

Southern Connecticut State University

# FACULTY SENATE

## APPROVED MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 17, 2021

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

The 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2020-2021 was held on February 17, 2021, at 12:10 p.m. via WebEx.

### Attendance

Dave Allen <i>Accounting</i> 10/10	Matthew Ouimet <i>Counseling</i> 10/10	Sandip Dutta* <i>Finance</i> 6/10	Atul Kulkarni <i>Marketing</i> 10/10	Rex Gilliland <i>Philosophy</i> 10/10	Angela Lopez-Velasquez* <i>Special Education</i> 6/10
William Farley <i>Anthropology</i> 10/10	Natalie Starling <i>Counseling &amp; School Psychology</i> 10/10	Lawrence Brancazio <i>Health &amp; Movement Sciences</i> 10/10	Joe Fields <i>Mathematics</i> 10/10	Binlin Wu <i>Physics</i> 10/10	Douglas Macur <i>Theatre</i> 10/10
Jeff Slomba <i>Art</i> 10/10	Beena Achhpal <i>Curriculum &amp; Learning</i> 10/10	Robert Gregory <i>Health &amp; Movement Sciences</i> 10/10	Klay Kruczek <i>Mathematics</i> 10/10	Jonathan O'Hara <i>Political Science</i> 1/1	Luke Eilderts <i>World Languages &amp; Literatures</i> 10/10
Kevin Siedlecki <i>Athletics</i> 10/10	Maria Diamantis <i>Curriculum &amp; Learning</i> 10/10	Troy Paddock <i>History</i> 9/10	Jonathan Irving <i>Music</i> 10/10	Michael Nizhnikov <i>Psychology</i> 8/10	
Sean Grace <i>Biology</i> 10/10	Dushmantha Jayawickreme <i>Earth Science</i> 10/10	Darcy Kern* <i>History</i> 6/10	Frances Penny <i>Nursing</i> 6/10	Kate Marsland <i>Psychology</i> 10/10	Deborah Weiss <i>Faculty Senate President</i> 9/10
Mina Park <i>Business Information Systems</i> 10/10	Sanja Grubacic <i>Economics</i> 10/10	Yan Liu <i>Information &amp; Library Science</i> 8/10	Kelly Martinez* <i>Nursing</i> 4/10	William Faraclas <i>Public Health</i> 10/10	Cindy Simoneau <i>Undergraduate Curriculum Forum</i> 10/10
Jeff Webb <i>Chemistry</i> 10/10	Peter Madonia <i>Educational Leadership</i> 8/10	Cindy Simoneau <i>Journalism</i> 10/10	Obiageli Okwuka <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 10/10	Michael Dodge* <i>Recreation, Tourism &amp; Sport Management</i> 9/10	Meredith Sinclair <i>Undergraduate Curriculum Forum</i> 10/10
Barbara Cook <i>Communication Disorders</i> 10/10	Mike Shea <i>English</i> 10/10	Patrick Crowley <i>Library Services</i> 9/10	Mary Ellen Minichiello <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 7/10	Sebastian Perumbilly <i>Social Work</i> 10/10	Cynthia O'Sullivan <i>Graduate Council</i> 10/10
Derek Taylor <i>Communication, Media &amp; Screen Studies</i> 10/10	Paul Petrie <i>English</i> 10/10	Jacqueline Toce <i>Library Services</i> 10/10	Stephanie Fischer <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 6/6	Stephen Monroe Tomczak <i>Social Work</i> 10/10	Zainab Seyal <i>Student Government Association</i> 1/1
Alaa Sheta <i>Computer Science</i> 10/10	Matthew Miller <i>Environment, Geography &amp; Marine Studies</i> 10/10	Carol Stewart* <i>Management, International Business &amp; Public Utilities</i> 8/10	Virginia Metaxas <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 5/6	Adam Pittman <i>Sociology</i> 8/10	Dr. Joe Bertolino* <i>SCSU President</i> 6/10
Guests:	R. Prezant C. Hlavac J. H. Kim	S. Bulmer B. Zamfir T. Bennett	T. Broliar T. Millburn H. Marx	T. Tyree C. Michalski	

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

Faculty Senate President Pro tempore W. Faraclas called the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 12:10 p.m.

