

SCSU Faculty Senate President's Report – September 14, 2022, meeting

1) *Announcements –*

A reminder that the Faculty Senate is conducting elections for All-University Committees. Faculty wishing to serve on a committee can fill out the self-nomination form available via the link in the email announcement on 9/8/2022. Self-nominations must be submitted by **noon on Wednesday, September 21, 2022**. Please contact Klay Kruczek at kruczekk3@southernct.edu with questions.

2) *Report on Executive Committee/Faculty Leadership Council Meetings with President and Provost regarding the Southern Fellows in Residence program –*

On behalf of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and Faculty Leadership Council (FLC), we are glad the Provost is continuing the conversation about improving the diversity of the faculty and we share the perspective that diversity in our faculty body is important, valued, and worthy of prioritizing. We are united with administration in belief that there is a need and an opportunity at SCSU to strengthen the diversity of the faculty body. We all want to see a program or initiative whose goal is to strengthen the diversity of the faculty body succeed in implementation, outcome, and sustainability.

To that end, because we want to improve the retention and recruitment of colleagues from diverse backgrounds, EC and FLC members requested a meeting with the administration to discuss. We were invited to and attended a 1-hour informational meeting on 9/6/2022 and received additional information from the Provost regarding his program proposal. While there was an opportunity to ask questions at the 9/6 meeting, many individuals were hearing the information for the first time and did not have time during the meeting to thoroughly review the information, formulate questions, and share contributions.

We believe that more consideration, discussion, and participation of elected and duly empaneled faculty leadership on behalf of their constituents will increase the likelihood of the Provost's proposal's chances for success. Though the Provost is currently away, EC and FLC members met with President Joe on 9/12/2022 and emphasized faculty support for the proposal's goal (improving the diversity of the faculty), shared some questions about the proposal, and discussed the importance of improving the process and procedures of shared governance beyond this proposal. The following are the outcomes of the 9/12/2022 meeting:

1. Information about faculty support of diversity of the faculty, the goal of the Provost's proposal, was shared and emphasized. Faculty share the perspective that diversity in our faculty body is important, valued, and worthy of prioritizing. We are united with administration in belief that there is a need and an opportunity at SCSU to strengthen the diversity of the faculty body. We all want to see a program or initiative whose goal is to strengthen the diversity of the faculty body succeed in implementation, outcome, and sustainability. President Joe expressed understanding and willingness to relay this information in other communications.
2. More conversation about the Fellows program is supported by President Joe in the form of a meeting with the Provost and FLC (and possibly others included in initial planning) with the goal of a meeting next week, as the Provost is currently away.
3. FLC members will compile questions and share these questions with administration in advance of the meeting. Other questions may arise during the meeting, though a list of questions will be prepared and shared in advance. Many of the questions posed during the 9/12/22 will be included on this list.

4. On-going communication between faculty leadership and administration about the Fellows program was acknowledged as important and ideas were proposed (e.g., taskforce, working group, etc.) but currently no decisions have been made aside from the goal for a meeting next week.
5. More conversation about communication, how we engage with each other, and shared governance is welcomed, and we all can expect more details about next steps in this area in addition to next steps for the Fellows program.

Senators, please share this information and ask your department to share questions about the Southern Fellows in Residence program with you as their senator and/or with the other elected representatives of our governing bodies (i.e., UCF, Grad Council, Chairs Council, AAUP) to support EC and FLC members' preparation for the upcoming meeting.

3) ***Special Report from the Chair of Graduate Council, Dr. Barbara Cook –***

On behalf of all faculty on Graduate Council, I (Barbara Cook) would like to share an unusual circumstance that has arisen. At the time of crafting this note, we have been unsuccessful in recruiting a faculty member from Graduate Council to chair the Graduate Council Curriculum Committee (GCCC). In my 8 years at SCSU, I have never experienced a situation in which an individual or individuals have not stepped forward to fulfill a chair position. As I have reached out to the group and individuals from Graduate Council, members indicate involvement at their college or department level that already places their credit load either at or above expectation while others report preference to focus on their teaching and research/creative activity, some noting that service has been indicated as not holding importance to the promotion and tenure process. While maintaining a credit load that falls within expectation and focus on teaching and research are expected and reasonable, the feedback relative to service (the 3rd evaluation category for promotion and tenure) results in more questions and a curiosity as to why this change in perspective has occurred. I turn to you, my colleagues, to assist me in understanding this shift and learning how we are to address the shift as we move toward continuing our autonomous involvement in all aspects of our university curriculum.

