

"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 – September 12, 2018

1. President Ojakian will visit SCSU on Friday, September 28 at 1-2:30 pm. The location is EN A 120 and the agenda will be to discuss updates from BOR and ways that us, the faculty, can assist in educating the new governor, legislators, and others on who we are, what we do and the importance of higher education. Please mark your calendars!
2. On Tuesday, 9/11/18 the FS Executive Committee met with President Joe and discussed a few items. Provost Prezant was not in attendance but we will discuss the items with him, too.
 - a. Emergency announcements using the PA or alert messages
 - b. The schedule of athletic games on the first week of classes
 - c. Intellectual property policy and procedures
 - d. Student opinion surveys
 - e. Restoration of creative activity funds and creative activity travel funds
 - f. Continuing the reduction of W classes, Inquiry, and Critical Thinking class caps
 - g. **The letter seeking input for the White Paper and the set of questions.** President Joe will be sending out a survey based on these questions to all faculty, staff, students, and administrators to solicit input.
3. On Tuesday, 9/11/18, I attended the President's Leadership Council meeting. President Joe thanked everyone for attending the events of the beginning of the new academic year as well as other events. The Dan Lauria evening was a success, organized by the alumni football players and all proceeds were donated for student scholarships.
 - a. Dean Durnin announced that this year the enrollment in the specialized accelerated MBA was at 31 students.
 - b. The BOR consolidation of the community colleges will regionalize them with a Dean/Director at each site and a VP in the system office. SCSU will be regionalized with Gateway, Housatonic, and Norwalk Community colleges to expand collaborations with. All three colleges already have visible signs of Southern on their campus and we are offering courses towards a BS degree. The students enrolled in such courses received tuition waivers for the courses with the hope that once they get their Associate's degree, they will attend Southern to complete their Bachelors degree. This is a pilot to provide such courses/programs to students at those campuses. So far, Housatonic has greater demand than Gateway, due to the location.
 - c. President Joe encourages our collaborations with the 3 colleges and encourages us to reach out to our colleagues to form further collaborations.

-
- d. Mark Rozewski reported that our numbers are looking good, with the year ending with a surplus, due to the “frugal” measures taken the last fiscal year. The reserves were not used, as anticipated.
 - e. Terricita Sass stated that we have 10,160 students but we are still declining in the graduate enrollment area. The Graduate Open House is scheduled for October 4, and the Undergraduate Open House is on October 7.
 - f. President Joe continues the conversation on creating a position for an Ombudsperson and is exploring possibilities.
 - g. President Joe thanked everyone’s support of SCSU’s Social Justice Initiatives and more specifically he expressed appreciation to senator Pettigrew for his work on the Task Force. HR is offering diversity training sessions on “Civility at Workplace”.
 - h. November is Social Justice month, thus, many events are being scheduled.
 - i. Tracy Tyree reported that the committee is working to finish the analysis and composition of the Campus Climate Survey and hopes that it will be shared with the leadership groups soon.
 - j. The celebrations for SCSU’s 125th anniversary are under way, including the Homecoming weekend, October 19/20. The web site on the 125th anniversary will go live by the end of this week. And on 9/24 the kick off event at 11am-2 pm in the Quad.
 - k. State of the University Address is scheduled for next Tuesday, 9/18 at noon at the ASC Ballroom followed by the Appreciation Celebration.
- 4. On Friday, 9/14 at 1 pm in the ASC Theater, we will hold an informational session on the Digital Professional Assessment Pilot as we are trying to transition to a digital evaluation process. Join us!**

FALL 2018: September 12 and 26; October 10 and 24; November 7 and 28; and December 5.

SPRING 2019: January 23; February 6 and 20; March 6 and 27; April 10 and 24; and May 8.