

Southern Connecticut State University

FACULTY SENATE

APPROVED MINUTES OF MAY 5, 2021

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

The 16th Meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2020-2021 was held on May 5, 2021, at 12:10 p.m. via WebEx.

Attendance

Dave Allen <i>Accounting</i> 15/16	Matthew Ouimet <i>Counseling</i> 16/16	Sandip Dutta* <i>Finance</i> 9/16	Atul Kulkarni <i>Marketing</i> 16/16	Rex Gilliland <i>Philosophy</i> 16/16	Angela Lopez-Velasquez <i>Special Education</i> 12/16
William Farley <i>Anthropology</i> 15/16	Natalie Starling <i>Counseling & School Psychology</i> 16/16	Lawrence Brancazio <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 16/16	Joe Fields <i>Mathematics</i> 16/16	Binlin Wu <i>Physics</i> 16/16	Douglas Macur* <i>Theatre</i> 14/16
Jeff Slomba <i>Art</i> 16/16	Beena Achhpal <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 16/16	Robert Gregory <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 16/16	Klay Kruczek <i>Mathematics</i> 16/16	Jonathan O'Hara <i>Political Science</i> 5/6	Luke Eilderts <i>World Languages & Literatures</i> 16/16
Kevin Siedlecki* <i>Athletics</i> 14/16	Maria Diamantis <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 16/16	Troy Paddock <i>History</i> 15/16	Jonathan Irving <i>Music</i> 16/16	Michael Nizhnikov <i>Psychology</i> 11/16	
Sean Grace <i>Biology</i> 16/16	Dushmantha Jayawickreme <i>Earth Science</i> 16/16	Darcy Kern <i>History</i> 10/16	Frances Penny* <i>Nursing</i> 8/16	Kate Marsland <i>Psychology</i> 16/16	Deborah Weiss <i>Faculty Senate President</i> 15/16
Mina Park <i>Business Information Systems</i> 16/16	Sanja Grubacic <i>Economics</i> 16/16	Yan Liu <i>Information & Library Science</i> 14/16	Kelly Martinez <i>Nursing</i> 8/16	William Faraclas <i>Public Health</i> 15/16	
Jeff Webb <i>Chemistry</i> 16/16	Peter Madonia <i>Educational Leadership</i> 13/16	Cindy Simoneau <i>Journalism</i> 16/16	Obiageli Okwuka <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 11/16	Michael Dodge <i>Recreation, Tourism & Sport Management</i> 15/16	Meredith Sinclair <i>Undergraduate Curriculum Forum</i> 16/16
Barbara Cook <i>Communication Disorders</i> 16/16	Mike Shea <i>English</i> 16/16	Patrick Crowley <i>Library Services</i> 15/16	Mary Ellen Minichiello* <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 11/16	Sebastian Perumbilly <i>Social Work</i> 16/16	Cynthia O'Sullivan <i>Graduate Council</i> 16/16
Derek Taylor <i>Communication, Media & Screen Studies</i> 16/16	Paul Petrie <i>English</i> 16/16	Jacqueline Toce <i>Library Services</i> 16/16	Stephanie Fischer <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 11/12	Stephen Monroe Tomczak <i>Social Work</i> 16/16	Zainab Seyal* <i>Student Government Association</i> 4/7
Alaa Sheta <i>Computer Science</i> 16/16	Matthew Miller <i>Environment, Geography & Marine Studies</i> 16/16	Carol Stewart <i>Management, International Business & Public Utilities</i> 13/16	Virginia Metaxas <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 10/12	Adam Pittman <i>Sociology</i> 13/16	Dr. Joe Bertolino <i>SCSU President</i> 9/16
Guests:	T. Bennett T. Broliar S. Bulmer J. H. Kim	E. May T. Milburn R. Prezant A. Smyth	B. Zamfir		

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

Faculty Senate President D. Weiss called the 16th meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 12:15 p.m.

I. Elections

- A. K. Kruczek **moved** to open nominations for Faculty Senate President.
 - i. W. Faraclas **nominated** D. Weiss. Nomination **seconded** and D. Weiss **accepted** the nomination.
 - ii. M. Miller **nominated** J. Webb. Nomination **seconded** and J. Webb **accepted** the nomination.
 - 1. Hearing no additional nominations, K. Kruczek **closed** nominations.
- B. K. Kruczek **moved** to open nominations for Faculty Senate Treasurer.
 - i. M. Diamantis **nominated** W. Faraclas. Nomination **seconded** and W. Faraclas **accepted** the nomination.
 - 1. Hearing no additional nominations, K. Kruczek **closed** nominations.
 - 2. K. Kruczek distributed ballot electronically via Microsoft Forms.
 - a. D. Weiss **elected** Faculty Senate President for AY 2021-2022.
 - b. W. Faraclas **elected** Faculty Senate Treasurer for AY 2021-2022.

