



# Southern Connecticut State University

## FACULTY SENATE

**[September 17, 2025] | 12:10 p.m. | via 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/7847828474?omn=86729842970>

### Table of Contents

<b>AGENDA .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF [08/27/25].....</b>	<b>4</b>
DOCUMENTS TO ACCOMPANY MINUTES FOR [8/27/2025].....	8
<b>STANDING COMMITTEES .....</b>	<b>9</b>
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (APC) .....	9
FINANCE COMMITTEE (FC) .....	10
PERSONNEL POLICY COMMITTEE (PPC) .....	11
RULES COMMITTEE (RC).....	12
STUDENT POLICY COMMITTEE (SPC).....	13
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE (TC) .....	14
<b>SPECIAL COMMITTEES .....</b>	<b>15</b>
UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM FORUM (UCF) .....	16
GRADUATE COUNCIL .....	17
<b>DOCUMENTS FOR REVIEW FOR THE [9/27/2025] MEETING .....</b>	<b>18</b>

#### **AY 2025-2026**

Full Faculty Senate Meetings: 8/27, 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12, 12/3, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/11, 4/1, 4/15, 4/29, 5/6

Standing Committee Meetings: 9/3, 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 1/21, 2/4, 2/18, 3/4, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22

The AI tool Fireflies.ai is used to facilitate note taking and the writing of the minutes. For more information, please reach out to the Secretary of the Faculty Senate.



# Southern Connecticut State University

## FACULTY SENATE

---

The Faculty Senate has as its goal a University community that promotes to the fullest the free transmission of knowledge and pursuit of truth.

*Faculty Senate is the representative body of the faculty. Its primary function is to serve as the agency by which the faculty can actively participate in the governance and policy-making decisions of the University on the basis of the principle of shared authority.*

---

### AGENDA

09/17/25

12:10 p.m. | via 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/7847828474?omn=86729842970>

- I. Announcements Relevant to the Faculty Senate
- II. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on [8/27/25]
- III. Faculty Senate President's Report
- IV. Faculty Senate Standing Committees
  - a. Academic Policy
  - b. Finance
  - c. Personnel Policy
  - d. Rules
  - e. Student Policy
  - f. Technology
- V. Reports of Faculty Senate Special Committees
  - a. UCF
  - b. Graduate Council
  - c. Elections Officers
- VI. Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives
- VII. Report from SCSU-AAUP Representative
- VIII. Unfinished Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Guest(s)
  - a. Amy Feest-OWLLS

- b. Kari Swanson- SCSU-AAUP
- c. Dr. Julia Irwin- Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic Affairs
- d. Dr. Sandy Bulmer- Interim President, SCSU



## FACULTY SENATE

### UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF [08/27/25]

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

The 1st Meeting of the Faculty Senate AY 2025-2026 was held on 08/27/25, at 12:10 p.m. via Zoom.

#### Attendance

FIRST	LAST	DEPARTMENT	TERM ENDS (SPRING)	ATTENDANCE	TOTAL
		Accounting			
Valerie	Andrushko	Anthropology	2026	N	0/1
Jeff	Slomba	Art & Design	2027	Y	1/1
		Athletics	2026		
Nicholas	Edgington	Biology	2026	Y	1/1
Kate	Toskin	Business Information Systems	2028	Y	1/1
Jeff	Webb	Chemistry & Biochemistry	2026	Y	1/1
Shawneen	Buckley	Communication Disorders	2027	Y	1/1
Melanie	Savelli	Communication, Media & Screen Studies	2028	Y	1/1
Aashma	Uprety	Computer Science	2028	Y	1/1
Matthew	Ouimet	Counselor Education	2027	N	0/1
Laurie	Bonjo	Counselor Education	2026	N	0/1
Maria	Diamantis	Curriculum and Learning	2027	Y	1/1
Jennifer	Cooper Boemmels	Earth Science	2027	Y	1/1
Jia	Yu	Economics	2028	Y	1/1
Peter	Madonia	Ed Leadership	2027	N	0/1
Paul	Petrie	English	2026	Y	1/1
Mike	Shea	English	2026	N	0/1
Eric	West	Environment, Geography, & Marine Sciences	2027	Y	1/1
Sandip	Dutta	Finance & Real Estate	2028	N	0/1
Amanda	Strong	Healthcare Systems and Innovation	2028	Y	1/1
Matthew	Rothbard	Health & Movement Sciences	2028	Y	1/1
Daniel	Swartz	Health & Movement Sciences	2028	Y	1/1
Christine	Petto	History	2028	Y	1/1
Troy	Rondinone	History	2026	Y	1/1
Yan	Liu	Information & Library Sciences	2026	Y	1/1
Cindy	Simoneau	Journalism	2028	Y	1/1
Amy	Jansen	Library Services	2028	Y	1/1
Zenhi	Wang	Management & International Business	2028	Y	1/1
Melvin	Prince	Marketing	2026	N	0/1

