

Southern Connecticut State University

FACULTY SENATE

September 29, 2021 | 12:10 p.m. | Zoom

To join the meeting, please click [here](#) to be connected via Zoom.

Alternatively, copy and paste this link:

<https://southernct-edu.zoom.us/j/88601558745?pwd=NUVjZEhxZllyVUVnTGRkRXJ1U0w2dz09>

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FACULTY SENATE

AGENDA

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- I. Announcements Relevant to the Faculty Senate
- II. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting held on September 15, 2021
- III. Faculty Senate President's Report
- IV. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committee
 - a. Academic Policy
 - b. Elections
 - c. Finance
 - d. Personnel Policy
 - e. Rules
 - f. Student Policy
 - g. Technology
- V. Reports of Faculty Senate Special Committees
 - a. UCF
 - b. Graduate Council
- VI. Unfinished Business
- VII. New Business
 - a. Resolution Regarding the Selection of One-Year Alternates to Replace Committee Members
- VIII. Guest(s)

Fall 2021

Full Faculty Senate Meetings: 9/1, 9/15, 9/29, 10/13,
10/27, 12/20, 12/1

Standing Committee Meetings: 9/8, 9/22, 10/6, 10/20,
11/3, 12/27

Spring 2022

Full Faculty Senate Meetings: 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/9, 3/30,
4/13, 4/27, 5/4

Standing Committee Meetings: 2/29, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/23,
4/6, 4/20

Southern Connecticut State University

FACULTY SENATE

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

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

The 2nd Meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2021-2022 was held on September 15, 2021, at 12:10 p.m. via Zoom.

Attendance

Dave Allen <i>Accounting</i> 2/2	Matthew Ouimet <i>Counseling</i> 2/2	Sandip Dutta* <i>Finance</i> 0/2	Shibiao "Bill" Ding <i>Marketing</i> 2/2	Rex Gilliland <i>Philosophy</i> 2/2	Angela Lopez-Velasquez <i>Special Education</i> 2/2
William Farley <i>Anthropology</i> 2/2	Natalie Starling <i>Counseling & School Psychology</i> 2/2	Lawrence Brancazio <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 2/2	Joe Fields <i>Mathematics</i> 2/2	Christine Broadbridge <i>Physics</i> 2/2	Douglas Macur <i>Theatre</i> 2/2
Melanie Uribe <i>Art</i> 2/2	Helen Marx <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 2/2	Robert Gregory <i>Health & Movement Sciences</i> 2/2	Klay Kruczek <i>Mathematics</i> 2/2	Jonathan O'Hara <i>Political Science</i> 2/2	Luke Eilderts <i>World Languages & Literatures</i> 2/2
Kevin Siedlecki* <i>Athletics</i> 1/2	Maria Diamantis <i>Curriculum & Learning</i> 2/2	Troy Paddock <i>History</i> 2/2	Jonathan Irving <i>Music</i> 1/2	Gayle Bessenoff <i>Psychology</i> 2/2	
Sean Grace <i>Biology</i> 2/2	Dushmantha Jayawickreme <i>Earth Science</i> 2/2	Carmen Coury <i>History</i> 2/2	Frances Penny <i>Nursing</i> 2/2	Kate Marsland <i>Psychology</i> 2/2	Deborah Weiss <i>Faculty Senate President</i> 2/2
Mina Park <i>Business Information Systems</i> 2/2	Jia Yu <i>Economics</i> 2/2	Yan Liu <i>Information & Library Science</i> 2/2	Kelly Martinez <i>Nursing</i> 2/2	William Faraclas <i>Public Health</i> 2/2	
Jeff Webb <i>Chemistry</i> 2/2	Peter Madonia <i>Educational Leadership</i> 1/2	Cindy Simoneau <i>Journalism</i> 2/2	Obiageli Okwuka <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 2/2	Michael Dodge <i>Recreation, Tourism & Sport Management</i> 2/2	Meredith Sinclair <i>Undergraduate Curriculum Forum</i> 2/2
Barbara Cook <i>Communication Disorders</i> 2/2	Mike Shea <i>English</i> 2/2	Patrick Crowley <i>Library Services</i> 2/2	VACANT <i>Part-time Faculty</i>	Sebastian Perumbilly <i>Social Work</i> 2/2	Cynthia O'Sullivan <i>Graduate Council</i> 2/2
Wes O'Brien <i>Communication, Media & Screen Studies</i> 2/2	Paul Petrie <i>English</i> 2/2	Jacqueline Toce <i>Library Services</i> 2/2	Stephanie Fischer <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 2/2	Stephen Monroe Tomczak <i>Social Work</i> 2/2	Kyle Mashia-Thaxton <i>Student Government Association</i> 1/1
Alaa Sheta <i>Computer Science</i> 2/2	Matthew Miller <i>Environment, Geography & Marine Studies</i> 2/2	Carol Stewart <i>Management, International Business & Public Utilities</i> 2/2	Virginia Metaxas <i>Part-time Faculty</i> 2/2	Gregory Adams* <i>Sociology</i> 1/2	Dr. Joe Bertolino <i>SCSU President</i> 2/2
Guests:	T. Broliar S. Grossman C. Hlavac B. Kalk	J. H. Kim M. Kingan T. Milburn R. Prezant	R. Regos T. Tyree M. Vancour	D. Woolfolk M. Walker-Pickett	

