

### SCSU Faculty Senate President's Report - December 4, 2019

Many thanks to all of you for your hard work this semester. Good luck to everyone in the last week of classes and finals week. Have a wonderful break!

#### Information for 12/4 Meeting

1. *Proclamation on the 50 Years of Continuous Faculty Service of George M. Olshin* - The FS Executive Committee brings forward a motion to approve a proclamation recognizing Dr. Olshin's extraordinary career at Southern. Please look over the proclamation (sent as an email attachment). It is proposed that the document be presented to Dr. Olshin at a dinner being given in his honor this week.
2. *Grade Appeal Document* - The APC brings forward the Grade Appeal Document with a motion to approve. Please review the document (in packet) and come prepared with questions and discussion. There is a clean copy as well as a copy with track changes. This document represents many hours of cooperative work by the APC, Dr. Jules Tetreault, Associate VP/Dean of Student Affairs, the University Academic Standards Committee, and the FS Executive Committee.
3. *Input for the PPC* - The PPC seeks input from the Senate regarding the issues that are outlined in its report. Please be familiar with the report (send as email attachment and also in packet).
4. *Discussion on shared governance with Dr. Karen Whitney* -

We will be joined by Dr. Karen Whitney, Consultant, AASCU-Penson Center for Professional Development who has been retained by the University to facilitate conversations on campus regarding shared governance in order to arrive at a better understanding of how we can work cooperatively to achieve the goal of optimal shared governance. The following questions will be utilized as a starting point to stimulate discussion:

- What are Southern's areas of strength when it comes to administrators and faculty working together?
- What are the most important areas of academic-administrative decision making that need to improve?
- When it comes to making academic-administrative decisions, what would you suggest we keep doing?

- When it comes to making academic-administrative decisions, what are you seeing that you would suggest we stop doing?
- If you believed that a particular academic-administrative issue was not processed according to Southern's current approach to shared governance, how comfortable would you be you in raising the issue publicly, e.g., at Faculty Senate, Grad Council, UCF, Department, Town Hall meetings?
- What more can be done to encourage your participation in shared governance?
- To what degree have academic-administrative decisions had an impact on your day-to-day functioning?
- What is one piece of advice you would like to share?

## Updates

### 5. *Digital evaluation files*

The committee is on track to have a template available by the end of the semester for all faculty involved in any stage of evaluation that will enable the uploading of documents, materials, etc., in an ongoing basis. Four templates have been created: teaching faculty, counselors and library faculty, athletic trainers, and coaches and each member will have the appropriate template loaded into BB under *Courses*. The templates will be generic and appropriate for any stage of the evaluation process. An instructions document is near completion as well.

The availability of the templates in Blackboard Courses will be rolled out by department and should take about a week or two to complete for all faculty once the rollout has started. An email will be sent out to faculty once the templates are available. Many thanks to the tireless work done by Karen Musmanno, David Pettigrew, and Walter Stutzman on this endeavor.

### 6. *Faculty Survey on Administrative Effectiveness*

The responses for this survey, administered in spring 2019, have been calculated. It had been anticipated that the results would be presented at the 12/4 meeting, however, the report has not been completely finalized, therefore the presentation has been postponed until the first or second FS meeting of the spring semester. Many thanks to the Elections Committee for their hard work in analyzing the results and preparing the report.

### 7. *Standing committee assignments for spring 2020*

- APC and Rules - P&T - These committees will combine efforts to address P&T issues, including reduction of P&T file size, review of all P&T, Renewal, Professional Assessment, DEC documents, Guidebooks, CI forms, etc. in order to ensure accuracy and cohesion across the various documents and to update the documents to refer to the digital file process. Initially, the committees will meet jointly and will decide how to allocate the workload, holding frequent updates between the committees.
- Personnel - 9/9 teaching load
- Student Policy - SAT scores, Latin honors, availability of feminine hygiene products on campus