- I. Announcements
  - A. W. Faraclas: Welcomed J. O'Hara (PSC) to the Senate.
  - B. L. Eilderts: Curriculum Related Activities Grant call-for-proposals will be announced soon.
- II. Minutes of the previous meeting held on February 17, 2020 were accepted as distributed.  
<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>
- III. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees
  - A. Minutes of the standing committees were received.
    - i. Academic Policy (P. Petrie): no additional report.
    - ii. Elections (C. Simoneau): Seeking recommendations for streamlining the all-university committee elections process.
    - iii. Finance (S. Grubacic): Shared full- and part-time travel allowances; committee is planning to join with the Technology committee to investigate department expenditures and operating budgets in an effort to make them more transparent to faculty.
    - iv. Personnel (N. Starling): no additional report. Committee seeking recommendations for how to include advising in the renewal and promotion and tenure process. Send recommendations to N. Starling.
    - v. Rules (R. Gregory): working on Sabbatical leave document and revisiting promotion and tenure work with the Personnel Policy committee.
    - vi. Student Policy (K. Marsland): Two resolutions coming forward under new business. Meeting scheduled with A. Carroll, University Registrar, to explore data on incompletes and withdrawals from Fall 2020 semester.
    - vii. Technology (J. Fields): Working on the Student Opinion Survey.
- IV. Reports of Faculty Senate Special Committees
  - A. UCF (M. Sinclair): In addition to report, UCF approved the Interdisciplinary Minor in Music, Technology, and Media.
- V. New Business
  - A. Revisions to the constitution of the University Library Committee (C. Michalski, chair, Library Committee).
    - i. Vote to approve revisions as presented.
      1. Vote tally
        - a. Yes .....43
        - b. No .....0
      - i. Approved unanimously.
  - B. K. Marsland, chair of SPC, **moved to approve** Resolution Regarding Revisions to the Academic Standing Policy.
    - i. B. Cook **moved to amend by inserting "of GPA 2.0"** after "requirement" and before "and shall be". The revised sentence reads: "This policy addresses students who have not met the minimum University requirement of GPA 2.0 and shall be subject to academic discipline."

1. Amendment **seconded**.
  - a. Amendment **approved** by unanimous consent.
- ii. M. Shea **moved to amend by inserting "Reinstatement to the University does not guarantee acceptance or reacceptance to programs with GPA requirements higher than 2.0."** after "non-matriculated." and before "All appeals...". The revised paragraph now reads "Dismissed students can appeal for reinstatement to regain matriculation status and may do so during or subsequent to the semester in which they are non-matriculated. Reinstatement to the University does not guarantee acceptance or reacceptance to programs with GPA requirements higher than 2.0. All appeals shall be made to the Academic Standing Committee."
  1. Amendment **seconded**.
    - a. Amendment **approved** by unanimous consent.
- iii. K. Kruczek **moved to amend** "Once a student's dismissal appeal has been granted, they will not be eligible to appeal dismissal for a second time" to "Once a student's dismissal appeal has been granted, they will be ineligible to appeal if they are dismissed a second time."
  1. Amendment **seconded**.
    - a. Amendment **approved** by unanimous consent.
- iv. Motion to approve resolution as amended.
  1. Vote tally
    - a. Yes .....41
    - b. No .....0
    - i. Motion **approved unanimously**.
- C. K. Marsland **moved to approve Resolution Regarding Dean's List Policy**.
  - i. T. Paddock **moved to strike "or" and insert "and" between "Fall" and "Spring."** The revised sentence reads, "Recognition is given at the end of each semester to part-time students who have accumulated 12 credits of letter graded course work during the Fall and Spring semesters and have earned a grade point average of 3.5 or higher."
    1. Motion **seconded**.
      - a. Motion **approved** by unanimous consent.
  - ii. K. Marsland **moved to commit** resolution to the SPC for further discussion and revisions.
- D. C. Simoneau **moved to approve the Resolution Regarding The Composition And Term Length Of The Termination Hearing Committee**.
  - i. Motion **approved** by unanimous consent.
- E. C. Simoneau **moved to approve the Resolution Regarding The Size, Composition, And Term Length Of The Faculty Scholar Award Committee**.
  - i. Motion **approved** by unanimous consent.
- F. C. Simoneau **moved to approve the Resolution Regarding The Size Of The University Library Committee**.
  - i. Motion **approved** by unanimous consent.
- G. C. Simoneau **moved to approve Resolution Regarding The Term Length Of The Mediation Committee**.
  - i. Motion **approved** by unanimous consent.
- H. N. Starling initiated a discussion regarding Advising in the renewal, promotion and tenure, and professional assessment processes.