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

Faculty Senate President D. Weiss called the 2nd meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 12:10 p.m.

- I. Announcements
 - A. K. Marsland: Psychology Department and Psychology Club will host a viewing of the documentary *Chasing Childhood* on October 14. Official announcement forthcoming.
 - B. W. O'Brien: On October 23rd at around 7 p.m., viewing of *Spin*, a film by an alumna of Southern. Official announcement forthcoming.
 - C. H. Marx: On Monday September 20th, Majors fair will take place in the Quad; also, faculty who have concerns about a student may submit alerts in SCC Navigate.
 - D. K. Kruczek: All-University Elections are ongoing. Ballots are due by Friday September 24th at noon.
 - E. A discussion concerning the University COVID dashboard, COVID reporting, and contact tracing took place.

- II. Minutes of the previous meeting held on September 1, 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. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees
 - A. Student Policy (K. Marsland): K. Marsland resigned from SPC chairpersonship due to having contracted COVID-19 and being on 50% reduced workload COVID leave and then FMLA. M. Diamantis will become chairperson of Student Policy committee. M. Diamantis corrected SPC report: Academic Misconduct policy was completed Spring 2021 and should not be in the report.
 - B. Remaining Standing committee reports accepted as distributed.

- V. Reports of Faculty Senate Special Committees
 - A. UCF (M. Sinclair): L. Eilderts asked for an update on the motion from LEPC concerning the LEP Tier 1 Multilingual Communication requirement: motion is currently under review with UWIC.
 - B. Grad Council (C. O'Sullivan): no report.

- VI. Unfinished Business
 - A. Took up motion to **approve** the Resolution Regarding University Event Guidelines for Fall 2021.
 - i. C. Simoneau moved to **call the previous question. Seconded.**
 - 1. Motion **passed** by unanimous consent.
 - ii. Vote tally
 - 1. Yes 32
 - 2. No 13
 - a. Motion to approve **passed.**

- VII. New Business
 - A. N. Starling (PPC) moved to **approve** the Resolution Regarding Revisions to the P&T Procedures and Renewal Procedures.
 - i. W. Faraclas moved to **call the previous question. Seconded.**

1. Vote tally
 - a. Yes 20
 - b. No 24
 - i. Motion **defeated**.
- ii. K. Kruczek moved to **delete** “re-elected” and **insert** “an active member” in section III.F.2.g. (page 18 of the document).
 1. Motion **passed** by unanimous consent.
- iii. Vote tally
 1. Yes 45
 2. No 0
 - a. Motion to **approve** the motion as amended **passed unanimously**.
- B. K. Kruczek (EC): Moved to **approve** the Resolution Regarding the Selection of an Alternate to Replace a Committee Member.
 - i. K. Kruczek moved to **commit** resolution to the Elections Committee. **Seconded**.
 1. Motion **passed** by unanimous consent.

