

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of October 30, 2019

<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>

The 4th meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2019-2020 was held on October 30, 2019 at 12:10 p.m. in the Seminar Room of Connecticut Hall.

Attendance

Dave Allen* <i>Accounting</i> 3/5	Matthew Ouimet <i>Counseling</i> 5/5	Sandip Dutta* <i>Finance</i> 2/5	Robert Forbus <i>Marketing</i> 3/5	David Pettigrew <i>Philosophy</i> 3/5	Angela Lopez-Velasquez* <i>Special Education</i> 4/5
William Farley <i>Anthropology</i> 4/5	Natalie Starling <i>Counseling & School Psychology</i> 5/5	Peter Latchman <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 4/5	Joe Fields <i>Mathematics</i> 5/5	Binlin Wu <i>Physics</i> 4/5	Douglas Macur <i>Theatre</i> 4/5
Jeff Slomba <i>Art</i> 4/5	Beena Achhpal <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 3/5	Robert Gregory <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 5/5	Klay Kruczek <i>Mathematics</i> 5/5	Jon Wharton <i>Political Science</i> 4/5	Luke Eilderts <i>World Languages & Literatures</i> 5/5
Kevin Siedlecki <i>Athletics</i> 4/4	Maria Diamantis <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 4/5	Tom Radice <i>History</i> 5/5	Jonathan Irving* <i>Music</i> 0/5	Michael Nizhnikov <i>Psychology</i> 4/5	
Sarah Crawford* <i>Biology</i> 3/5	Dushmantha Jayawickreme <i>Earth Science</i> 5/5	Darcy Kern* <i>History</i> 2/5	Frances Penny <i>Nursing</i> 5/5	Kate Marsland <i>Psychology</i> 4/5	Cindy Simoneau <i>Undergraduate Curriculum Forum</i> 5/5
Mina Park* <i>Business Information Systems</i> 4/5	Sanja Grubacic <i>Economics</i> 5/5	Yan Liu <i>Information & Library Science</i> 4/5	VACANT <i>Nursing</i>	William Faraclas <i>Public Health</i> 5/5	Cynthia O'Sullivan* <i>Graduate Council</i> 1/5
Jeff Webb <i>Chemistry</i> 5/5	Peter Madonia* <i>Educational Leadership</i> 1/5	Jerry Dunklee <i>Journalism</i> 5/5	Obiageli Okwuka <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 4/5	Michael Dodge <i>Recreation, Tourism & Sport Management</i> 4/5	Aidan Coleman* <i>Student Government Association</i> 4/5
Barbara Cook <i>Communication Disorders</i> 5/5	Mike Shea <i>English</i> 4/5	Parker Fruehan <i>Library Services</i> 5/5	VACANT <i>Part-time Faculty</i>	Paul Levatino* <i>Social Work</i> 4/5	Dr. Joe Bertolino <i>SCSU President</i>
Derek Taylor <i>Communication, Media & Screen Studies</i> 5/5	Paul Petrie <i>English</i> 5/5	Jacqueline Toce <i>Library Services</i> 5/5	Mary Ellen Minichiello* <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 4/5	Stephen Monroe Tomczak <i>Social Work</i> 5/5	
Mohammad T. Islam <i>Computer Science</i> 3/5	Matthew Miller <i>Environment, Geography & Marine Studies</i> 5/5	Carol Stewart <i>Management, International Business & Public Utilities</i> 4/4	Walter Stutzmann <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 5/5	Greg Adams* <i>Sociology</i> 3/5	
<u>Guests:</u> R. Prezant <i>Provost</i> B. Kalk <i>Dean A&S</i>	I. Crawford <i>AA</i> M. Singh <i>Dean Graduate Sch</i> C. Hlavac <i>Assoc. Dean A&S</i>	J. Tetreault <i>Dean of Students</i> Trevor Brolliar <i>IT</i>			

An asterisk denotes an absence. Overall attendance recorded below each member.

Faculty Senate President D. Weiss called meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.

I. Minutes of the previous meeting held on October 16, 2019, were accepted as corrected.

<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>

II. President's Report

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1. Questions were raised concerning item 4 on the President's report. D. Weiss suggested waiting until President J. Bertolino arrived.

III. Standing Committees

1. Academic Policy (P. Petrie): Minutes received.
2. Elections (K. Kruczek): Minutes received. Election for P&T committee.
3. Finance (W. Faraclas):

Available Faculty Travel Funds as of: October 30, 2019				
Fund	Starting	Spent	Encumbered	Balance
FT AAUP Travel	280,704	18,364.26	90,071.71	172,268.03
PT AAUP Travel	31,190	3,288.89	19,347.63	8,553.48
Creative Activity	85,000	28,317.89	52,213.60	4,468.51

4. Personnel Policy (N. Starling): Minutes received.
5. Rules (R. Gregory): Minutes received.
6. Student Policy (J. Dunklee): Minutes received.
7. Technology (P. Fruehan): No report. The office of Assessment and Planning, which manages online course student opinion surveys, is investigating changing vendors. The process would remain the same, only the provider would change.
 - a. A discussion on online student surveys ensued. Issues of low student response rates were discussed.

