**“*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 – March 8, 2017**

1. The call for nominations for the Robert Jirsa Service Award was sent out on March 2nd. Nominations will be accepted electronically by Wednesday, 3/22, 3:00 pm. Nominations can be emailed to Drs. Mark Cameron or Maria Diamantis. Nominees will be invited to submit an application portfolio by Thursday, 4/13, 4:30 pm. The Jirsa Service Award committee will review all candidates and submit the finalist’s name to the Provost by Tuesday, 4/24. The Awards Ceremony is scheduled for noon on Monday, May 1, 2017. PLEASE REMIND YOUR COLLEAGUES IN YOUR DEPARTENTS. Further information can be found on the FS Website: <https://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/> and under Robert Jirsa Service Award (left hand side).
2. The Midterm Grades and Attendance policy: the FS passed two resolutions last semester regarding reporting of non-attendance to DOE. Faculty were asked to include such statement on their course syllabi thus, making students aware of the attendance policy. Both resolutions can be found at the FS Website: <http://www.southernct.edu/faculty-staff/faculty-senate/resolutionsbydate.html> Faculty are urged to enter FS for any student on their roster that is not attending classes since the third week of classes. PLEASE REMIND YOUR COLLEAGUES IN YOUR DEPRTMENTS to comply to this request by Friday, March 10, 2017. The midterm grades is live for submission of grades, which are due by 8 am on Tuesday, March 22.
3. The P&T committee met with President Bertolino and Provost Durnin to discuss the process. President Bertolino highlighted once more that he believes that the P&T is faculty driven and peer review process. A need still exists for official informational sessions for DECs, Chaipersons, and Deans on how to compose the evaluation letters. Another concern is the necessary information that needs to be in the candidate’s file that highlights the four categories as defined by the Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Faculty Senate Documents. In addition, the FS will work with President Bertolino and Provost Durnin to officially switch to electronic P&T files in the near future. A resolution from the FS should be crafted, which will commence discussions and research on how to make digital P&T files.
4. The FS Executive Committee met with President Bertolino and Provost Durnin on 2/27 and 3/6 to discuss a variety of issues:
	1. The hiring freeze announcement and the good news that 28 out of 31 current faculty searches were approved after the provided justifications.
	2. The University Controller, Ms. Lise Brule, announced her retirement and President Bertolino has requested approval from BOR to search and hire a replacement.
	3. The announcement of Dr. Robert S. Prezant as the next Provost and VP of Academic Affairs.
	4. The SGA is discussing LEP concerns and gathering information through a survey. Possibility exists that the SGA might draft a resolution to present the UCF.
	5. The increase of faculty travel funds to $1450 was finalized.
	6. The Space Committee will commence its regular monthly meetings, where open communication and consultation will be honored.
	7. The Budget and Planning Committee hasn’t met due to the budget uncertainty but it will now start meeting to help shape the current budget cuts.
	8. The Research Reassigned Time was reviewed and as the Collective Bargaining Agreement highlights, SCSU receive108 per semester, a total of 216 credits per academic year. The Provost distributes to each of the schools a percentage based on the number of full time faculty per school. The individual deans have the final discretion as to who will receive RRT based on their individual schools’ needs and the faculty proposals. The FS is considering a resolution requesting consistent guidelines of awarding the RRT and proposing a formation of an advisory process as highlighted by the contract.
	9. The calendar for Midterm Grades was discussed as it falls on the first day of spring break. A solution was discussed and finally emailed to all faculty.
	10. The process of cancelation of classes will be reviewed and will be presented to the Council of Chairs for discussion.
5. One of the events for the Inauguration week is the Faculty event to showcase Faculty publications or art displays. It is scheduled for Friday, April 21, 5-7 pm. Each Senator needs to announce the event to their departments as soon as possible. For any further questions please contact Dr. Ruth Eren, Dean Breese, or Maria Diamantis.
6. On March 1st, the SCSU Reflection Garden Project, co-chaired by Bill Faraclas and Dan Camenga, had an amazing visit with the Architect, Julie Moir Messervy and her colleagues, Jana and Sam. It was a very informative session, actually three such visioning sessions, with exchange of ideas on the creation and construction of the reflection garden. I urge all Senators to communicate to their departments that the survey to collect input on this project is still open and the committee welcomes all suggestions. The link: <http://reflectiongarden.southernct.edu/> and scroll to the bottom of the page for the survey.

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| **Status of AY 14 Faculty Senate Resolutions** |
| **Number** | **Date** | **Resolution Title** | **For** | **Disposition** | **Comments (abbrev.)** |
| F-16-01 | Senate approved: 11/9/16 Forwarded:11/15/16 | Resolution Regarding A New Undergraduate Catalogue Entry Pertaining To University Policy On The Reporting Of Non-Attendance Or Non-Participation To The United States Department Of Education | Approval | Approved  |  |
| F-16-02 | Senate approved: 11/9/16 Forwarded:11/15/16 | Resolution Regarding A University-Approved Statement For Inclusion In Course Syllabi On Reporting Non-Attendance Or Non-Participation To The United States Department Of Education | Approval | Approved |  |
| F-16-03 | Senate approved: 11/30/16Forwarded: 12/7/16 | Resolution Regarding Revisions to the Chairperson Document | Approval | Approved |  |
| S-17-04 | Senate approved: 2/8/2017Forwarded: 2/13/2017 | Resolution Regarding Inaction on Curriculum Proposals Presented to the Office of the Provost for Action | Approval | Disapproved | a) The resolution does not accurately represent the facts as presented by Provost Durnin. b) The resolution does not reflect the agreement between the administration and executive committee of the Faculty Senate to make a good faith effort to discuss and attempt to resolve such matters before they are brought to the senate floor for action. Furthermore, the resolution does not reflect the spirit of open communication and transparency the administration has strived to achieve with the faculty and community.   |
| FS-17-05 | Senate approved: 2/22/17Forwarded: 2/27/17 | Resolution Regarding Guidelines for Addressing Academic Misconduct | Approval | Approved |  |
| F-16-06 | Senate approved: 2/22/17Forwarded: 2/27/17 | Resolution Regarding the BOR Code of Conduct | For Information | Noted | Resolution for BOR. Thank you for informing me. |

**Spring 2017 meetings: March 29, April 12, April 26, May 3.**