VIII. Adjournment

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

L. Eilderts
Secretary

Resolution Regarding University Event Guidelines for Fall 2021

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, SCSU holds the health of everyone (students, staff, faculty, and administrators) in the SCSU community paramount;

Whereas, In recognition of risks to members of the campus community and the implications campus safety or lack thereof has for the larger community in which SCSU resides, the University has created a set of University Event Guidelines for the Fall of 2021;

Whereas, Not all members of the SCSU community have received notification of the Event Guidelines, and therefore are not aware of the requirements for holding optimally safe events;

Whereas, Maintaining a Covid-19-resistant campus depends in part on oversight of the application of the Event Guidelines;

Whereas, Representatives of the faculty and the administration have already engaged in discussions of practical problems with the roll-out of the Event Guidelines and potential solutions thereof; and

Whereas, Senate resolutions are the established means of formally communicating to the administration the requests and suggestions of the elected representatives of the entire faculty on important issues of university policy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the attached University Event Guidelines for Fall 2021, at a minimum, be revised as follows:

- Include required COVID event safety training for student leaders, faculty and staff
- Include COVID event guidelines in event announcements and publicity
- Require a trained COVID event coordinator be designated by the organization or department before the event is approved by the relevant office
- Require that a Covid safety event plan be submitted by the designated Covid coordinator prior to approval of the event by the relevant office
- Require training for use of the event registration portal

Resolved, That the Implementation of the University Event Guidelines for Fall 2021 address the following:

- The provision of training for use of the registration portal by designated covid event coordinators
- That the event registration issues be resolved so that all attendees are able to register (e.g, QR code and weblink)
- The provision of appropriate and adequate COVID safety supplies (e.g., hand sanitizer, gloves, masks) by the university administration at no cost to the sponsoring org/dept
- That the Sponsoring organization/department receives non-identified post-event registration data
- That the registration portal survey be revised to add survey question re: perceived COVID safety of event and suggestion for improvement of COVID safety
- That tented outdoor event spaces be provided as needed;

Resolved, That these guidelines shall be posted on the University Website and distributed to all members of the SCSU community; and

Resolved, That all members of the SCSU community shall be requested to acknowledge receipt of and abide by the guidelines.

University Event Guidelines for Fall 2021

UNIVERSITY EVENT GUIDELINES – FALL 2021

ALL PROGRAMMING (Indoor and Outdoor)

- All social distancing guidelines must be followed for any event to be considered for approval.
- All participants must be able to remain at least 3' apart for the duration of any program, whether indoors or outdoors.
- Masks must be worn at all times by all participants (see Exceptions to Mask Policy Outdoors below).
- Indoor events must abide by posted room capacity.
- Hand sanitizer or hand sanitizing stations must be made available at all events.
- For each event there must be a Social Distancing (SD) Coordinator named. The SD Coordinator will ensure that proper social distancing protocols are being met. This person should not have any other role to fill during the event.
- Program organizers should develop contingency plans in case the event needs to be postponed or cancelled.
- A list of attendees and contact information of all participants must be kept for every event that takes place on ground. This information must be turned in to Student Involvement no more than 24 hours after the event. The use of the attendance feature on OwlConnect is highly encouraged.
- Events where physical contact may happen require masks to be worn at all times whether inside or outside.

EXCEPTIONS TO MASK POLICY (Outdoors)

Face masks/coverings must be worn at all times when outdoors, with the following limited exceptions:

- While engaged in vigorous outdoor recreation, such as biking or running, so long as 3" physical distancing is maintained at all times including with those walking on campus paved paths, sidewalks, and plazas.
- While actively engaged in eating/drinking outdoors, so long as 3" physical distancing is maintained.
- While outdoors and sitting in one spot, so long as 3" physical distancing is maintained.

OUTSIDE GUESTS

- Outside guests are permitted to attend events that are open to the public.
- Outside guests must wear masks at all times and abide by any other COVID mitigation policies.
- All event hosts are responsible for the RSVP and tracking guests at their events.
- Event hosts are responsible for enforcement of COVID policies. A violation by an outside guest might impact future events of that organization during COVID.

FOOD

- Serving of open food/drinks is permitted, but must be served by event staff who are masked and gloved.
- Manufactured pre-packaged food/drink in individually sealed containers/wrappers are highly encouraged.
- SCSU Catering Services is available this semester.
- External catering services may be used, but any outside vendors that come on campus must remain masked.
- Food trucks may be used, but must comply with all university regulations regarding food truck service. Contact Lisa Kortfelt, Director of Environmental Health and Safety at kortfeltl1@southernct.edu.

TABLING

- Indoor/outdoor tabling will be permitted when there is appropriate space for social distancing.
- Masks must be worn by all people tabling.
- No more than two people should be working behind each six-foot table.
- Bake sales are permitted but items must be pre-wrapped. Event staff must be masked and gloved whether indoors or outside.

