

# Highlights and Updates from the Administrative Faculty Senate

**FALL 2024 SEMESTER**

## President's Note

*As we approach the end of the semester, I wanted to share some important highlights and updates from the Administrative Faculty Senate (AFS). Your senators have been working diligently on new initiatives, collaborations and exciting projects. And as the semester winds down and our calendar year comes to a close, I wish to thank all of our administrative faculty for their hard work and efforts this semester. I extend warm wishes for a bright holiday season and a restful winter break.*

*— Jordan D. Jones, AFS President*

## Strategic Plan Adoption for the AFS

We are proud to announce the adoption of the **Administrative Faculty Senate Strategic Plan 2024–2025: Empowering Leadership in Shared Governance** ([Resolution AFS-2425-01](#)). This comprehensive plan aims to enhance representation, formalize Senate actions, and increase engagement, ensuring that diverse voices are heard and actively involved in decision-making. Additionally, the plan emphasizes leadership development and ensures a stable governance structure for the Senate. Ultimately, the actions outlined in the plan benefit the university's administrative faculty by valuing their voices, addressing their needs, and aligning actions with Southern's mission and vision.

## New AFS Committees Established

This semester, we established the AFS **Steering Committee**, which brings together the AFS committee leadership to set the senate agenda and oversee the implementation of strategic planning goals. Additionally, we have created two new committees: the **Administrative Policy Advisory Committee** and the **Empowerment and Engagement Committee**. These committees aim to enhance administrative faculty engagement and campus recognition through shared governance, leadership, and celebration.

## Representation on Committees and Searches

Administrative faculty have been represented in all senior leadership searches, including the Vice Presidents for Finance, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and CIO. We also have designated representatives on the university's five-year strategic sustainability plan and the BOR's Accessibility, Completion, and Talent focus areas, developing campus key performance indicators.

## University Committees Reconstitution

We have successfully advocated for the reconstitution of two defunct university committees: the Budget Committee and the Space Committee. This effort was accomplished in collaboration with our Faculty Senate colleagues. Both committees will play a vital role in shaping our campus community moving forward with strong representation from the administrative faculty. These committees historically have helped represent you on strategic university decisions that impact all administrative faculty, faculty and students and help shape our university's longevity. Reengaging these committees reflect our university leadership's commitment to shared governance.

## Your Feedback and Engagement Are Needed

The [AFS Feedback form](#) is available on our website ([southernct.edu/afs/feedback](https://southernct.edu/afs/feedback)), and we welcome your comments, concerns, and suggestions, which may be submitted anonymously. We value our community and their input that allows us to share concerns and seek resolutions (for non-union matters). Most recently, several administrative faculty members shared concerns about a new program and policies being implemented related to international student recruitment. Your senate leadership was able to bring those concerns to the Interim President Dr. Smith and his leadership team and their prompt response has led to clearer information about the program and engagement of broader campus stakeholders in the planning for the program. This was also done in collaboration with our SUOAF, AAUP and Faculty Senate shared governance partners, once we alerted them to our shared concerns.

# Looking Ahead

## SPRING 2025 SEMESTER

In the semester ahead, the AFS will continue working on the strategic plan, share a constitution revision for community ratification, and prepare for elections at the end of the spring semester. Additionally, our AFS leadership will continue to collaborate with our Faculty Senate leadership on mutual concerns and opportunities.

JAN  
FEB  
MAR

- Holding Community Meeting
- Reviewing Strategic Plans
- Developing Framework for Mentorship Program
- Sharing Draft and Soliciting Feedback of AFS Constitution and By-Laws

APR  
MAY

- Engaging and Updating Community on AFS Opportunities and Elections
- Assessing Senators' Intent to Return and Encourage Nominations from Underrepresented Constituencies
- Ratifying the AFS Constitution and By-Laws

## Share Your Feedback

- [AFS Feedback Form](#)
- [Staff Input and Feedback: Key Performance Indicators \(KPIs\)](#)
- [SCSU Presidential Search](#)

  
WE WANT YOUR  
FEEDBACK

## Connect with your Senators

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HAPPY  
*Holidays!*