

SCSU Faculty Senate President's Report - FS Meeting February 26, 2020

Priorities for the meeting

1. CIF forms – We have reviewed this topic at two previous meeting. As a reminder, this effort by the Technology Committee endeavors to match the paper version of the CIF with the Digital Measures version that is automatically generated. The Committee has created the appropriate versions for all faculty categories. If approved, these forms would be available for use immediately and faculty could choose whether to use either the paper or DM version. The forms are in your packet.
2. Resolution to revise the Faculty Creative Activity Research Grants procedure – This issue was first raised by the Finance Committee two meetings ago at our full Senate meeting in order to get a sense of the Senate. The main issue is that only stipends may be awarded currently through this fund. Stipends require a high fringe benefit which results in fewer awards. This revision would result in faculty being able to apply for the funds for uses in addition to or instead of stipends, e.g., travel, equipment, etc. Since fringe would not be assessed for these other uses of the funds, we would be able to allocate more awards in a given year. The Committee is bringing this resolution forward due to the strong consensus at the previous meeting that this would benefit faculty.
3. Resolution Regarding Recommending Certain Material Benefits to Retiring Faculty – This simple resolution would award certain benefits to retiring faculty, as described in the document.

Updates

4. *Digital evaluation file update*

Candidates' submissions of renewal files have concluded for the year. There were several glitches, but for the most part things have gone smoothly to date. Candidates will continue to receive emails from David Pettigrew reminding them when to remove permission from one reviewer(s) and give permission to the next. Instructions are available under the heading, *Instructions for Creating a Digital File for 2019-2020* ([HYPERLINK "https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/faculty-evaluation"](https://inside.southernct.edu/faculty-senate/faculty-evaluation)).

Contact information

Karen Musmanno (musmannok1) – questions related to technical issues, e.g., difficulties uploading a file

David Pettigrew (pettigrewd1) – questions related to digital files that are not related to technical issues

Walter Stutzman (stutzmanw1) – corrections or clarifications that you would like to suggest for the instructions posted on the Senate website

Deborah Weiss – any other questions or comments

5. *Update on Newer Faculty Workshop Ad hoc Senate Committee*

Plans are well along for the workshop which is scheduled for Friday, March 27th from 11:30-3pm. A flyer with RSVP has been sent out. Please encourage the faculty in your department to attend.

6. *Attendance at Standing Committee meetings*

Your service to the Senate and to the standing committees is most appreciated. Between the full Senate meetings and the standing committee meetings, there is a major time commitment of two hours every week that doesn't include time required to read materials and sometimes help to prepare materials for the standing committee meetings. We all have busy schedules that sometimes make it difficult to fulfill this time commitment. Therefore, I want to tread lightly when I mention that chairs of several of the standing committees have indicated that committee business is sometimes being affected because people are missing meetings, arriving late, and/or leaving early. The result of this is that committee members are not aware of issues that have already been discussed and settled and often need to be caught up or want to discuss these same issues. From now until the end of the year, we have many issues that the standing committees are trying to wrap up, so please do your best to attend the full meetings from 12:10-2:00pm.

7. Tentative timeline for bylaws and constitution

- a. Sent to Senators on 2/24
- b. Key points to be presented at 2/26 meeting to inform Senators regarding changes and assist in reviewing documents
- c. Discussion and vote at Senate on 3/11
- d. Referendum for Constitution to follow

8. *Town Hall Meeting*

There will be a Town Hall University Dialogue sponsored by the Faculty Senate on Tuesday, March 10th at 1pm in the Adanti Student Center ballroom.

9. *Travel dates clarification*

Funding for travel begins on the first day of the academic calendar and ends the day before the beginning of the next academic year, therefore the dates for this year are: 8/26/19 to 8/22/20.

10. *Travel Funds*

Available Faculty Travel Funds as of: February 25, 2020				
Fund	Starting Balance	Spent	Encumbered	Balance
FT "AAUP" Travel	329,387.78	100,751.29	118,658.74	109,977.75
PT "AAUP" Travel	35,505.07	25,252.04	11,260.12	-1,007.09
Creative Activity	85,000.00	67,404.57	14,610.89	2,984.54

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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	
F-2019-03	12/4/19	Revision of Grade Appeal Procedure and Form	Approval	Approved	