

SCSU Faculty Senate President's Report – March 3, 2021

Announcements:

Welcome, Senators. I hope you are all doing well. This meeting takes place in the fifth week of classes which is about 1/3 of the way through the semester. I am noting this because we have many issues currently in the standing committees that will be coming to the full Senate in the coming weeks and months and we will have a crunch in the latter part of the semester.

1. *Preparation for 3/3/21 meeting*

- Dean's List Policy revision – Based upon feedback at our last meeting, the resolution has been revised by the Student Policy Committee (SPC) and is included in the packet. The incentive for this resolution is to provide a Dean's list option for part-time students.
- A new resolution regarding revision to course withdrawal policy for spring 2021 from SPC is presented.
- A new resolution regarding revision to the course incomplete policy for spring 2021 from SPC is presented.
- A new resolution regarding revision of the student opinion survey from the Technology Committee is presented. Please review the suggested revisions that are highlighted in green and yellow in order to be familiar with them before the meeting.
- We have two guests scheduled for our meeting: Chul Lee, Director of Institutional Research will provide an update on enrollment data (report attached to my email). Alicia Carroll, Registrar will provide data on p/f and other relevant items.

2. CBA Negotiations – Recently, you received a copy of TableTalk (attached to my email), the communication of CSU-AAUP to its members that informs them of the progress of contract negotiations with the CSCU-BOR. The latest TableTalk summarizes the 2/25 negotiation session. It also contains the list of members of each negotiating team. It is interesting to note that the BOR team includes only eight members, two of whom are from the SCSU administration, therefore constituting 25% of the team.

Although it is clear that the BOR proposals would jeopardize accreditation and harm students and faculty, this is denied by the System Office and the BOR (see, for example, Jane Gates recent [YouTube message](#) and the [recording from the last BOR meeting](#)). In the BOR recording, see Chair, Matt Fleury's commentary starting at around the 57-minute mark. Mr. Fleury first states how the BOR should listen and not respond to public commentary; despite this, he goes

on to spend about four minutes responding to and chastising those who provided public commentary and apologizes to his fellow Regents that they were castigated during the commentary. There is a clear attempt by both Gates and Fleury to attempt to characterize the negotiations as business as usual for how negotiations are structured, namely that the parties deliberately start with extreme proposals with the intent to meet in the middle. The problem is that, in good faith, AAUP started with respectful and reasonable proposals while the BOR did not. The public commentary period which goes on from about 4 minutes into the recording until around minute 57 is excellent. Southern is particularly well-represented during the public commentary and I encourage you to watch it.

Please encourage faculty in your department to do the following:

- If the proposed contract language would jeopardize your accreditation, please inform the Organizing Committee Chairs, Cindy Stretch (stretch1053@gmail.com) or John O'Connor (joconnorsbr3@gmail.com).
- Encourage your faculty members to let their representatives in the Connecticut General Assembly know that the Board of Regents is attacking academic freedom and trying to corporatize Connecticut public higher education, eliminate research funds and curriculum development grants, shred any semblance of shared governance, and pursue unbridled union busting. Ask for your legislators' support of public higher education as a public good. If you're not sure what to write, click here for a template email that you can personalize and send to your state representatives. Click here to find your legislator and send them an email or give them a call. Several legislators were present at CCSU at the rally last Friday and spoke up against the BOR's proposals.
- Sign up and encourage your students to sign up to speak at the Board of Regents meeting on March 25, 2021 at 10:00am.

Please contact the AAUP Office with any questions.

Travel Funds

	Beginning	Spent	Encumbered	Remaining
FT Rollover	\$192,472.58	\$4,368.99	\$11,666.70	\$176,436.89
FT New	\$298,700.00	\$4,656.24	\$6,174.36	\$287,869.40
Combined Total	\$491,172.58	\$9,025.23	\$17,841.06	\$464,306.29

	Beginning	Spent	Encumbered	Remaining
PT Rollover	\$6,247.79	\$0.00	\$534.02	\$5,713.77
PT New	\$33,189.00	\$975.00	\$1025.00	\$31,189.00
Combined Total	\$39,436.79	\$975.00	\$1,559.02	\$36,902.77

2020-2021 [Resolutions approved by Faculty Senate](#) – The latest updates on the resolutions and their status may be found on the FS website.