		Marriage & Family Therapy			
Leah	Sturman	Mathematics	2027	Y	1/1
Daniel	Cicala	Mathematics	2027	Y	1/1
Natalie	Starling	Mental Health Sciences	2026	Y	1/1
		Music	2027		
Deborah	Morrill	Nursing	2026	Y	1/1
Elizabeth	Hurlbert	Nursing	2027	Y	1/1
Gabrielle	Ferrell	Part-Time Faculty	2025	N	0/1
		Part-Time Faculty			
Shenira	Billups	Part-Time Faculty	2027	N	0/1
Mike	Sanger	Part-Time Faculty	2027	N	0/1
Rex	Gilliland	Philosophy	2026	Y	1/1
Evan	Finch	Physics	2027	Y	1/1
Jonathan	Wharton	Political Science	2028	Y	1/1
		Psychology	2025		
Patricia	Kahlbaugh	Psychology	2025	Y	1/1
John	Nwangwu	Public Health	2027	Y	1/1
Deron	Grabel	Recreation, Tourism, & Sport Management	2027	N	0/1
		Social Work			
Stephen Monroe	Tomczak	Social Work	2028	Y	1/1
Gregory	Adams	Sociology	2026	Y	1/1
		Inclusive Education & Behavior Science			
Douglas	Macur	Theatre	2027	Y	1/1
Tricia	Lin	Women's & Gender Studies	2028	Y	1/1
		World Languages & Literatures			
Joan	Weir	SCSU Faculty Senate President	2028	Y	1/1
Sandra	Bulmer	Interim SCSU President		N	
Tricia	Lin	Co-Chair, Graduate Council		Y	
Venezia	Michaelson	Co-Chair, Graduate Council		N	
Meredith	Sinclair	Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Form		N	
Will	Moroz	SGA			

#### GUESTS

Gary Winfield  
 Julia Irwin  
 Lisa Vitale  
 Patricia Gagliardi  
 Trudy Milburn  
 Sergio Perez  
 Craig Hlavac

Faculty Senate President Joan Weir called the 1st meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 1:12pm via Zoom.

I. Announcements

- A. Douglas Macur: Fall musical auditions are underway. Encourage your students to audition.
- B. Amy Jansen: The library has a large collection of textbooks. Please mention this to your students. The flyer was shared in the chat.
  - a. Question regarding availability: Some are available for semester loans and others are temporary use. It varies by book.
  - b. Comment: the library has a lot of books and some may be out of print. Students have 24 hours to check these out. Thank you to our colleagues at the library.
- C. Guests asked to provide updates from Administration:
  - a. Sergio Perez offered to meet with people about DEI, to understand the dynamic environment in which we currently reside.
- D. Faculty are asked to go to breakout rooms to meet with the committee of interest and elect a chairperson.
- E. UCF is meeting tomorrow so there is nothing to report yet.
- F. Graduate council: Co-Chaired by is Tricia Lin Yi-Chu and Venice Michealson
  - a. First Meeting September 8 where they develop a sketch of the work for the year.
  - b. First Official Council meeting to follow. They are still gathering the list of graduate council representatives.

II. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 05/07/25 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. President Weir: Faculty Senate Report: No report for today. See emails for upcoming meetings in from Shawneen Buckley. Today's purpose is to elect chairs for the committees.

IV. Standing Committees

- A. Academic Policy: Co-Chairs Debbie Morrill and Maria Diamantis
- B. Finance: Jeff Webb Chair
- C. Personnel Policy: Co-Chairs Amy Jansen and Stephen Tomaczak
- D. Rules: Paul Petrie is currently the only member. Members needed.
- E. Student Policy: No elected chair currently.
- F. Technology: Co-Chair Aashma Uprety and Christine Petto

V. Special Committees

- A. UCF: No updates
- B. Graduate Council: No updates
- C. Elections Officers: Elections Officer Daniel Swartz: In dire need for the members of the Promotion and Tenure Committee. Please feel free to share and nominate and send to your departments. This committee requires a full complement to the function. Please look for emails. Note: members need to be tenured, and the chair needs to be Professor. The committee gets very busy in early spring. Files are sealed in fall; interviews begin in early spring. Deliberations then occur every Friday for all of January, February and maybe beginning of March

VI. Unfinished Business

A. None.

VII. New Business:

A. Next meeting will focus on establishing Committee members and further reviewing charges of each committee.

VIII. Adjournment

A. The meeting adjourned at 1:18pm.

---

Dr. Shawneen Buckley

Secretary





## STANDING COMMITTEES

---

### Academic Policy Committee (APC)

Academic Policy Committee (APC)  
Wednesday, September 10, 2025

12:10 - 1:50pm — Online meeting via zoom

Meeting called to order at 12:15 by Maria Diamantis

#### **Updates and clarifications to Academic Misconduct – timeline; will connect with Chair**

- ✓ APC committee will review and contact Academic Misconduct Committee chair for details of the committee needs (ie. Timeline and/or summer work)

#### **Develop Templates for Evaluation Letters from DEC's & Department Chairpersons**

- ✓ APC committee supports the creation of a list of bullet points – which is not exhaustive but rather emphasize the importance for the DEC's and Dept. Chairs' letters to highlight the unique and important areas of their department/discipline as needed for evaluators outside their discipline. The APC committee worked on those bullet items.

#### **Bookstore & Textbook Billing –**

- ✓ Updates will be forthcoming. Currently the Bookstore contract is scheduled to be negotiated and the FS will be asked to participate.

APC meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria Diamantis  
APC Co-Chair

## Finance Committee (FC)

### Minutes:

Committee discussed the issues with the Travel Process and reimbursement

Members reported the BOR Finance committee dates for this semester as 10/15 at 10:30 and 12/10 at 10:30 (see link below)

<https://www.ct.edu/regents/meetings?&committee=Finance>

Chair expressed ability to attend/watch online the BOR Finance 10/15 meeting. Furthermore, chair mentioned he setup a TEAMS invite with the link to remind members when the meeting is happening if others can attend in October.

Since the Chair was out of town to the BOR finance meetings over the summer, a member offered to go back and watch the August meeting and report back to the committee next time.

The chair presented an idea to try and reach out to the SCSU Foundation about establishing a small fund to use for SGA representatives who sit on Senate. (something to help with book costs)

The chair reported to the committee that there has been no new information from the VP of Finance at SCSU about future SCSU budget meetings and mentioned plans to reach out later this week and ask about her plans for future SCSU budget meetings.

