief of Staff			

Approval of Minutes: The Senate Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2016 were approved as submitted.

Guest: President Mary A. Papazian spoke to the Senate about the current budgetary issues plaguing the state and its impact upon the system and our campus. She explained that while the current budget is bleak, the outlook in the coming years looks even worse, and significant decisions will need to be made both at the institutional and system level to deal with these realities. She shared that the university had just received instructions from the state concerning our budget preparations, which include cuts equivalent to \$5.1 million (this does not take into account the 5% tuition increase). This number is higher than our sister institutions, and this is due to our declining enrollment. Concerning enrollment, we appear to be on target for our incoming freshman, but we are lagging behind with transfer students from community colleges, which are also seeing a decline in enrollment. She explained that we are looking at all vacant/frozen staff positions and only those positions deemed essential to the safety and operation of the university will be considered to be filled. As for faculty positions, the Interim Provost and the Deans have done a data-driven analysis to determine what we need to maintain and deliver the programs we have put out there for the fall. With this data, we were able to justify certain faculty searches to go forward, as well as request temporary positions. Once the BOR decides on which temporary positions to approve, decisions regarding the adjunct budget will then be made. President Papazian then turned to our IT infrastructure and explained that over the next two to five years, we will see some major upgrades, all of which has already been budgeted, so this adds nothing to our cost. After five years, once the cost to maintain these systems falls back on us, the cost will actually be less than we are paying now for the same services. Before turning to questions, President Papazian took a moment to recognize the faculty and students, saying that even in this gloomy budgetary climate, there are a lot of positive things that have happened.

President Papazian responded to questions from the Senate, after which Senate President Faraclas thanked her for her service and wished her well in her future endeavors.

Guests: Larry Gal and Lauren Reich (Bookstore) urged faculty to put in book orders as soon as possible. Getting a book order in before finals (the period when most student return their books to the bookstore) ensures that books being used the following semester will stay here on campus, thereby reducing costs to students. Also, getting in book orders early allows the bookstore to secure used books within the Barnes & Noble college bookstore system. All this saves money for the students.

Gal and Reich responded to questions from the Senate.

Announcements

- April 12: Media Studies club sponsoring second viral "Scsu Youtube" screening, 7:30-9 in bottom level of Farnham.
- April 18: Holocaust Remembrance Program in Engleman B121 from 1-2pm.
- April 19: SCSU Veterans are sponsoring a "Dunk Tank" event to raise money for wounded vets and their families. You can make a donation and try to dunk your favorite professor. Starts at 11:00 and runs until 3:00.
- April 20: Celebration for the 25th Anniversary of the Salamanca Program, Adanti Student Center Ballroom beginning at 6:30. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door.
- April 21: Graduating Seniors Art Show opens in the Buley Art Gallery, 4:30-7.
- April 26: Primary Viewing Party in Engleman A120 8-10pm.

President's report: the full report can be found at: <https://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/senatepresidentreports/2015-2016.html>

The following items were highlighted:

- Item 7: Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Ellen Durnin will visit the Senate at the next meeting.
- Item 8: Upgrades to Banner: The Senate will depend on the Technology committee to gather ideas/feedback for input on the new system.

Senator Pettigrew moved to change the order of business to consider the two resolutions under new business.

Senator Pettigrew, on behalf of the executive committee, presented a resolution entitled, "Faculty Senate Resolution for the Provision of Adequate Support for the Southern Connecticut State University Office of Sponsored Programs and Research." During discussion, Senator Dunklee moved to call the question, to which there was no objection. The resolution passed unanimously.

Senator Madonia, chair of the finance committee, presented a resolution entitled "Faculty Senate Resolution on AAUP Travel Funds, 2016-2017." During discussion, Senator O'Brien moved to call the question, to which there was no objection. The resolution passed unanimously.

Standing committee reports

Rules: No report.

Student policy: Senator Flynn asked senators if they are an advisor to student club, please let the committee know what are things are working well and what is not, so that they can compile a report. Send this information to flynnd1@southernct.edu.

Academic policy: Senator Pettigrew announced that they were meeting with the Academic standing committee. Discussion about the composition and election of the school grade appeals committee took place. Documents will need to be consulted to determine how the voting process for these school committees will be decided.

Elections: Senator Rothbard announced that elections are underway and the ballot will be out soon.

Personnel Policy: Senator Shea announced that the committee had met with Senator Pettigrew, chair of the University P&T committee, to discuss the recusal rule, and moving to an electronic process for P&T files. Senator Shea also expressed his concern over the lack of clarity between documents used in the P&T process (e.g. the DEC document). Senator Tomczak shared that they are also getting feedback on the survey for administration.

Special committee reports

UCF: Liz Keenan, chair of UCF, shared that round two of voting on changes to the LEP would take place tomorrow. She explained that at their April 21st meeting, the University Wide Impact Committee (UWIC) will deliberate whether the winning option constitutes a major restructuring of

the Liberal Education Program using the criteria specified in the LEP document. The results of UWIC's deliberation will be brought forward in the form of a motion to the UCF for deliberation at the April 28th UCF meeting. Two outcomes are possible:

- A. Should UWIC and UCF approve a motion that the winning option constitutes a major restructuring, a faculty referendum will be required for approval. The Faculty Senate has the responsibility to conduct a faculty referendum. Should the referendum pass, the Faculty Senate Chair will forward the results to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for approval and implementation.
- B. Should UWIC and UCF approve a motion that the winning option does *not* constitute a major restructuring, the UCF Chair will forward the results to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for approval and implementation.

FASP: Senator Pettigrew explained that they have had some very productive meetings, and that they are working on a resolution to request that FASP be inserted into the academic strategic process.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Luke Eilderts
(in the absence of Secretary M. Diamantis)