

# Southern Connecticut State University

## FACULTY SENATE

### UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF AUGUST 31, 2022

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

The 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2021-2022 was held on August 31, 2022, at 12:10 p.m. via Zoom.

#### Attendance

FIRST	LAST	DEPARTMENT	TERM ENDS (SPRING)	ATTENDANCE	TOTAL
Dave	Allen	Accounting	2025	X	1
Kenneth	McGill	Anthropology	2023		
Melanie	Uribe	Art	2024	X	1
Kevin	Siedlecki	Athletics	2023	X	1
Nicholas	Edgington	Biology	2023	X	1
Kate	Toskin	Business Information Systems	2025	X	1
Jeff	Webb	Chemistry	2023	X	1
Richard	Zipoli	Communication Disorders	2024		
Melanie	Savelli	Communication, Media & Screen Studies	2025	X	1
Shafaeat	Hossain	Computer Science	2025	X	1
Matthew	Ouimet	Counseling	2024	X	1
VACANT		Counseling & School Psychology	2023		
Helen	Marx	Curriculum & Learning	2024	X	1
Maria	Diamantis	Curriculum & Learning	2024	X	1
Dushmantha	Jayawickreme	Earth Science	2025	X	1
Jia	Yu	Economics	2024	X	1
Peter	Madonia	Educational Leadership	2023	X	1
Paul	Petrie	English	2023	X	1
Mike	Shea	English	2024	X	1
Miriah	Kelly	Environment, Geography, & Marine Sciences	2025	X	1
Sandip	Dutta	Finance & Real Estate	2025	X	1
Kyle	O'Brien	Healthcare Systems & Innovation	2025	X	1
Robert	Knipe	Health & Movement Sciences	2025	X	1
Daniel	Swartz	Health & Movement Sciences	2025	X	1
Carmen	Coury	History	2023	X	1
Troy	Paddock	History	2023	X	1
Yan	Liu	Information & Library Sciences	2024		
Cindy	Simoneau	Journalism	2024	X	1
Patrick	Crowley	Library Services	2023	X	1
Amy	Jansen	Library Services	2025	X	1

Alison	Wall	Management, International Business & Public Utilities	2025	X	1
Melvin	Prince	Marketing	2023	X	1
Sebastian	Perumbilly	Marriage & Family Therapy	2025		
Klay	Kruczek	Mathematics	2025	X	1
Raymond	Mugno	Mathematics	2025	X	1
Jonathan	Irving	Music	2023		
Kelly	Martinez	Nursing	2023	X	1
Andrea	Adimando	Nursing	2024		
VACANT		Part-Time Faculty	2023		
Virginia	Metaxas	Part-Time Faculty	2023		
Michael	Sormrude	Part-Time Faculty	2024	X	1
Michele	Delucia	Part-Time Faculty	2024	X	1
Rex	Gilliland	Philosophy	2023	X	1
Christine	Broadbridge	Physics	2024		
Jonathan	O'Hara	Political Science	2025	X	1
Kate	Marsland	Psychology	2025		
Chris	Budnick	Psychology	2024	X	1
VACANT		Public Health	2024		
Michael	Dodge	Recreation, Tourism, & Sport Management	2023	X	1
VACANT		Social Work	2023		
Stephen	Monroe Tomczak	Social Work	2025	X	1
Gregory	Adams	Sociology	2023	X	1
Angela	Lopez-Velasquez	Special Education	2024		
Douglas	Macur	Theatre	2024	X	1
Tricia	Lin	Women's & Gender Studies	2025	X	1
Luke	Eilderts	World Languages & Literatures	2023	X	1
Natalie	Starling	SCSU Faculty Senate President	2023	X	1
Joe	Bertolino	SCSU President			
Barbara	Cook	Chair, Graduate Council		X	1
Meredith	Sinclair	Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Form		X	1

#### GUESTS

Andrew Smyth  
Robert Prezant  
Daisy Torres-Baez  
Elena Forsyth  
Elliott Horch  
Craig Hlavac  
Robert Smith, Jr.

Roland Regos  
Terri Bennett  
Trever Broliar  
Trudy Milburn  
Peter's iPhone  
Phil's iPhone

Faculty Senate President N. Starling called the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 12:11 p.m.