The Chair further reported also no new information from Ajay Chabra about the current state of the Travel funds and similarly mentioned plans to follow up again later this week.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm

----Dr. Jeffrey Webb --- FS Treasurer

## Personnel Policy Committee (PPC)

### Minutes

**September 10, 2025**

12:11 pm

Minutes of April 23, 2025

Approved unanimously

### NEW BUSINESS

- Draft Evaluator Responsibilities Resolution – contractual issues
  - SCSU-AAUP has raised issues concerning our ability to disqualify evaluators. Please see Article 4.11.2 (p.26) and Article 4.11.2.1 (p.27) and Table 1 (p.28).
  - Invited Kari Swanson, SCSU AAUP, to meeting on Sept. 24
  - No real “teeth” for evaluator not following rules
    - Training for Administrators who evaluate?
    - Negotiate a side letter?
  - After discussion with Kari, we could decide how to proceed. Alternative solutions? This is an important issue, especially in protecting more vulnerable faculty members.
  - SCSU AAUP Exec Comm agenda- will send reminder to Kari Swanson & Gary Winfield for Oct. meeting
- Advising- summer / off contract work (issue raised by PPC member)
  - Communications are coming in July when many teaching faculty are off contract, also an issue that this is coming from Provost office and might cause more vulnerable faculty feel compelled to respond
  - The role of the academic advisor has slowly crept beyond that of the traditional advisor
  - Advising Subcommittee from Spring 2025 – met with Julia Irwin, came up with pilot advising plan for 1-2 departments (small & large), faculty who are good advisors are getting compensated in some way
- Renewal procedures documents (issue raised by PPC member)
  - P&T documents are more clear and detailed about the contents necessary for the file, may need more specific examples of types of documents for renewal

Meeting Adjourned at 1:31 pm

## Rules Committee (RC)

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** 9/10/25 12:30 pm-1:30 pm

### **Old Business**

- List of committee charges (from the president's report and last academic year) was reviewed.
- Menstrual Products: Seems like the issue has been fully implemented and announced campus wide. Does this need to stay on our list?
- Some items on list are vague and will need clarification in order to address as intended

### **New Business**

- Libby & Jonathan will be sharing the chair responsibilities of the committee over the next two semesters.
- Student Opinion Surveys will be our priority at this point. Good work was initiated in spring and committee unsure of the status after being sent to Executive Committee

### **Needs Follow-Up**

- Jonathan and Libby to follow up with Executive Committee re. status of last semester's work

### **Assignments**

- Jonathan and Libby to follow up with Executive Committee re. status of last semester's work

### **Update from Executive Committee to be addressed at next meeting**

- EC suggested that our subcommittee consider examining how our sister colleges handle student evaluations. Same thing with similar colleges in the region and tri-state area. Maybe the committee could consider issuing a comparative analysis or report then? Also, Joan Weir and others suggested issuing a "best practices" doc for student policy subcommittee.

## Technology Committee (TC)

None

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

---

None



None

### **Faculty Academic Strategic Plan (FASP) Committee**

5 April 2025 (1:10-2:00) Virtual

#### **Meeting Minutes**

**Approval of the minutes from 3/31/25:** Minutes were unanimously approved.

In consideration of the university being designated a R2 university and the need for faculty engagement in creative activity to maintain the R2 status, the decision was made to work on Goal 6 of the FASP Strategic Vision for Academic Excellence: Achieve an equitable restructuring of Faculty credit load on the model of the School of Business 3+1 program to support Faculty Creative Activity across the institution.

Linda Cunningham and Kari Swanson attended the meeting. They were unsure how CUPA.HR peer institutions are determined. For contract negotiations, parties agree on a list of peer institutions.

Krista reached out to Scott Jackson who then reached out to Julia Irwin who thought it was a good idea to update the list of peer institutions on the Assessment and Planning site but was unsure when the Board of Trustees plans to do this. Scott will let the group know any updates.

- Committee members plan to develop a list of peer institutions based on criteria such as being a public institution, Carnegie classification (R2), size of student body, number of full-time faculty, and graduate programs including doctoral programs.
- Once the list is developed, data will be collected on the faculty teaching load at each institution for comparison to the faculty teaching load at SCSU.

**Next meeting:**                      **September 8, 2025**

Meeting adjourned at:        2:00pm

Respectfully submitted:      Krista M. Prendergast