

President's Report to the Faculty Senate – November 13, 2013

Thank you to all Senators for communicating with your departments and participating in discussions this past week about the CSU section of the ConnSCU Strategic Initiatives document. Special thanks to our Senate committee chairs and the FS Secretary, who so ably coordinated the Strategic Initiatives review.

1. **Additional Strategic Planning Steering Committee appointment.** An additional at-large faculty slot was created on the SPSC. Senator Maria Diamantis accepted an invitation to serve in this position.
2. **Resolution from the Undergraduate Curriculum Forum.** The Faculty Senate has received a UCF resolution on the establishment of course enrollment caps for consideration by the Senate.
3. **Meeting with Student Government Association on Wednesday, November 20.** I will be meeting with the SGA Executive Board and would like a few Senators to join me to listen to student concerns.
4. **Position description attached:** Director of Special Academic Programs and Sessions
5. **Recent meetings where the ConnSCU Strategic Initiatives proposal was discussed:**
 - Provost and Faculty Senate President, Wednesday, November 6, 2013
 - Faculty Senate standing committee meetings, Wednesday, November 6, 2013
 - Faculty Leadership Council (FLC) Meeting, Thursday, November 7, 2013.
 - SCSU Leadership Breakfast, hosted by President Papazian, Friday, November 8, 2013
 - CSU Leadership Group Meeting, New Britain, Saturday, November 9, 2013
 - FLC meeting with President Papazian & Provost Kennedy, Monday, November 11, 2013.

Some common themes discussed in these meetings:

- CSU campuses have complex identities.
 - Campus identities could be expressed effectively by emphasizing multiple areas of strength.
 - Southern has many strengths: HHS is too limiting. Consider Health and Human Sciences.
 - Desired capabilities identified by employers correspond to knowledge and skills fostered in liberal arts courses. Workforce preparation is best accomplished by a strong liberal arts education.
 - “Educated workforce and engaged citizenry” refines the idea of workforce development.
 - Emphasize SCSU’s LEP, FYE, critical thinking initiatives and emphasis on writing as curricular strengths that contribute to learning, retention and graduation.
 - Emphasize and strengthen graduate education at Southern.
 - Access to higher education in Connecticut depends on multidimensional CSU campuses.
 - Need support for creative activity, including student research.
 - “Back office” consolidations need greater specificity and should be presented as “i.e.,” not “e.g.”
 - Maintain independent global education operation at SCSU (Office of International Education).
 - Strategic initiatives require more extensive campus/faculty consultations, as vague initiatives, if funded, may carry unspecified performance expectations.
6. **Academic impact: Items on the horizon**
 - Graduate Program Prioritization: Senate role (CBA Articles 5.18 and 5.20)
 - Proposal to move School of Health and Human Services to an off-campus location
 - Re-assessment of the practice of team teaching Honors College courses
 - The constellation of course instruction issues, including enrollment caps, course cancellations, independent studies, team teaching, overload reconciliation

Status of Recent Faculty Senate Resolutions					
Number	Date	Resolution on...	For	Disposition	Comments (abbrev.)
F-13-02	10-25-13	Bring P&T Doc. in Line with CBA Regarding Role of Univ. President in DEC Hardship	Approval	Approved	
F-13-01	10-25-13	Change Language Regarding BOT	Approval	Approved	
S-13-12	5-29-13	The Revised Faculty Senate Constitution	Approval	Approved	
S-13-13	5-6-13	The University Strategic Plan and the Graduate Programs Prioritization Process	Approval	Disapproved	Delaying process unnec.; not in best interest of University
S-13-12	5-1-13	The Revised Faculty Senate Constitution	Approval	Noted	Comparative lang. requested
S-13-11	5-1-13	Create an Informational Bulletin to Improve TA Processing	Inform.	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain INFO vs APPROVAL • Inapprop: attempts to estab procedure for Off of Provost • FS encouraged to "suggest"
S-13-10	5-1-13	The Proposal to Reform the TA Process	Inform.	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain INFO vs APPROVAL • Inapprop: attempts to estab procedure for Off of Provost • FS encouraged to "suggest"
S-13-09	5-1-13	The Restoration of Faculty Creative Activity Research Grant Funds, 2013-2014	Approval	Disapproved	The fund is supporting the grants
S-13-08	5-1-13	The Incremental Increase of Faculty Creative Activity Grant Funds, 2013-2014	Approval	Disapproved	No room in budget for increase to this fund
S-13-07	5-1-13	Faculty Creative Activity Funds, 2013-2014	Approval	Noted	Further disc
S-13-06	5-1-13	AAUP Travel Funds, 2013-2014	Approval	Disapproved	Inconsistent with CBA
S-13-05	5-1-13	Travel Funds 2013-2014	Approval	Disapproved	Not FS responsibility