

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes of November 13, 2019

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

The 4th meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2019-2020 was held on November 13, 2019 at 12:10 p.m. in the Seminar Room of Connecticut Hall.

Attendance

Dave Allen <i>Accounting</i> 4/6	Matthew Ouimet <i>Counseling</i> 6/6	Sandip Dutta* <i>Finance</i> 2/6	Robert Forbus <i>Marketing</i> 4/6	David Pettigrew <i>Philosophy</i> 4/6	Angela Lopez-Velasquez <i>Special Education</i> 5/6
William Farley* <i>Anthropology</i> 3/6	Natalie Starling <i>Counseling & School Psychology</i> 6/6	Peter Latchman <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 5/6	Joe Fields* <i>Mathematics</i> 5/6	Binlin Wu* <i>Physics</i> 5/6	Douglas Macur* <i>Theatre</i> 4/6
Jeff Slomba <i>Art</i> 5/6	Beena Achhpal* <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 3/6	Robert Gregory <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 6/6	Klay Kruczek <i>Mathematics</i> 6/6	Jon Wharton <i>Political Science</i> 5/6	Luke Eilderts <i>World Languages & Literatures</i> 6/6
Kevin Siedlecki <i>Athletics</i> 5/5	Maria Diamantis <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 5/6	Tom Radice <i>History</i> 6/6	Jonathan Irving* <i>Music</i> 0/6	Michael Nizhnikov <i>Psychology</i> 5/6	
Sarah Crawford <i>Biology</i> 4/6	Dushmantha Jayawickreme <i>Earth Science</i> 6/6	Darcy Kern* <i>History</i> 2/6	Frances Penny* <i>Nursing</i> 5/6	Kate Marsland <i>Psychology</i> 5/6	Cindy Simoneau* <i>Undergraduate Curriculum Forum</i> 5/6
Mina Park* <i>Business Information Systems</i> 4/6	Sanja Grubic* <i>Economics</i> 5/6	Yan Liu* <i>Information & Library Science</i> 4/6	VACANT <i>Nursing</i>	William Faraclas* <i>Public Health</i> 5/6	Cynthia O'Sullivan <i>Graduate Council</i> 2/6
Jeff Webb <i>Chemistry</i> 6/6	Peter Madonia <i>Educational Leadership</i> 2/6	Jerry Dunklee <i>Journalism</i> 6/6	Obiageli Okwuka <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 5/6	Michael Dodge <i>Recreation, Tourism & Sport Management</i> 5/6	Aidan Coleman* <i>Student Government Association</i> 4/6
Barbara Cook <i>Communication Disorders</i> 6/6	Mike Shea <i>English</i> 5/6	Parker Fruehan <i>Library Services</i> 6/6	VACANT <i>Part-time Faculty</i>	Paul Levatino <i>Social Work</i> 5/6	Dr. Joe Bertolino <i>SCSU President</i>
Derek Taylor <i>Communication, Media & Screen Studies</i> 6/6	Paul Petrie <i>English</i> 6/6	Jacqueline Toce <i>Library Services</i> 6/6	Mary Ellen Minichiello* <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 4/6	Stephen Monroe Tomczak <i>Social Work</i> 6/6	
Mohammad T. Islam* <i>Computer Science</i> 4/6	Matthew Miller <i>Environment, Geography & Marine Studies</i> 6/6	Carol Stewart <i>Management, International Business & Public Utilities</i> 5/5	Walter Stutzmann* <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 5/6	Greg Adams <i>Sociology</i> 4/6	
<u>Guests:</u> R. Prezant <i>Provost</i> I. Crawford <i>AA</i>	T. Bennett <i>Assoc. Dean A&S</i> C. Hlavac <i>Assoc. Dean A&S</i>	R. May (IT)			

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

Faculty Senate President D. Weiss called meeting to order at 12:13 p.m.

The Faculty Senate observed a moment of silence for students Sean Gallo and Melanie Coleman.