- I. Introductions of Senators
- II. Announcements
  - A. B. Cook: Encouraged Faculty to visit the Quad for a sidewalk chalk event.
  - B. T. Lin: Announced the “[Community Conversation on Reproductive Justice](#)” event to be held on September 14 from 1-2:30 in the ASC Theater.
  - C. C. Simoneau: Student Involvement Fair on September 7 outside the Library.
  - D. P. Crowley:
- III. Minutes of the previous meeting held on May 4, 2022, were accepted as distributed.  
<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>
- IV. Faculty Senate President’s Report  
<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>
- V. With no objection the order of business was changed.
- VI. Guest
  - A. R. Prezant, Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs.
    - i. R. Prezant welcomed faculty to the new academic year. Congratulated N. Starling on being elected President of the Faculty Senate. Shared that there are a lot of activities happening on campus and that the feeling around campus is positive. Shared that the University budget remains balanced this year, but next year will be different, and there are serious efforts underway at the System Office to enhance our budget. Enrollment was projected to decline 5% and that proved correct. Our transfer enrollment also fell this year, but our residence hall occupancy has improved with approximately 1800 students. Shared that there are several new initiatives underway: Southern Fellows in Residence, which aims to build partnerships with HBCU and HSI institutions to improve diversity among faculty; meetings to discuss the broad interdisciplinary trends among faculty that were highlighted after the survey from last year; there are many important hiring searches underway (e.g., Library Director, Director of Online and Continuing Education); planning another book, publication, and grant recognition event; beginning conversations about a celebration of the arts; new programs in Music Therapy, the MPA, new departments (e.g., Healthcare Systems and Innovation, Women’s and Gender Studies); early college program is doing well with 59 partnership high schools (out of last year’s cohort, 22 have enrolled at Southern)—shout out to Trudy Milburn for her work in this area; a memo regarding enhanced funding for faculty travel; task forces are meeting to investigate the possibility of offering PhD programs, to review reassigned time (committee of 10 members, 5 selected from his office and 5 members from the Senate; approximately 27% of all credits at Southern go to reassigned time), to look at interdisciplinary programs with a business base, to look into practices in inclusive teaching, and to consider how to embed DEI into the tenure and promotion process.

- VII. Election of Faculty Senate Standing Committee Chairperson(s)
- A. Academic Policy: To be determined at the first standing committee meeting on September 7, 2022.
  - B. Elections: K. Kruczek
  - C. Finance: C. Simoneau (as determined by election during the May 4, 2022 meeting)
  - D. Personnel Policy: M. Shea and S. Monroe Tomczak.
  - E. Rules: J. Webb
  - F. Student Policy: H. Marx
  - G. Technology: D. Macur
- VIII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees
- A. UCF (M. Sinclair): Drew Senators' attention to the report in the packet where information on the proposed LEP revisions can be found. B. Carrigan will send out documents that outline how the proposed changes would impact the department.
  - B. Graduate Council (B. Cook): Shared that the committee is still in need of a Graduate Curriculum Chairperson and asked that Senators return to their departments to encourage interested faculty to take on that role. Encouraged faculty to share their ideas on the role of the Graduate Council at Southern and any concerns they may have. Please note the meeting schedule in the packet.
- IX. New Business
- A. Ideas from the floor about possible business and/or priorities for the academic year.
    - i. M. Shea: consider making some positions ex-officio (e.g., UCF, Grad Council, AAUP).
    - ii. J. Webb: After the announcement on travel funds, consider different ways of distributing those funds.
    - iii. B. Cook: conversation on service at the University.
    - iv. T. Lin: is the Senate involved in the initiatives coming out of Academic Affairs?
    - v. T. Paddock: Seconds B. Cook's suggestion for a discussion around service; the mechanics around the proposed revisions to the LEP should be a priority.
    - vi. M. Somrude: asked about the Senate's relationship with the SGA and if any conversations have taken place over the summer.
      - 1. Shared that the new President of the SGA is the former student representative to the Senate, K. Mashia-Thaxton. The SGA will elect their new representative at their first meeting.
    - vii. M. Diamantis: Agrees with B. Cook and T. Paddock. Feels that the priorities should be mechanics around the proposed LEP revisions, then the Southern Fellows Program proposed by the Provost, and finally the discussion around reassigned time. Would also like to hear from the Provost about the cluster hires that was proposed in previous academic years.
- X. Adjournment
- A. M. Diamantis moved to adjourn. Seconded.
  - B. Meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

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L. Eilderts  
Secretary

Documents to Accompany Minutes for August 31, 2022

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