VI. Adjournment

A. Meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

---

L. Eilderts  
Secretary

---

DOCUMENTS TO ACCOMPANY MINUTES (FEBRUARY 17, 2021 MEETING)  
REVISIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE

---

**University Library Committee Constitution**  
ULC Revision Approved November 9, 2020  
Senate Approval \_\_\_\_\_

**Article I: Purview**

The University Library Committee (ULC) is an autonomous standing committee of the Faculty Senate.

It is charged with acting in an advisory role to the Provost in order to provide the best library services to the Southern community.

**Article II: Functions/Mission**

- A. Foster Communication. Advise the Provost with regard to present and future needs of library users, the library's policies and resources, and the prevailing patterns of library utilization.
- B. Be Cognizant of Standards and Benchmarks. Remain current about academic library practices throughout the nation to ascertain appropriate standards and benchmarks for library services, collection development, resources, and facilities at Southern Connecticut State University.
- C. Report on Policies and Practices. In consultation with the Faculty Senate, report regularly to the Provost regarding ULC recommendations which may include (but not necessarily be limited to) the following: the effectiveness of library services and practices, the sufficiency and accessibility of the library and its resources.

**Article III: Membership, Elections, & Appointments**

- A. The ULC will have members drawn according to the following constituencies

1. Library Services Faculty

There shall be 3 members from this group who shall be elected by members of the group.

2. Faculty (non-Library Services)

There shall be 10 members from this group 6 of whom shall be elected from faculty members of their academic schools/colleges as listed below. (See III E). The Graduate Council, Undergraduate Curriculum Forum, and Faculty Senate may elect or appoint their representatives as they so desire. However, regarding electees from the schools/colleges, no more than 1 committee member may come from a given department. The members shall be from the following areas:

- 3 from the College of Arts & Sciences
- 1 from the School of Business
- 1 from the College of Education
- 1 from the College of Health and Human Services
- 1 from the Graduate Council
- 1 from the Undergraduate Curriculum Forum
- 2 from the Faculty Senate

3. Administration

There shall be 2 members from this group.

The Provost shall appoint 1 member to the committee.

The Library Director shall be an administrative appointee.

4. Students

There shall be 2 members from this group.

They shall be from the following areas:

- 1 Undergraduate student to be elected or appointed by the Student Government Association.
- 1 Graduate student to be elected or appointed by the Graduate Student Affairs Committee.

B. Meetings:

The committee shall meet a least twice in the fall semester and at least twice in the spring semester.

C. Term of Office:

All Faculty, including Library Services Faculty, shall have renewable 3-year terms of office.

Student terms of office shall be determined by the electing/appointment body.

Administrative terms of office, which includes the Library Director, shall be determined by the Provost or their appointee.

All terms of office shall commence at the start of the academic year.

D. Elections:

Except for representatives from the Graduate Council, the Undergraduate Curriculum Forum and student appointees, elections of faculty shall be administered by the Faculty Senate Elections Committee.

F. Election Vacancies:

Any faculty vacancies due to lack of candidates or other reasons shall be filled with appointments made by the Faculty Senate.

**Article IV: Officers**

The committee shall elect a chair from among any faculty unit other than the Library.

The chair's term of office shall be 1 year. The term limit shall be 3 years.

The chair or their designee shall report regularly at Faculty Senate meetings.

**Article V: Voting**

All the ULC Members are voting members with the exception of the Library Director.

The Chairperson will vote only to break a tie or make a quorum.

**Article VI: Flow of Communication**

A. All incoming issues and inquiries shall be directed to the chair of the ULC for appropriate action.

B. The minutes of all meetings shall be sent simultaneously to all ULC members, the President of the Faculty Senate, The Provost and the Library Faculty.

C. Minutes of the ULC shall be posted to the University Community by way of the Faculty Senate minutes.

**Article VII: Amendments**

A. Amendments to this document may be proposed to the Faculty Senate by the ULC.

B. The Faculty Senate may propose amendments to this document.

C. An amendment will be incorporated into this document if at least 2/3 of the senators present at a regular Senate meeting vote in favor of the amendment.

**SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE**  
**RESOLUTION REGARDING ACADEMIC STANDING POLICY REVISION**

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence; and

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Academic Standing Policy be revised as follows:

All students shall demonstrate an ability to do college-level work. The University requires that undergraduate students maintain a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 to be considered in Good Standing (some programs may **also** have higher GPA requirements to remain enrolled in that particular field of study). This policy addresses students who have not met the minimum University requirement of GPA 2.0 and shall be subject to academic discipline. For students enrolled in a post-baccalaureate program (a second undergraduate program following completion of a bachelor's degree) the program GPA, rather than the cumulative GPA, shall be evaluated for compliance as outlined below. The three categories of academic discipline are: Academic Warning, Academic Probation, and Academic Dismissal.

**Academic Warning**

Students shall be placed on Academic Warning the first fall or spring semester in which their cumulative GPA falls below 2.0. Students on Academic Warning shall be allowed to register for a maximum of 15 credits and must register for classes prior to the first day of the semester.

**Academic Probation**

Students who are on Academic Warning and fail to raise their cumulative GPA to the minimum 2.0 in the following fall or spring semester shall be placed on Academic Probation. Students on probation shall be allowed to register for a maximum of 14 credits and must register prior to the first day of the semester. Students on Academic Probation shall be allowed to continue at the University but shall remain on probation provided their semester GPA is at least 2.3. Once the cumulative GPA reaches 2.0, the student shall be removed from Academic Probation and shall be returned to Good Standing. Students shall have three (3) semesters to raise their cumulative GPA to 2.0. If the cumulative GPA is below 2.0 after the third semester of probation, the student shall be academically dismissed.

## Academic Dismissal

Students on Academic Probation shall be Academically Dismissed at the end of the fall or spring semester if (1) their semester GPA is below a 2.3 and cumulative GPA is below a 2.0, or (2) their cumulative GPA remains below 2.0 after the third semester of probation. Students who are academically dismissed from Southern Connecticut State University are no longer matriculated at the University, and they may only register for courses on a part-time basis as non-matriculated students.

Dismissed students can appeal for reinstatement to regain matriculation status and may do so during or subsequent to the semester in which they are non-matriculated. Reinstatement to the University does not guarantee acceptance or reacceptance to programs with GPA requirements higher than 2.0. All appeals shall be made to the Academic Standing Committee. Once a student's dismissal appeal has been granted, they will be ineligible to appeal if they are dismissed a second time.



## RESOLUTION REGARDING ACADEMIC STANDING POLICY REVISION (WITH TRACK CHANGES)

### SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION Regarding Academic Standing Policy Revision

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence; and

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Academic Standing Policy be revised as follows:

All students shall demonstrate an ability to do college-level work. The University requires that undergraduate students maintain a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 to be eligible for a bachelor's degree. Any student with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 shall be considered in Good Standing by the University (some programs may also have higher GPA requirements to remain enrolled in that particular field of study). This policy addresses students who have not met the minimum University requirement of GPA 2.0 and Students who fall below the required 2.0 shall face be subject to academic discipline. For students enrolled in a post-baccalaureate program (a second undergraduate program following completion of a bachelor's degree) the program GPA, rather than the cumulative GPA, shall be evaluated for compliance as outlined below. The three categories of academic discipline are: Academic Warning, Academic Probation, and Academic Dismissal.

#### Academic Warning

Students shall be placed on Academic Warning the first fall or spring semester in which their cumulative GPA falls below 2.0. Students on Academic Warning shall be allowed to register for a maximum of 15 credits and must register for classes prior to the first day of the semester.

#### Academic Probation

Students who are on Academic Warning and fail to raise their cumulative GPA to the minimum 2.0 in the following fall or spring semester shall be placed on Academic Probation. Students on probation shall be allowed to register for a maximum of 14 credits and must register prior to the first day of the semester. Students on Academic Probation shall be allowed to continue at the University but shall remain on probation provided their semester GPA is at least 2.3. Once the cumulative GPA reaches 2.0, the student shall be removed from Academic Probation and shall be returned to Good Standing. Students shall have three (3) semesters to raise their cumulative GPA to 2.0. If the cumulative GPA is below 2.0 after the third semester of probation, the student shall be academically dismissed.