- Finance Committee - Travel funds; FCARG fringe
- Elections - review and potential revision of student course withdrawal procedure; Indigenous Peoples' Day Resolution
- Technology - aligning the Digital Measures Candidate Information form with the CI paper version (or vice versa); electronic application for sabbatical

8. *Ad hoc 2+2 Committee* - An Ad hoc Faculty Senate committee will be constituted to explore 2+2 programs on the campuses of community colleges. The charge of this committee will be to consider the feasibility, cost-benefit, logistics, interest level, etc. in the development of such programs. The committee will be made up of a combination of Senators and others outside of the Senate. We are seeking Senators who are interested in serving on this committee for the spring. This committee will meet during standard FS standing committee time.

9. *Selection of committees for the spring* - If you decide to continue with your current committee in the spring, there is no need to take any action. If you wish to switch to a different committee (including the Ad hoc committee), please let Luke Eilderts know this by the end of the fall semester, so that lists can be updated and we'll know how many members we have on each committee.

10. *Travel Funds*

Available Faculty Travel Funds as of: December 3, 2019				
Fund	Starting Balance	Spent	Encumbered	Balance
FT "AAUP" Travel	280,704.00	38,401.65	83,906.41	<b>158,395.94</b>
PT "AAUP" Travel	31,190.00	10,073.47	20,320.29	<b>796.24</b>
Creative Activity	85,000.00	47,696.07	33,594.60	<b>3,709.33</b>

**Summary of 2019-2020 Resolutions**

Status of AY 2019-2020 Faculty Senate Resolutions					
Number	Date	Resolution regarding...	For	Disposition	Comments (abbrev.)
F-2019-01	9/28/19	Digital Evaluation File Implementation	Approval	Approved	
F-2019-02	11/13/19	Revisions to the P&T Procedures Document	Approval	Approved	

## PROCLAMATION

### ON THE 50 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FACULTY SERVICE OF **DR. GEORGE M. OLSHIN**

**Dr. George M. Olshin**, Professor of Special Education, left the U.S. Department of Education, where he served as Consultant & Branch Chief of the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, to begin a tenure-track position at Southern Connecticut State College in August 1969.

Having been interviewed for a faculty position by President Hilton C. Buley, Dr. Olshin was hired at the top academic rank of Professor, was granted tenure after completing two years on faculty, and has been a mentor to a generation of colleagues in his discipline.

Although Dr. Olshin began his career at Southern in an office in rented space on Blake Street, he soon moved into the newly built Davis Hall and has witnessed every phase of growth of the curriculum and expansion of the campus since 1969;

Under the leadership of ten academic deans, Dr. Olshin has served the Department of Special Education faithfully in the School of Professional Studies, School of Education, and College of Education. Among other notable achievements, he created the first *Educateur* program in the United States, created a satellite, in-residence graduate program in special education at the Grove School in Madison, Connecticut, and expanded students' horizons by conducting 18 summer study abroad experiences in England, Scotland and Wales, Canada and Hawai'i;

At the request of Vice President for Academic Affairs Anthony Pinciario, Dr. Olshin contributed in a meaningful way to early efforts to support colleagues in the acquisition of external funding by coordinating a nascent Grants Office. His collegiality and encouragement led members of the faculty to consider writing grant proposals.

Dr. Olshin accomplished the extraordinary feat of completing **50 years** of continuous, full-time faculty service at Southern Connecticut State College and Southern Connecticut State University at the end of the 2019 academic year, and has announced his decision to retire in January 2020 after fifty-and-one-half years of service.

In recognition of an extraordinary and brilliantly successful 50-year career that has enhanced the University and enriched the lives of many students and colleagues, the Faculty Senate expresses appreciation for Dr. Olshin's spirit of optimism, his belief that many things are possible, his faith in students, his equanimity and his good will, and offers Dr. George M. Olshin best wishes for a long, happy and rewarding retirement.

**On behalf of the SCSU Faculty Senate,**

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*Deborah Weiss, Ph.D., President*

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*Date*