II. Minutes of the previous meeting held on April 28, 2021, were accepted as distributed.
<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>

III. Faculty Senate President’s Report
<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>

IV. New Business

- A. K. Marsland (SPC) **moved to approve** the Resolution Regarding Course Incompletes.
 - i. Vote tally
 - 1. Yes 34
 - 2. No 0
 - a. Motion to **approve** the resolution **passed**.
- B. D. Weiss (Executive Committee) **moved to approve** the Resolution Regarding Mandatory Vaccinations at SCSU.
 - i. Vote tally
 - 1. Yes 37
 - 2. No 1
 - a. Motion to **approve** the resolution **passed**.
- C. N. Starling (PPC) **moved to approve** the Resolutions Regarding a) Promotion and Tenure Procedures for Faculty; and b) Renewal Procedures for Faculty.
 - i. Vote tally
 - 1. Yes 40
 - 2. No 1
 - a. Motion to **approve** the Resolutions as amended **passed**.
- D. J. Fields (TC) moved to commit the Resolution Regarding Incentives for Online Student Opinion Surveys to the Technology Committee.
 - i. Motion **seconded**.
 - 1. Motion **approved** by unanimous consent.

V. Adjournment

- A. C. Simoneau **moved** to adjourn.

- i. Motion **seconded**.
 1. With no objections, the meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

L. Eilderts
Secretary

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

Resolution Regarding Course Incompletes

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University 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 Incomplete policy be revised to include the following provisions:

- If an Instructor grants a student's request for an Incomplete, the Instructor and Student must complete and sign an Incomplete Grade Contract, in which the Instructor shall specify the remaining coursework to be completed by the Student and the provisional final grade the Student would earn if the remaining work is not completed.
- The Instructor shall submit a copy of the completed contract to the Chairperson of the department in which the course is offered by the deadline for grade submissions in which the Incomplete is granted.
- The Instructor shall enter a grade of "I" when submitting final grades. (Note: Instructors should not give an "I" unless the Incomplete has been requested by the Student and a contract has been completed.)
- The Instructor shall make all course materials available to students for the duration of the Incomplete period.

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

Resolution Regarding Mandatory Vaccinations At SCSU

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

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

Whereas, Covid-19 presents a continued threat to the health and lives of members of the university community;

Whereas, Unvaccinated individuals may be non-symptomatic carriers of the virus and infect others;

Whereas, The university as a public institution of higher education, has a commitment and a moral obligation to protect the health of all the members of its community – students, faculty, and staff;

Whereas, At least two vaccines are now widely distributed and available to anyone over 16 years of age;

Whereas, These vaccines have proven to be safe after hundreds of millions of doses;

Whereas, At least two major universities in the state (Yale University and Wesleyan University), and major public universities nationwide (Rutgers University, the University of California, and the California State University system) are mandating vaccination for all returning students for Fall 2021; and

Whereas, Colleges and universities can legally require vaccination; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the SCSU Senate call upon the university to require all students, faculty and staff, except for those with documented medical exemptions, be vaccinated for Covid-19 before returning to on-ground activity for Fall 2021 term; and be it further

Resolved, That those students, faculty or staff with documented medical exemptions shall be provided alternatives to be determined by the institution, such as online classes or remote or isolated work; and be it further

Resolved, That the SCSU Senate requests that the Faculty Advisory Committee propose to the Board of Regents that a policy of mandatory vaccination be applied to all four CSU universities and the community colleges; and be it further

Resolved, That this policy will be in effect for the academic year 2021-2022 and be reevaluated and revised for Fall 2022, based upon conditions at that time.

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

Resolution For Revisions to the Promotion and Tenure Procedures and Renewal Procedures

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

Whereas, The Faculty Senate is the official governing body for shared governance; and

Whereas, Through the process of shared governance the Faculty Senate worked collaboratively across multiple years with multiple entities across the university to gather input and information from relevant parties, including the Chief Academic Officer, Deans of the Colleges/School, faculty representatives across the university, and AAUP; and

Whereas, The Faculty Senate recognizes that, to further academic excellence, procedures for the evaluation of full-time faculty members for promotion and tenure, as well as renewal, are in need of periodic review and revision as stated in Part VI of the Promotion and Tenure Procedures Document now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That, effective beginning in the Fall semester of 2021, the Faculty Senate establishes the following revisions to the Promotion and Tenure Procedures Document (dated November 13, 2019) and Renewal Procedures Document (dated August 26, 2019), to

1. Improve consistency and language/terminology;
2. Update wording to reinforce the current document's ethos that candidates shall have control and remain in control of their file;
3. Update wording to reflect the digital process now in use;
4. Add clarification to better reflect the intent of the current document; and
5. Update wording related to the Promotion and Tenure Committee.

DOCUMENTS ARE LOCATED ON THE "[RESOLUTIONS](#)" PAGE OF THE FACULTY SENATE WEBSITE.

<https://inside.southernct.edu/sites/default/files/inline-files/S-2021-38%20Revisions%20P%26T%20Renewal.pdf>