TRAVEL/VANS

- Unvaccinated students are not permitted to participate in out-of-state or overnight travel.
- SCSU vans can be used for travel with a maximum capacity of 8 travelers (including the driver).
- Masks must be worn by all travelers while inside the vans.
- All trips must follow CDC guidance for public transportation.

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

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

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

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

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, require 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 May 5, 2021) and Renewal Procedures Document (dated May 5, 2021), to

1. Add clarifying language to Years in Rank for library faculty and counseling faculty;
2. Add clarifying references to the Calendar(s) for faculty evaluation procedures;
3. Add clarifying language to address the transmission of documents at multiple steps in the process to better reflect the digital process now in use;
4. Add clarifying language to address the need for multiple candidate files under specific conditions;
5. Improve consistency of language/terminology use; and
6. Provide updates to the Promotion and Tenure Committee Chairperson role.

Proposed revisions to the Promotion and Tenure Procedures Document

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE APPROVED RESOLUTION](#)

Proposed Revisions to the Renewal Procedures Document

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE APPROVED RESOLUTION](#)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Academic Policy Committee (APC)

MINUTES—APC—09/22/2021

Present: Crowley, Ding, Gilliland, Grace, Jayawickreme, Petrie (chair), Uribe

- Committee considered and revised Grade Appeal policy changes aimed at specifying committee membership, preventing conflicts of interest, and emphasizing mediatory (not adjudicatory) role of department chairs in grade appeal policy. Work in progress.
- Committee appointed Melanie Uribe to serve as APC representative on UCF's LEP Revision Task Force.
- Committee constituted subgroups to work on implementation plans for each of the APC's P&T reform proposals and discussed approaches to each task. Subgroups will report progress at next APC meeting.

Elections Committee (EC)

Minutes for September 22, 2021

Attendees: Carmen Coury, Klay Kruczek, Jonathan O'Hara, Mina Park, Cindy Simoneau

The Committee discussed having one-year alternates for committees, instead of the standard three-year alternate positions. Below, you will find a draft of the procedure.

Choosing One-Year Alternates to (temporarily) replace Members on a Committee:

- The spring self-nomination form will ask each nominee: "If you are not elected to be a member of a particular committee, then are you willing to serve as a 1-year alternate on that committee?"
- The nominees who do not receive enough votes to serve as a member but are willing to serve as alternates will then be ranked as alternates based on the number of votes they received in the spring election.
- Before the fall self-nomination period begins, the Elections Committee will ask each member of each committee to confirm they will be able to serve on the committee for the entire academic year. If there are not enough alternates (from the spring election) to replace those members who temporarily cannot serve, then there will be an election for 1-year alternates to temporarily replace the members on the committee.
- If there is a committee which has member vacancies after the spring election and also has members who temporarily cannot serve during the academic year, then the nominees with the most votes during fall election will fill the member vacancies. The alternate spots will be filled by those with the most votes who did not become a member.
- Any committee who wishes to always have alternates ready to serve (e.g., Robert E. Jirsa Service Award Committee) shall list the number of alternates in their bylaws.

Finance Committee (FC)

Faculty Senate Finance Committee Meeting

September 22, 2021

Present: William Faraclas (chair), Obiageli Okwuka, Sebastian Perumbilly, Jia Yu, Carol Stewart, Peter Madonia (absent)

Invited Guest: Mark Rozewski, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration

Mark pointed out that agendas of the BOR Finance Committee are a good source of information about Southern's financial situation. Specifically referenced was the June 9, 2021 agenda. He explained in prior years we would submit mid-year and the end of year budget reports. Now the system office is doing a better job of providing information in a timely manner.

Our AY 22 budget appears to be in a deficit, but that is covered by a \$4⁺M surplus that carried over from last year. In the current pandemic conditions, and with student enrollment still in decline, we have relied on several one-shot revenue sources, which will not occur in the future. For example, Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) program (COVID federal money) comes from 3 different sources with some monies dedicated to the institution for lost revenue (\$27M) and some reserved for students (two rounds totaling \$8.4M, with another \$13M to come: \$6⁺M in fall and \$6⁺M in spring) that cannot be charged directly by the institution for outstanding bills. We also received Federal money channeled through the state (to cover COVID expenses, such as testing, masks, disinfectant, etc.) totaling \$11.1M will end on Dec 31. The three rounds of federal grants given to students amounted to about \$600 per student for each of the first two rounds, and will be about \$1,000 per student in the third round.

