

Southern Connecticut State University
FACULTY SENATE

APPROVED MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 2020

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

The Second Meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2020-2021 was held on October 14, 2020, at 12:10 p.m. via WebEx.

Attendance

Dave Allen <i>Accounting</i> 4/4	Matthew Ouimet <i>Counseling</i> 4/4	Sandip Dutta* <i>Finance</i> 3/4	Atul Kulkarni <i>Marketing</i> 4/4	Rex Gilliland <i>Philosophy</i> 4/4	Angela Lopez-Velasquez <i>Special Education</i> 4/4
William Farley <i>Anthropology</i> 4/4	Natalie Starling <i>Counseling & School Psychology</i> 4/4	Lawrence Brancazio <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 4/4	Joe Fields <i>Mathematics</i> 4/4	Binlin Wu <i>Physics</i> 4/4	Douglas Macur <i>Theatre</i> 4/4
Jeff Slomba <i>Art</i> 4/4	Beena Achhpal <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 4/4	Robert Gregory <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 4/4	Klay Kruczek <i>Mathematics</i> 4/4	Jon Wharton <i>Political Science</i> 4/4	Luke Eilderts <i>World Languages & Literatures</i> 4/4
Kevin Siedlecki <i>Athletics</i> 4/4	Maria Diamantis <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 4/4	Troy Paddock <i>History</i> 4/4	Jonathan Irving <i>Music</i> 4/4	Michael Nizhnikov <i>Psychology</i> 2/4	
Sean Grace <i>Biology</i> 4/4	Dushmantha Jayawickreme <i>Earth Science</i> 4/4	Darcy Kern <i>History</i> 4/4	Frances Penny* <i>Nursing</i> 0/4	Kate Marsland <i>Psychology</i> 4/4	Deborah Weiss <i>Faculty Senate President</i> 4/4
Mina Park <i>Business Information Systems</i> 4/4	Sanja Grubacic <i>Economics</i> 4/4	Yan Liu <i>Information & Library Science</i> 4/4	Kelly Martinez <i>Nursing</i> 4/4	William Faraclas <i>Public Health</i> 4/4	Cindy Simoneau <i>Undergraduate Curriculum Forum</i> 4/4
Jeff Webb <i>Chemistry</i> 4/4	Peter Madonia <i>Educational Leadership</i> 4/4	Cindy Simoneau <i>Journalism</i> 4/4	Obiageli Okwuka <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 4/4	Michael Dodge <i>Recreation, Tourism & Sport Management</i> 4/4	Meredith Sinclair <i>Undergraduate Curriculum Forum</i> 4/4
Barbara Cook <i>Communication Disorders</i> 4/4	Mike Shea <i>English</i> 4/4	Patrick Crowley <i>Library Services</i> 4/4	Mary Ellen Minichiello <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 3/4	Sebatian Perumbilly <i>Social Work</i> 4/4	Cynthia O'Sullivan <i>Graduate Council</i> 4/4
Derek Taylor <i>Communication, Media & Screen Studies</i> 4/4	Paul Petrie <i>English</i> 4/4	Jacqueline Toce <i>Library Services</i> 4/4	VACANT <i>Part-time Faculty</i>	Stephen Monroe Tomczak <i>Social Work</i> 4/4	Aidan Coleman <i>Student Government Association</i> 4/4
Alaa Sheta <i>Computer Science</i> 4/4	Matthew Miller <i>Environment, Geography & Marine Studies</i> 4/4	Carol Stewart <i>Management, International Business & Public Utilities</i> 4/4	VACANT <i>Part-time Faculty</i>	Adam Pittman <i>Sociology</i> 3/3	Dr. Joe Bertolino <i>SCSU President</i> 4/4
<u>Guests:</u> R. Prezant (Provost) J. Edstrom (EM)	T. Milburn (AA) C. Hlavac (A&S) T. Bennett (A&S)	J. H. Kim (MIB & PU) T. Tyree (VP SA) T. Broliar (IT) B. Zamfir (Ed/Assistive Tech)			

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

Faculty Senate President D. Weiss called the 4th meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 12:10 p.m.

- I. Announcements
 - A. M. Diamantis: Emergency SCSU-AAUP Chapter Meeting to be held Monday October 19 at 1 p.m.

- II. Minutes of the previous meeting held on September 30, 2020 were accepted as corrected.
<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>

- III. President's Report
<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>
 - A. Senators discussed the revisions to the admissions process and the decision to remove the SAT/ACT requirement.
 - B. Senators discussed the announcements/discussion that took place at the BOR Finance Committee (video available on YouTube).
 - i. President Bertolino shared that anything Southern can do to be engaged and advocate from a position of strength would be very helpful and important.
 - ii. Senators were encouraged to engage with their legislators.
 - C. CSCU President Search
 - i. M. Diamantis **moved to support the candidacy of B. Johnson (ENG)** to the advisory committee for the CSCU President Search.
 1. **Seconded.**
 2. **Approved unanimously.**

- IV. Unfinished Business
 - A. Pass/Fail
 - i. Senators discussed Pass/Fail issues and concerns.
 - ii. K. Marsland provided context concerning the process and the principles.
 1. Process: A. Carroll (Registrar) requests that, if possible, a process be approved now so that should the university move to a more flexible P/F option for students, her office would be able to create the process now, thereby minimizing the amount of work that would need to take place in a very short amount of time.
 2. Principles: Currently students have no recourse since the P/F policy enacted in the Spring of 2020 has lapsed and we have returned to the previous one. However, we have heard that many students are struggling and in distress. Possible revisions include:
 - a. Creating a process whereby students could petition to change their grade to P/F;
 - b. Extending the deadline to apply for P/F (for example: before end of semester; at end of semester; after end of semester and grades are posted).
 - iii. K. Marsland and D. Weiss reminded senators that voting in favor of a more flexible P/F option would not prevent department from having more restrictive P/F guidelines (for example, departments would indicate which courses could not be taken for P/F).
 - iv. Senators were asked to go back to their departments and reflect on the issue. They were also encouraged to think not only about their own students, but

students in general. The Student Policy Committee will pull all the threads together.

V. Adjournment

- A. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

L. Eilderts
Secretary