Deleted: now, therefore be it

Deleted: their

Deleted: to

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Deleted: e

Deleted: -

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Deleted: ,

Deleted: ary

Deleted: degre

Deleted: e,

Deleted: will

Deleted: instead of their cumulative GPA.

Deleted: ¶

### Academic Dismissal

Students on Academic Probation shall be Academically Dismissed at the end of the fall or spring semester if (1) their semester GPA is below a 2.3 and cumulative GPA is below a 2.0, or (2) their cumulative GPA remains below 2.0 after the third semester of probation. Students who are academically dismissed from Southern Connecticut State University are no longer matriculated at the University, and they may only register for courses on a part-time basis as non-matriculated students.

Dismissed students can appeal for reinstatement to regain matriculation status and may do so during or subsequent to the semester in which they are non-matriculated. Reinstatement to the University does not guarantee acceptance or reacceptance to programs with GPA requirements higher than 2.0. All appeals shall be made to the Academic Standing Committee. Once a student's dismissal appeal has been granted, they will ineligible to appeal if they are dismissed a second time.

Deleted: in the fall or spring semester

Deleted: If

Deleted: are eligible to

Deleted: , they

Deleted: Students shall be permitted to appeal for reinstatement only once. ¶

## **SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE**

### **RESOLUTION REGARDING THE SIZE OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence;

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty;

Whereas, Within the context of shared governance faculty participation furthers such excellence;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate is charged with maintaining and filling All-University committees; and

Whereas, The Faculty Senate strives to maintain efficient All-University committees; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the University Library Committee's membership reflect what is stated in their Constitution and Bylaws, which means six (6) elected faculty delegates, three (3) from Arts & Sciences and one (1) from each of the other schools/colleges; instead of seven (7) elected faculty delegates, three (3) from Arts & Sciences, one (1) from each of the other schools/colleges, and 1 member at large; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Faculty Senate Elections Committee shall develop a mechanism for dealing with expiring terms on the committee that arise; affected SCSU documents shall be revised to conform to the new committee structure.

## **SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE**

### **RESOLUTION REGARDING THE TERM LENGTH OF THE FACULTY SCHOLAR AWARD COMMITTEE**

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence;

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty;

Whereas, Within the context of shared governance faculty participation furthers such excellence;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate is charged with maintaining and filling All-University committees;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate strives to maintain efficient All-University committees; and

Whereas, An approach to such efficiency includes increasing the term length; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the term length of the members of the Faculty Scholar Award Committee shall increase from two (2) years to three (3) years; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Faculty Senate Elections Committee shall develop a mechanism for dealing with expiring terms on the committee that arise; affected SCSU documents shall be revised to conform to the new committee structure.

## **SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE**

### **RESOLUTION REGARDING THE COMPOSITION AND TERM LENGTH OF THE TERMINATION HEARING COMMITTEE**

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence;

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty;

Whereas, Within the context of shared governance faculty participation furthers such excellence;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate is charged with maintaining and filling All-University committees;

Whereas, Membership of All-University committees shall have faculty representation from each college/school;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate strives to maintain efficient All-University committees; and

Whereas, An approach to such efficiency includes increasing the term length; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the members shall consist of one (1) member from each college/school and one (1) at-large member; be it further

*Resolved*, That the term length shall increase from two (2) years to three (3) years; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Faculty Senate Elections Committee shall develop a mechanism for dealing with expiring terms on the committee that arise; affected SCSU documents shall be revised to conform to the new committee structure.

## **SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE**

### **RESOLUTION REGARDING THE TERM LENGTH OF THE MEDIATION COMMITTEE**

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence;

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty;

Whereas, Within the context of shared governance faculty participation furthers such excellence;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate is charged with maintaining and filling All-University committees;

Whereas, Membership of All-University committees shall have faculty representation from each college/school;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate strives to maintain efficient All-University committees; and

Whereas, An approach to such efficiency includes increasing the term length; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the term length shall increase from two (2) years to three (3) years; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Faculty Senate Elections Committee shall develop a mechanism for dealing with expiring terms on the committee that arise; affected SCSU documents shall be revised to conform to the new committee structure.