

Southern Connecticut State University

FACULTY SENATE

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2023

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

The 7th Meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2023-2024 was held on November 1, 2023, at 12:12 p.m. via Zoom.

Attendance

| FIRST | LAST | DEPARTMENT | TERM ENDS (SPRING) | ATTENDANCE | TOTAL |
|------------|--------------|---|-----------------------|------------|-------|
| Lisa | Haylon | Accounting | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Valerie | Andrushko | Anthropology | 2026 | ✓ | 6/7 |
| Melanie | Uribe | Art & Design | 2024 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Jillian | Rispoli | Athletics | 2026 | ✓ | 5/5 |
| Nicholas | Edgington | Biology | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Kate | Toskin | Business Information Systems | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Jeff | Webb | Chemistry & Biochemistry | 2026 | ✓ | 6/7 |
| Shawneen | Buckley | Communication Disorders | 2024 | ✗ | 6/7 |
| Melanie | Savelli | Communication, Media & Screen Studies | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Shafaeat | Hossain | Computer Science | 2025 | ✓ | 6/7 |
| Matthew | Ouimet | Counseling | 2024 | ✓ | 5/7 |
| Laurie | Bonjo | Counseling & School Psychology | 2026 | ✗ | 5/7 |
| Beena | Achhpal | Curriculum & Learning | 2024 | ✓ | 5/5 |
| Maria | Diamantis | Curriculum & Learning | 2024 | ✗ | 6/7 |
| Dushmantha | Jayawickreme | Earth Science | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Jia | Yu | Economics | 2024 | ✓ | 6/7 |
| Peter | Madonia | Educational Leadership & Policy Studies | 2026 | ✓ | 5/6 |
| Paul | Petrie | English | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Mike | Shea | English | 2024 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Miriah | Kelly | Environment, Geography, & Marine Sciences | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Sandip | Dutta | Finance & Real Estate | 2025 | ✗ | 2/7 |
| Amanda | Strong | Healthcare Systems & Innovation | 2025 | ✗ | 6/7 |
| Mark | Robertson | Health & Movement Sciences | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Sarah | Benes | Health & Movement Sciences | 2025 | ✓ | 5/7 |
| Christine | Petto | History | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Troy | Rondinone | History | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Yan | Liu | Information & Library Sciences | 2024 | ✓ | 4/7 |
| Cindy | Simoneau | Journalism | 2024 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Elizabeth | Wilkinson | Library Services | 2026 | ✓ | 6/7 |
| Amy | Jansen | Library Services | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---|------|---|-----|
| Alison | Wall | Management & International Business | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Melvin | Prince | Marketing | 2023 | ✓ | 5/7 |
| Sebastian | Perumbilly | Marriage & Family Therapy | 2025 | ✓ | 6/7 |
| Klay | Kruczek | Mathematics | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Owen | Biesel | Mathematics | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Jonathan | Irving | Music | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Deborah | Morrill | School of Nursing | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Andrea | Adimando | School of Nursing | 2024 | ✖ | 6/7 |
| Virginia | Metaxas | Part-Time Faculty | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Garbielle | Ferrell | Part-Time Faculty | 2025 | ✓ | 3/3 |
| Michael | Sormrude | Part-Time Faculty | 2024 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Michele | Delucia | Part-Time Faculty | 2024 | ✓ | 6/7 |
| Rex | Gilliland | Philosophy | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Elliott | Horch | Physics | 2024 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Jonathan | O'Hara | Political Science | 2025 | ✖ | 2/7 |
| Kate | Marsland | Psychology | 2025 | ✓ | 4/7 |
| Chris | Budnick | Psychology | 2024 | ✓ | 6/7 |
| John | Nwangwu | Public Health | 2024 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Deron | Grabel | Recreation, Tourism, & Sport Management | 2026 | ✖ | 4/7 |
| Isabel | Logan | Social Work | 2026 | ✖ | 4/5 |
| Stephen | Monroe Tomczak | Social Work | 2025 | ✖ | 5/7 |
| Gregory | Adams | Sociology | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Joan | Weir | Special Education | 2024 | ✓ | 4/5 |
| Douglas | Macur | Theatre | 2024 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Tricia | Lin | Women's & Gender Studies | 2025 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Luke | Eilderts | World Languages & Literatures | 2026 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| | | | | | |
| Natalie | Starling | SCSU Faculty Senate President | 2024 | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Dwayne | Smith | SCSU President | | ✖ | 7/7 |
| Barbara | Cook | Chair, Graduate Council | | ✓ | 7/7 |
| Meghan | Barboza | Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Form | | ✓ | 6/7 |
| Pierce | Kozlowski | SGA | | ✓ | 4/5 |