This year's budget was based on an estimate that enrollment would be down 5% from fall 2020 to fall 2021. However, we appear to be down 7.6%. Housing occupancy bounced back but not to prior numbers. In the past, we had 92% housing occupancy vs. 64% today. Graduate enrollment is up by an impressive percent, but the actual number of students we've gained is not enough to offset undergraduate declines. We also froze tuition and the housing fee for this year.

Because the State has a surplus, it has provided the CSU with fringe benefit support for this year and next year. That, however, is not a recurring appropriation. Therefore, the state needs to develop solutions for the problem.

Questions from the Committee to Mark:

What can we do to solve problem? It's a structural problem and needs solutions at a higher level.

How do we increase market share in a declining market? We need to develop ways to do that with one important factor being academic excellence.

What is the competition doing? Our biggest competition is with ourselves and the UCONN Stamford branch. Only incidental competition with UNH, Fairfield. The private colleges have flexibility that we don't have (e.g. cutting tuition, offering monetary incentives).

What percentage of students receive Financial Aid? What percentage pay out of pocket? We receive about \$12M per year in financial aid with approximately 70% of students receiving Financial Aid and 30% paying fully out-of-pocket.

How much does it cost to hold an on campus and/or online class over winter or summer session? What is our breakeven point? In the past, the Provost has discussed looking at the “aggregate” enrollment (looking at the total enrollment for a department minus expenses) before cancelling classes due to low enrollment. Last summer and the summer before we outperformed previous non COVID summers (due to online offerings). We also gave grants to students using federal funds.

COVID is not going away; students are concerned. We will still need COVID money to help with hygiene supplies and to continue tracking. The State has promised to reimburse us for all COVID expenses until year end.

What did this committee learn and what can we say to Faculty Senate? “Southern is not going away,” and it should be promoting its strengths, which are many. The serious problems we are facing can only be addressed successfully with full participation of the faculty, who are creative and forward-thinking. It is essential for the faculty to have “seats at the table” and for administrators to openly collaborate with us to define problems and develop solutions.

Travel update. We are starting to get the financial information for this coming year’s travel funds. The table will be updated bi-monthly.

Joint statement of Finance and Technology Committees. Bill will be meeting with Doug Macur and Joe Fields, the current and past Chairs of the Finance Committee. If another member of the Finance Committee would like to sit in with Bill, please let Bill know.

Early College Experience. The Finance Committee was asked by the Faculty Senate President to develop a plan to create a steering committee for the ECE program. Bill reached out to Trudy Milburn, Associate VP for Academic Affairs, and Brian Johnson, an English professor who has expressed thoughts on how to ensure quality in the ECE. We learned before this meeting that the Provost questioned this initiative, so we will need further direction from Deb Weiss to help determine where this assignment stands.

Department OE. The Committee is interested in ensuring that all members of departments are informed about Operating Expense budget and have input into its use.

University Grants Parameters. The Committee is looking at issues related to finding out information about university grants, and also is interested in looking at how parameters are set. Carol will share an old document we used to have at our fingertips. What can we do to inform faculty of future grants?

Respectfully submitted, Carol Stewart

Personnel Policy Committee (PPC)

Minutes
9/22/2021

Teams Meeting

PPC Members: Adams, Gregory; Toce, Jacqueline; Lopez-Velasquez, Angela; Marx, Helen; Tomczak, Stephen; Shea, Michael; Martinez, Kelly (absent); Metaxas, Virginia; Starling, Natalie (chair)

12:10pm

Approval of minutes of 9/8 meeting

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. P&T/renewal documents
 - a. Team discussed possibility of update in next round of revisions to Procedures documents that highlight opportunity for candidates to send rebuttals/appended comments to HR (in addition to existing language re: uploading to their evaluation file on Blackboard)
 - i. Chair to clarify parameters of this topic with Linda Cunningham
 - b. Team discussed calendars/windows for review at each level
 - i. Advantages/disadvantages/flexibility for changes were discussed
 - ii. Chair to clarify parameters of this topic with Linda Cunningham
2. Team discussed P&T Guidebook & “How to Prepare Your Digital File” document
 - a. Chair to clarify parameters of this topic with Linda Cunningham
 - b. Chair to invite P & T Committee chair and immediate past-chair to a future PPC meeting to discuss roles related to P&T Guidebook and other documents related to P & T/R
3. Academic advising re P&T – moved to next meeting agenda

2:00pm adjourned

Rules Committee (RC)

Convened at 12:10 on September 22nd, 2021

Discussed Chair's Document Edits received from E-board.