IV. Special Committees

1. UCF (C. Simoneau): Report received.
2. Graduate Council: No report.
3. FASP (D. Pettigrew): Shared details from forum on Strategic Plan for Academic Excellence held on October 21, 2019.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Resolution Regarding No Confidence Vote on Students First Plan.
 - a. S. Monroe Tomczak: **moved to amend** the resolution to read, "*Resolved*, That the Southern Connecticut State University Senate, as the representative body for faculty, votes No Confidence in the 'Students First' plan, CSCU President Mark Ojakian, and the CSCU Board of Regents." Motion **seconded**.
 - i. J. Dunklee **moved to call the previous question**. Motion **failed**.
 - ii. A request to have a ballot vote was accepted by the body. K. Kruczek distributed and collected ballots.
 1. Tally
Yes..... 6
No..... 33

Motion to amend failed.

iii. Discussion continued. R. Gregory moved to postpone the motion indefinitely.

1. A request to have a ballot vote was accepted by the body. K. Kruczek distributed and collected ballots.

a. Tally

Yes 25

No 14

Motion to postpone indefinitely approved.

VI. Guest: Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs Robert Prezant.

1. Southern has joined an association called “Degrees when Due,” which reports on students who are well into their degree program but do not finish. S. Latorre (WLL/IDS) will head the initiative on Southern’s campus.
2. K. Kruczek and L. Brin (MAT) are working on an NSF Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) grant with the other CSUs. The goal of the program is to increase the number of STEM degrees awarded to populations historically underrepresented in these disciplines: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Native Pacific Islanders.
3. A group of Southern faculty and staff attended the NECHE workshop.
4. The call for faculty to submit their recent peer-reviewed journal publications was well received: over 500 peer-reviewed articles have appeared within the last three years.
5. Academic Affairs is working with the LEPC to survey local businesses affiliated with the New Haven Chamber of Commerce; response rates have been modest, so they are working on raising them.
6. Collaboration in terms of curricular development and scholarship with the Community Colleges relative to STEM disciplines continues.
7. Over 900 people have signed up to attend Southern’s Undergraduate Open House on November 2.
8. Presented some items for the Faculty Senate to consider:
 - a. Value and use of the SAT in the application process. Would like to explore ways to make the SAT optional.
 - b. Thrilled that work has begun on exploring the possibility of a 3+1 teaching load.
 - c. Reconsideration of the way in which travel funds are distributed in order to move away from a “first-come-first-served” model.
 - d. Grade inflation.
 - e. Explore the possibility of waiving LEP requirements for students who come with an AA or an AS.
 - f. Explore the possibility of further partnerships with CCs to create more AA-BA or AS-BS partnerships where the BA/BS portion is taught on-site at the CC.
9. Questions
 - a. M. Shea: Asked for comment on the awarding of Emeritus; on the low completer policy announced by the BOR.
 - i. R. Prezant: BOR process is lengthy; consider it a “warning shot” from the BOR. Emeritus status: would like to see the title made more honorific.
 - b. C. Stewart: Asked for comment on summer course cancelation policies.
 - i. R. Prezant: Refer to your Deans.
 - c. K. Marsland: Asked for comment on the 2+2 AA/BA or AS/BS.

- i. R. Prezant: We would need to discuss the appropriate programs so that it makes sense for both places. Contractually, the only thing that would change is the venue. More details to follow.
 - d. P. Pettigrew: Asked for comment on maintaining and/or lowering course caps.
 - i. R. Prezant: We did move the caps from 23 to 22 for W courses, and the average in W courses is 18. Data shows that between 18-28, there is no change in retention or grades; however, he encourages a discussion.

VII. President's Report (cont'd)

1. Concerning the selection of "Faculty Leads" for work groups on Curricular Flexibility Transfer Student Support, and Finances (item 4 on the President's Report), President J. Bertolino requested that Senators fill these positions. Many senators felt that the pool of applicants should not be limited. In the end, the general consensus of the body was to invite applications from the entire faculty. Questions were also raised regarding limiting faculty who serve as members of the work groups to only those who had attended the retreats. President Bertolino explained that he thought that having work group members who had attended the two retreats would enable the work groups to function more efficiently.

VII. Adjournment

- S. Monroe Tomczak **moved to adjourn. Seconded and approved.**
- Adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

L. Eilderts
Secretary