In the meantime, I need your assistance to encourage one or two of our peers to consider becoming Chair of the Graduate Council Curriculum Committee. Without a Chair, all proposals will be delayed in the review process given our bylaws for the GCCC and necessity of a chair to oversee the process. Faculty expertise and engaging in the peer review process regarding what programs are developed and implemented inclusive of the courses to support these programs is integral to providing a rigorous curriculum for this university and our students. To that end, the Graduate Curriculum Committee serves a very valuable purpose in ensuring continued rigor at the graduate level as well as in supporting the innovative programs that may be considered to meet the future needs of our community. Note that the Chair of the Graduate Curriculum Committee earns 1 credit of reassigned time for their service. Additionally, this can be shared between 2 faculty as co-chairs, which has proven to be a successful model for this committee in the past. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me (Barbara Cook) to discuss further. Thank you for reading and considering this very critical turn of events.

4) ***Preparation for the 9/14/22 meeting –***

- a) *Motion regarding scheduling the Referendum on proposed revisions to the LEP – from the Elections Committee, in packet.* The intent of this motion is to schedule the Referendum and discussion forums. The following summary of scheduling considerations were shared with the faculty body via email announcement on 9/9/2022:

1. **Timing:** The scheduling of the Referendum has direct impact on the timing of potential outcomes of the proposal. In other words, whether the proposal, if approved via the Referendum, can be implemented in Fall 2023, or if implementation cannot occur until a later time (e.g., Fall 2024).
 1. The proposed changes are considered “Revised Programs, Concentrations, and Minors”, see “[UCF PROPOSAL DEADLINES](#)” on Confluence. In the event you have trouble accessing the link, attached (at the conclusion of this report) is a screenshot of the UCF Deadlines table. Note that February 1, 2023, is the deadline for Fall 2023 implementation. However, for some departments and programs, a number of steps might need to occur between the Referendum, if there is an affirmative vote on the proposal, and February 1st.
 2. Additionally, if there is an affirmative vote on the proposal, review and revisions will be needed regarding [annual schedules](#), degree evaluations, academic maps and catalogs, advising, and transfer policies.
 3. Therefore, when considering the possibility of Fall 2023 implementation, a Referendum that occurs sooner and results in an affirmative vote on the proposal would provide all more time to respond to the changes. A Referendum that occurs later and results in an affirmative vote on the proposal would reduce the time all have to respond thereby reducing the likelihood of Fall 2023 implementation.
 4. A reminder to senators and departments to connect and discuss how the department would like to be represented when the Faculty Senate votes on scheduling the Referendum.
 2. **Voter Eligibility:** The Senate Constitution allows for opening voting eligibility beyond full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty: “*Faculty Senate may also include part-time faculty and/or faculty on special appointments by a majority vote before a faculty referendum*” ([Constitution, V.A](#)).
 1. A reminder to senators and departments to connect and discuss how the department would like to be represented in the event there is a motion for inclusion of part-time faculty and/or faculty on special appointments.
 2. If there is no motion for inclusion of part-time faculty and/or faculty on special appointments, only full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty will be able to vote in the Referendum.
 3. **Informational Discussion Forums:** In addition to scheduling the Referendum, the Elections Committee of the Faculty Senate will present a motion to schedule discussion forums prior to the Referendum with the goal of supporting the informed voting of faculty.
 4. **A reminder that in all meetings and forums no suggestions can be made to modify the proposed changes to the LEP Program at this time. The proposal must be voted on via the Referendum in its current form.**
- b) Guests – As is our tradition, the President and Provost have been invited to address the Faculty Senate. The Provost gave his remarks at our meeting on 8/31/2022. The President is scheduled to give his remarks at the 9/14/2022 meeting. This is an excellent opportunity for Q&A.
- c) Travel Funds Report for AY 22-23 - as of 09/12/2022

Full Time	Beginning	Spent	Encumbered	Remaining
FT Rollover	\$548,508.55	\$32,411.85	\$20,404.56	\$495,692.14
FT New (AY23)	\$313,772.00	--	--	\$313,772.00
Creative Activity	\$85,000.00	\$6,842.82	--	\$78,157.18
Combined Total	\$947,280.55	\$39,254.67	\$20,404.56	\$887,621.32