Discussed the comments received.

Informed committee I sent a request for feedback from the Chair's council to Tricia Lin.

After extensive discussion of the impasse procedures the committee decided it was best to leave the current language as is (and thus preventing members if the involved department from serving on the committee).

On the topic of chairperson vacancy we decided that the majority of the committee was more comfortable with the following language for the vacancy portion/section:

“If a vacancy occurs during a term of office, a newly elected Department Chairperson shall serve for the remainder of the academic year in which the vacancy occurs. The department shall elect one of its members for this temporary position by simple majority. If the department cannot elect one of its members due to a lack of a majority, the University President in consultation with the Provost and appropriate Dean shall appoint a member in an acting capacity to fill the vacancy.”

The committee then went through section III of the chairpersons document and decided on recommendations for change to language. (Most of the changes were to remove He/She statements.)

We briefly discussed section IV and discussed the recommendation of an impasse committee for the implementation and interpretation section.

The committee decided it was in favor of forwarding out recommendations for changes to the deans for additional feedback before moving to final changes on the senate floor.

meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm 9/22...

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Jeffrey A. Webb

Student Policy Committee (SPC)

9/22/21

In attendance: Maria Diamantis (Chair), Barbara Cook, Kyle J. Thaxton-Mashia (non-voting student representative), William Farley (Secretary), Michael Dodge, Wesley O'Brien, Christine Broadbridge, Matthew Ouimet, Katherine Marsland

- Discussed charges to the committee from Faculty Senate, which included review of the following policies with intention of creating a permanent policy based on changes developed for the pandemic:
 - Course Withdrawal policy
 - Course Incomplete policy with Incomplete Contract
- Given the continuing pandemic of COVID-19, the committee agreed to the necessity to consider instituting another semester of emergency policy to support our students for both Course Withdrawal and Course Incomplete and wait another semester prior to considering permanent changes.
 - The strategy for the review of the emergency policies that were instituted in Spring 2021 will include gathering information from our stakeholders:
 - Registrar's office (Alicia Carroll)
 - Academic Council (Provost Prezant)
 - Academic Advising (Helen Marx & Harry Twyman)
 - Student Government Association (Kyle Mashia-Thaxton – student member of the Policy Committee)
 - Chairs Council
 - Faculty Senate (request all senators to receive feedback from their peers within their departments and programs)
- Our goal will be to present any possible resolution(s) to the Faculty Senate by the October 13th meeting
- Note: During the final Policy Committee meeting that was held on April 21, 2021, the committee determined to consider possible revisions to the Pass/Fail policy after reviewing both pandemic and "typical" Pass/Fail data trend over the past two year.

Technology Committee (TC)

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Undergraduate Curriculum Forum (UCF)

Report to the Faculty Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Forum September 23, 2021 Meeting Actions

No motions were brought forward.

The following new and revised courses were approved:

- New Course Proposals:
 - MAT 104 - Mathematics All Around Us (LEP T1 QR)
 - MGT 406 – Data Analytics for the Ocean Economy

- Revised Course Proposals:
 - HIS 212 – Violence in America → HIS 212 War and American Society

The following special topics courses were logged:

- JRN 498W – Advanced Sports Storytelling (2nd time offered; Spring 2022)

UCF Task Force on LEP Revision

As previously announced, the UCF is convening a task force to create suggestions for LEP Revision to bring to the UCF in the spring.

The following UCF members were elected by the body to serve:

- Sahar Al Seesi, CSC
- Diana Hellyar, Library Services
- Erin Larkin, IDS
- Tarah Loy-Ashe, HMS
- Helen Marx, Edu
- Alison Wall, MGT

The remaining members of the task force (based on their current position) are as follows:

- Meredith Sinclair (chair), UCF Chair
- Joan Kreiger, LEPC Chair
- Mary Brown, LEP Director for Assessment and Planning
- Braxton Carrigan, LEP Director for Advisement and Policy
- Nicole Henderson, FYE Director
- Alicia Carroll, Registrar
- Trudy Milburn, AVP

- Melanie Uribe, Senate Academic Policy Committee
- Sarah Gossman, student representative

The group will begin work immediately.