GUESTS

Daniela Lopes
Michael Dodge
Joseph Merly
Kyle Thaxton

Meredith Sinclair
Michael Conley
Trevor Brolliar

The following senators are empowered by the Faculty Senate to represent the Faculty Senate and thereby represent the faculty body in their role and contributions to the respective committee/group in which shared governance of business is being conducted with a duty to report back to the Faculty Senate minimally once per semester (additional reports determined by the respective representative or upon request by the Faculty Senate). It is recommended representatives also seek the Faculty Senate's support and endorsement for matters determined by the respective representative or upon request by the Faculty Senate.

| | |
|---|--|
| Early College Experience | Christine Broadbridge (fall 2022) Michele DeLucia (spring 2023) |
| Faculty Development Advisory Committee (FDAC) | Klay Kruczek |
| Undergraduate Curriculum Forum (UCF) liaison | Cindy Simoneau |
| University Library Committee (ULC) | Amy Jansen 1 Representative Unfilled |
| Working Group for Governing Bodies & Documents | Paul Petrie (Rules rep) Jeffrey Webb (Rules rep) Michael Shea (senator, non-Rules member, rep) |
| Strategic Action Plan Subcommittees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing Social Justice • Maintaining Academic Excellence • Engaging our Community | Miriah Kelly Kenneth McGill Michael Sormrude |
| DEI Advisory Council | Laurie Bonjo |
| Chief of Police Search Committee | Isabel Logan |

November 15, 2023

Faculty Senate President Natalie Starling called the 7th meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 12:12 p.m. via Zoom.

I. Announcements

- A. A. Jansen shared information about a virtual workshop on SCOPUS, an abstract and citation database. It will take place December 1 from 10-11:30. To sign up, click on this link:
<https://southernct.libwizard.com/f/Scopus>.

II. Minutes of the previous meeting held on November 1, 2023, were accepted as distributed.
<https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/meetings>

III. Faculty Senate President's Report

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

- A. N. Starling shared additional information relating to item #2 section 4 on the President's Report (Continuing Education/OWLL): the two faculty representatives to the leadership council will be from different colleges/schools.
- B. N. Starling thanked the SGA for welcoming her and FS secretary L. Eilderts to their meeting. We look forward to visiting again.

IV. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

- A. Reports of the standing committees have been received. No additional announcements.

V. Special Committees

- A. UCF (M. Barboza) shared that there has been a change to accelerated degrees; they have had meetings with all concerned programs.
- B. Graduate Council (B. Cook) also shared the change to accelerated degrees. They are also working to create a checklist for students with all the policies for theses and dissertations.

VI. New Business

- A. E. Horch (Student Policy) **moved to approve** the Resolution Regarding Midterm Grades.
- i. After discussion, the body moved to a vote.
1. Vote tally
- a. Yes36
- b. No5
- i. The motion to approve the resolution was **approved**.

VII. Adjournment

- A. E. Horch **moved to adjourn. Seconded.**
- i. The meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

L. Eilderts
Secretary

**SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
Resolution Regarding Midterm Grades**

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, The Faculty at SCSU have a deep commitment to the intellectual development and success of our students;

Whereas, All members of the University community have a common goal to increase retention, persistence, and graduation rates of our students;

Whereas, Providing assessments for students supports these objectives;

Whereas, Students who receive Midterm Letter Grades in Banner have a lower DFW rate than students who do not receive them;

Whereas, A Midterm Grade does not affect a student's academic record and therefore cannot by itself constitute grounds for a Final Grade Appeal;

Whereas, The University also has advising services that use Midterm Grades to identify and reach out to students in academic distress;

Whereas, University advising services are greatly facilitated by entering Midterm Grades in Banner in a uniform and consistent manner across all classes, in addition to other methods that faculty may find appropriate for communicating to students their midterm performance; and

Whereas, The University Academic Calendar¹ provides the dates for Midterm Grade submission well in advance; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That all instructors shall enter Midterm Grades in Banner for undergraduate classes by the relevant date in the University Academic Calendar.

¹ <https://calendar.southernct.edu/academic/all>