Part Time	Beginning	Spent	Encumbered	Remaining
PT Rollover	\$47,573.45	--	--	--
PT New (AY23)	\$34,863.00	--	--	--
Combined Total	\$82,436.45	\$5,090.40	--	\$77,346.05

d) **On-going topics / “What’s Going on with....?”**

This section of the President’s report is a repository of questions received by the Executive Committee in which information is still being gathered and on-going discussions are still being held. The Executive Committee welcomes additional questions and information from the university community.

1. **Southern Fellows in Residence** program – see item #3 above
 2. **Continuing Education / Micro credentialing** – How are these initiatives impacting the identity of the institution, faculty roles, the curriculum, among other areas? What are the goals of these initiatives? How can contractual faculty participate in continuing education (e.g., compensation, credit load, selection/invitation to teach, etc.)?
 - a. SCSU-AAUP is reviewing contractual details.
 - b. The APC is discussing taking on this topic as a committee charge.
 3. **Increase in administrative positions** –There appears to be an increase in the number of administrative positions- is this happening? If so, how is this impacting the type of governing structure of the university? What problem is this a solution for?
 4. **Alignment and Completion of Mathematics and English (ACME)** – How will SCSU (as a CSU) be impacted by these changes? Is it true that all community college courses/credits will transfer to the CSUs as required course equivalents, whether or not faculty consider the courses equivalent?
 5. **Reassigned Time Committee** – What is the status of this committee? Is there a progress update?
 6. **Renovation of the former HHS Dean’s office in Engleman** – What is the cost and rationale for the renovation?
 7. **Zoom** – Will Zoom be continued?
 - a. Currently, it is understood that Zoom was purchased with non-recurring funds. Discussion is underway with IT and Academic Affairs regarding next steps. More information will be forthcoming.
 8. **Early College** – What is the status of the program (e.g., fall enrollments, faculty involvement)?
- e) 2022-2023 – [Resolutions approved by Faculty Senate](#) – Updates on the resolutions and their status may be found on the FS website.

UCF PROPOSAL DEADLINES

Due to the large volume of proposals at certain times of the academic year, the following table indicates dates for which proposals must be received at the UCF in order to be given full consideration for the indicated effective term. Please note, that in the unusual case where a number of revision rounds may be needed or the department does not provide revisions in a timely manner, the indicated time frame may be insufficient.

TYPE OF PROPOSAL	RECEIVED AT UCF	PROVOST SIGNATURE DEADLINE	EFFECTIVE TERM
New Programs, Concentrations, and Minors	October 3, 2022 (if SCC review) October 17, 2022 (if no SCC review) March 1, 2023 (If SCC review) March 22, 2023 (If no SCC review)	December 15 (target fall implementation) Feb 1 (target fall implementation for new minors only) September 15 (target spring implementation)	+ BOR Approval
Revised Programs, Concentrations, and Minors	November 2, 2022 (if SCC review) November 16, 2022 (if no SCC review)	February 1	++ BOR Approval Next Catalog Term (Fall semester only)
New LEP Courses	October 31, 2022	February 1	Next Catalog Term (Fall semester only)
New (Non-LEP) Courses	November 14, 2022 April 5, 2023	Before next registration period	Next registration term
Revised Courses	November 14, 2022	February 1	Next Catalog Term (Fall semester only)
W Course Proposals	October 31, 2022 (for winter & spring 2023 courses) March 22, 2023 (for summer & fall 2023 courses)	N/A	Term following approval.
Special Topics Notifications	October 31, 2022 (for winter & spring 2023 courses) March 22, 2023 (for summer & fall 2023 courses)	N/A	Term following approval.

+ UCF cannot guarantee an effective date because the ultimate decision is determined by BOR approval.

++ BOR approval may be required for revised programs, concentrations, or minors due to significant modification (more than 15 credits) of courses/course substitutions; change in location; alternate modality; change in title.

Please contact Trudy Milburn while developing new programs and minors to inquire about the BOR approval process and timeline.

* Each School shall determine if it will have a School Curriculum Committee review of New & Revised Programs

NOTE: Some complex proposals may not be implemented by the Fall semester.