Other notes:

- The UCF Tracker is now being regularly updated. The tracker, copies of proposals in review, and copies of approved proposals can be viewed in the UCF Confluence space.
- WACC has announced a new writing award for all students in composition or W courses. The OWLS Award entries are due Nov. 1. Contact WACC chair Judy Terpstra for further information.

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Sinclair, UCF Chair
September 27, 2021

Graduate Council Report 4/28/2021

1. Final meeting of the full council 4/26/2021
2. GSGA Applications are available and are encouraged. Due date is June 4, 2021 at 4:00pm. Please see attached letter from Dean Singh and application website [https://www.southernct.edu/sites/default/files/a/sites/grad/GSGA_Application_\(AY_2020-2021\).pdf](https://www.southernct.edu/sites/default/files/a/sites/grad/GSGA_Application_(AY_2020-2021).pdf)
3. Graduate Student conference reimbursement applications are available for students who present at a professional conference (eligible time period 1/2/2021-6/30/2021) <https://southernct.kualibuild.com/app/builder/#/app/5e837fb875ab2f001a0f6743/action/60898f125589760024100ccc>
4. Presentation of final version of **School of Graduate and Professional Studies Strategic Plan** will be posted on the Graduate website this week. The final document represents the combined efforts of faculty, students, community members, administrators, and others from the SCSU community over the past nine months. Please take the time to review and consider how your departments may use this information to envision activities that may help achieve the plan's strategic objectives:

Vision Statement: Southern Connecticut State University's School of Graduate and Professional Studies will continue its ascent to preeminence as a "first choice" New England graduate school, dedicated to providing exemplary graduate education, inspiring a community of dynamic leaders, scholars, and professionals recognized for pioneering positive change aimed at justice, prosperity, and inclusion.

Strategic Objectives:

- a. Facilitating **program Innovation** for accessibility, inclusivity, equity, and academic excellence
 - b. Ensuring students' **academic and professional success and personal well-being**
 - c. Providing academic excellence through **impactful teaching and cutting-edge scholarship**
 - d. Ensuring **community engagement and impact**
 - e. Committing to excellence in **SGPS' service mission**
 - f. Fostering **diversity, embracing inclusivity, and promoting equity**
 - g. Strategically growing enrollment through **robust recruitment and purposeful retention practices**
5. Results of GC Officer elections for AY 2021-2022:

- a. GC Chairperson: Cynthia O'Sullivan
- b. GC Co-Chairperson/ASC Chair/StAR Co-Chair: Kauther Badr
- c. GC Secretary: Ericka Barnes

Submitted by: Cynthia O'Sullivan, Chairperson, Graduate Council

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

Resolution Regarding the Selection of One-Year Alternates to Replace Committee Members

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 fill all positions in All-University committees; and

Whereas, The Faculty Senate strives to fairly assign alternates to temporarily replace committee members when needed; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That alternates on All-University committees will be elected to serve for one year; be it further

Resolved, That if a member of an All-University committee needs to be replaced for a semester or academic year, then the alternate shall be chosen using the process outlined below; be it further

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate Election Committee shall develop a mechanism for dealing with notifying current alternates of their status for the 2022 – 2023 academic year and beyond and affected SCSU documents shall be revised to conform to the new committee structure.

Choosing One-Year Alternates to (temporarily) replace Members on a Committee

- The spring self-nomination form shall have two boxes next to each committee with vacancies: “Member” and “Are you willing to serve as a one-year alternate if not elected as a member?”
- The nominees who do not receive enough votes to serve as a member in the spring, but are willing to serve as one-year alternates, will then be ranked as one-year alternates

based upon the number of votes they received in the spring election.

- Before the fall self-nomination period begins, the Elections Committee will ask each member serving on an All-University committee to confirm that they will be able to serve the entire academic year on each All-University committee of which they are a member.
- If there are not enough one-year alternates (from the spring election) to replace those members who temporarily cannot serve, then there will be an election for one-year alternates to temporarily replace those members on the committee.
- If there is a committee which has member vacancies after the spring election and also has members who temporarily cannot serve during the academic year, then the nominees with the most votes during fall election will fill the member vacancies. The one-year alternates will be the nominees with the most votes who were not elected as a member.
- Any committee that wishes to always have one-year alternates ready to serve (e.g., Promotion and Tenure Committee) shall list the number of one-year alternates in their bylaws.