I. Announcements

1. K. Kruczek: Self-nominations for the P&T committee close today.
2. B. Cook: Annual Expressions of Social Justice talent show held tonight at 7 p.m. in the Adanti Student Center Ballroom.
3. D. Weiss: Guest speaker Dr. Shahar Sadeh will give a talk “Environmental Innovation in Israel: Securing Water and Greening the Desert.” Engleman A120, November 18, 1-2 p.m.

II. Minutes of the previous meeting held on October 30, 2019, were accepted as distributed.

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

III. President’s Report

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IV. Standing Committees

1. Academic Policy (P. Petrie): Minutes submitted; no additional report
2. Elections (K. Kruczek): No minutes submitted
3. Finance (M. Diamantis): Minutes submitted; no additional report
4. Personnel Policy (N. Starling): Minutes submitted; no additional report
5. Rules (R. Gregory): Minutes submitted; no additional report
6. Student Policy (K. Marsland): Minutes submitted; no additional report
7. Technology (P. Fruehan): Minutes submitted; additional report - update on registrations issues for students. R. May (IT) provided context and answered questions. IT is working with the vendor to fix ongoing issues.

IV. Special Committees

1. UCF: Report received.
2. Graduate Council (C. O’Sullivan): Improved procedures for the submission of special projects and theses are being developed.

V. New Business

1. M. Diamantis **moved to accept** the “Resolution Regarding Revisions to the P&T Procedures Document.”
 - a. Revision to language in section III.F.3.c.: “No Department Chairperson, division director, DEC member, or Dean shall serve as a member or alternate on the Committee” revised to read: “No Department Chairperson, division director, or Dean shall serve as a member or alternate on the Committee.” (see <https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/senate-resolutions>).
 - b. Motion **seconded**. Motion **approved** unanimously.

VI. Guest: CSCU President Mark Ojakian

1. Topics included
 - a. State budget: state investment in the CSCU system down 13% over the past decade on a per-student basis. Outlook does not look better over the short term.

- b. Consolidation: affirmed that he never has, and never would, advocate for consolidating the four universities into one university with four locations.
- c. Anticipated 2022 retirements due to SEBAC agreement: Informally referred to as the “cliff”; system is anticipating a significant rise in retirements due to changes in health and pension benefits negotiated during the last SEBAC agreement; campuses have been asked to begin planning for this possibility.
- d. Debt-free tuition at the Community Colleges and free tuition for families who earn less than \$50,000 at UConn: for the former, shared concern with the way the legislation is crafted, citing that it currently does not have many restrictions on those who can benefit; working with the legislature to make the program successful; for the latter, shared that the program already exists, but has been given added attention through its renaming; shared that there are currently several initiatives on showcasing the CSCU system and its competitiveness; shared that there is currently no hard data on how debt-free tuition at the Community Colleges will affect the universities; questions still remain on how this initiative will be funded.
- e. Engaging with state legislators: encouraged faculty to engage more often with legislators, to invite them to campus, to show them the successes of our students and the work that we are doing; bring them here to be a part of the conversation in addition to meeting with them in Hartford.
- f. Op-Ed piece in the *Connecticut Mirror* written by M. Gargano: disagreed with his assessment of the CSCU system; does not feel that the system is overstaffed, nor does he believe we should eliminate tenure. Encouraged campuses to think about being more flexible with advising and course delivery.
- g. Shared Governance: commented that we need to operate in a system that promotes shared governance, but asked if shared governance means shared management?
- h. Faculty recruitment: shared that campuses need to think more about diversity in its recruitment of faculty; shared that a lot of work has been done and continues to be done on closing the equity gap; affirmed that we need to provide students of color with the support that they need.
- i. New programs at private colleges and universities: praised the private institutions for the work they did moving this initiative forward; shared that he felt our own institution does a good job approving programs, the time to approval has been reduced from 3 to 2 months; improvements in the process could be made, especially with programs that require revising; additionally, asked campuses to consider their own procedures.
- j. Cost-savings through system-wide purchasing; flexible and online course delivery: we need to look at what the system is getting for the amount that it is paying; consider having system-wide purchasing for certain items that do not need campus-specific customizations.

VII. Adjournment

- Adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

L. Elderts
Secretary