

“The Faculty Senate shall be the representative body of the faculty, deriving its authority from the faculty as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Its primary function shall be 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.” (Faculty Senate Constitution, Section I).

President’s Report to the Faculty Senate – February 20, 2019

1. The University Dialogue was held on Monday, 2/11/19, with President Bertolino summarizing and highlighting the University’s state. Some highlights are:
 - Mr. Tony Pace will be the new Director of Undergraduate Admissions;
 - Dr. Manohar Singh is the Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies;
 - President Bertolino thanked Maureen Gilbride-Redman for her work as interim assistant director at the office of Assessment and Planning, the new director will be on campus by March 1;
 - the twenty-one faculty searches are progressing;
 - Michael Phelps will be the 2019 Mary and Louis Fusco Distinguished Lecturer, on 3/29/19;
 - President Joe has attended alumni events in DC and plans are in place to continue such visits to raise the SCSU profile and make connections with our former students;
 - current student retention is an area of concern as is the overall student enrollment;
 - program innovation and flexible instruction delivery need to continue;
 - there is a clear need to move away from past practice and examine our processes, some of which are very old;
 - much of our time is consumed attending meetings, when we can dedicate our time in our current needs and our students;
 - the course schedules need to be examined and be more flexible;
 - our curriculum needs to meet our students’ needs;
 - we need to be more transfer friendly with our courses as high school counselors and the two year college advisors are not recommending SCSU to their students/advisees;
 - we need to revisit the University Strategic Plan, too many action plans, are they deliverable;
 - these are the perceptions, even if wrong, we have to overcome;
 - we will therefore, focus in co-curriculum adventures and be flexible;
 - we will provided the services our students need;
 - our new advising model will move forward;
 - we will invest in program innovations;
 - we will publish the yearly schedule of classes to assist our students to plan their education;
 - we must reevaluate procedures;
 - we need to examine our top ten roadblocks and work to resolve them;
 - we need to stay focused and have broad and candid discussions on issues such as shared governance;
 - Final message: “change is not always better but being better needs change”.

President Bertolino responded to some questions from the floor.

2. Discussions and planning are in progress about the Shared Governance Forum, more information will be

forthcoming.

3. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met with President Bertolino and Provost Prezant on 2/19/19 to address couple items, such as the Grade Appeal resolution which was revised and submitted for approval but it was not approved by the President. The areas of concern were discussed and mainly the Deans provided a list of concerns, one being that Deans were not consulted on the process. As per the contract, grades are faculty responsibility and grades can be appealed if there is palpable injustice. This is another area of contention with the faculty and deans. An agreement must be reached and the resolution will not be approved unless this is resolved.
4. This semester’s pending items for FS discussion/action are: (a) FDAC ByLaws; (b) Graduate Council ByLaws; (c) MOU’s of collaboration/degree offerings with Naugatuck, Norwalk, and Housatonic Community Colleges.

Status of AY 19 Faculty Senate Resolutions					
Number	Date	Resolution on...	For	Disposition	Comments (abbrev.)
F-2018-01	Senate approved: 9/26/18 Forwarded: 10/8/18	Resolution Opposing the CT/BOR Policy on “Academic Program/Low Completer Review Process”	FYI	Noted 10/9/2018	
F-2018-02	Senate approved: 12/5/18 Forwarded: 12/28/18	Resolution on Guidelines for Addressing Academic Misconduct	Approval	Disapproved 1/17/19	The memo of concerns from the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs offices is attached on the resolution and can be found on the FS website.
F-2018-03	Senate approved: 12/5/18 Forwarded: 12/28/18	Resolution on Grade Appeal Process and Form	Approval	Disapproved 1/17/19	The memo of concerns from the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs offices is attached on the resolution and can be found on the FS website.