

*“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 – May 3, 2017**

1. Mark your calendar: Monday, May 15, 2017 is the day for the FS and AAUP end of the year Faculty Retreat. Further information will be forthcoming. Spread the word to your departments.
2. The Inauguration Ceremony was well attended by many students and faculty.
3. The Honors Convocation was a great success with 200 individual awards with a total of 400 honors awards. Those included 200 Cum Laude, 150 Magna Cum Laude and 50 Summa Cum Laude awards. Impressive numbers for our outstanding students. Congratulations TO ALL OF OUR STUDENTS!
4. A great big THANK YOU goes to each Senators for your work during this academic year. Your dedication, hard work, and attendance to our meetings is appreciated. I wish to also extend my appreciation to each Executive Committee member, Mike Shea (ENG), Stephen “Zak” Tomczak (SWK), David Pettigrew (PHI) , Wes O’Brien (MDS), Greg Cochenet (ART), Wafeek Abdelsayed (ACC), Mike Nizhnikov (PSY), Walter Stutzman (P-T FAC), Klay Kruczek (MAT), William Faraclas (PCH) and Luke Eilderts (WLL). These members responded to my emails and calls as we needed to reach a decision for many issues over this past year. I thank them wholeheartedly!

**Status of 2016-2017 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 Syllabus Reporting Non-Attendance Or Non-Participation To The United States Department Of Education	Approval	Approved	
F-16-03	Senate approved: 11/30/16 Forwarded: 12/7/16	Resolution Regarding Revisions to the Chairperson Document	Approval	Approved	

S-17-04	Senate approved: 2/8/2017 Forwarded: 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.
S-17-05	Senate approved: 2/22/17 Forwarded: 2/27/17	Resolution Regarding Guidelines for Addressing Academic Misconduct	Approval	Approved	
S-16-06	Senate approved: 2/22/17 Forwarded: 2/27/17	Resolution Regarding the BOR Code of Conduct	For Information	Noted	Resolution for BOR. Thank you for informing me.
S-16-07	Senate approved: 4/26/17 Forwarded: 5/3/17	Resolution Regarding Increasing the membership of the Faculty Academic Strategic Plan (FASP) Committee	Approval		
S-16-08	Senate approved: 4/26/17 Forwarded: 5/3/17	Resolution Regarding the Grade Appeal Procedure	Approval		

**Remaining Spring 2017 meetings: May 3.**

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## CSU Faculty Leadership Group Statement on President Ojakian's "Students First" Proposal

On April 3, 2017, CSCU President Mark Ojakian dropped a bombshell — the "Students First" Plan — into the hands of the employees of the CSCU System. Three days later, the Board of Regents approved that plan with little discussion or questioning: a plan that will change the lives and traditions of thousands of students, faculty, and staff across the system. Surprisingly, BOR Chair Matt Fleury merely recited the resolution without providing advance written copies to the public, and a vote followed. The CSU Faculty Leadership Group, while acknowledging the need for change, is concerned about the process by which this plan was developed and by which it will be implemented. More specifically, we:

- acknowledge that the CSCU system is facing the severe consequences of many years of shrinking state appropriations;
- understand that the plan purportedly will accomplish a \$41 million savings via a two-pronged strategy that would "eliminate redundancies" in certain "back office" functions and "operationally consolidate 12 community colleges into one;"
- commend the fact that the plan is intended to protect learning, teaching and student services and to allow for an increase in the number of tenure-track faculty across the system;
- are greatly dismayed, however, that deliberations creating the plan were not public and were essentially clandestine;
- are deeply concerned — as professors and professionals in higher education — that the likelihood of sweeping changes to our system is based on a 15-page PowerPoint Presentation, completely lacking in details regarding how such savings would be achieved.

The plan calls for Implementation Teams to flesh out all those missing details. The deadline for that work to be completed — an implausible 84 days away (July 1, 2017), will prevent these teams from conducting the careful information gathering, strategy development, and solicitation of community input necessary to ensure a thoughtful, prudent, and reasonable implementation process. Despite our misgivings, we

- will exercise our right to shared governance and will participate in this process and expect that faculty will have substantial representation on all Implementation Teams;
- insist that we determine the manner in which the CSU faculty representatives are selected;
- agree to participate on the condition that our colleagues in other higher education unions in CSCU also be on the Implementation Teams; and
- expect that the work our members do on the teams be of substance, be recognized by the BOR as having true influence and given fair consideration, and that our participation not be window-dressing in the guise of shared governance.

The CSU Faculty Leadership Group

Stephen Adair (Sociology), Faculty Advisory Committee to the BOR & member of the BOR, CCSU

Daniel Barrett (Psychology), Senate President, WCSU

Jay Brower (Communication & Media Arts), Faculty Advisory Committee to the BOR, WCSU

Maryanne Clifford (Economics), Senate President, ECSU

Stephen Cohen (English), Senate President, CCSU

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Luis Cordón (Psychology), ECSU-AAUP President

Maria Diamantis (Mathematics), Senate President, SCSU

William Lugo (Sociology), Faculty Advisory Committee to the BOR, ECSU

Julian Madison (History), SCSU-AAUP President

Mary Ann Mahony (History), CCSU-AAUP President

Patricia O'Neill (Psychology), WCSU-AAUP President, CSU-AAUP Vice President

Harlan Shakun (Accounting), CSU-AAUP Treasurer, CCSU

Michael Shea (English), Faculty Advisory Committee to the BOR, SCSU

Elena Tapia (English), CSU-AAUP President, ECSU

Rebecca Wood (Psychological Science), CSU-AAUP Secretary, CCSU

April 7, 2017