

SCSU Faculty Senate President's Report – December 1, 2021 meeting

I. Announcements

Please attend the campus events on Tuesday, 11/30, when President Cheng will be at Southern, including the Town Hall and the rallies.

II. Preparation for 11/10/21 meeting – There are four resolutions for this meeting all in the Senate packet:

- 1) Operation expense allocation (Finance) – The outcome of this resolution is to ensure department awareness and compliance with CBA passages that guarantee faculty involvement in department operating expense allotment and spending. The impetus for the resolution was based upon concerns expressed by faculty members that indicate a failure to follow the language in the contract often due to a lack of awareness and/or inconsistencies from one department to the next.
- 2) Routing of results from electronic student opinion surveys (Technology) – Following our Senate discussion several weeks ago on this topic, this resolution formalizes the routing of electronic SOSs to follow, for the most part, prior practice for paper surveys, namely that both the Chairpersons and the faculty members would receive the results of the surveys.
- 3) Incentives for the completion of electronic student opinion surveys (Technology) - Recognizing that typical response rate for electronic surveys compared with paper is reduced and that our response rate has been less than optimal, this resolution calls for the implementation of some type of incentive program to encourage participation. The incentive program itself has deliberately been left vague so that it might be modified as needed, based upon response rate and success of the incentive(s). This resolution also stresses the importance of a regular reminder and validation to be provided that would encourage faculty to provide class time for the completion of the surveys.
- 4) Statement of freedom of expression (Elections) - This resolution addresses the important issue of freedom of expression and how this might be guaranteed on our campus. This issue has prompted lively discussions during Elections Committee meetings as well as within our 11/29 EC meeting. We are interested in broadening this discussion to the Senate through the proposed resolution.

III. Update

- 1) Faculty Development – Jeff Webb has been selected for the position of Interim Director of Faculty Development. Dr. Webb is working to begin to sort through the myriad responsibilities of the position and to try to get caught up on the immediate as well as longer-term priorities of

the program. It was noted during the 11/29 EC meeting that for the spring semester, only 6 credits have been allocated, instead of the traditional 9 credits, which makes the task especially challenging since the responsibilities have largely been neglected for the fall semester. Number of credits to be provided for the position as well as the other resources that are needed to run a healthy, vibrant faculty development program remain essential issues that still need to be addressed.

- 2) Shared governance issues – In our 11/29 meeting, the Executive Committee noted the ongoing challenges with issues of shared governance, e.g., the changes made to the Faculty Development program without faculty input. We have yet to have a comprehensive discussion about shared governance issues with the President and Provost since the administration has cancelled recent meetings with the EC and the FLC. Our next regularly scheduled meeting is on 12/13.

IV. Travel Funds Report (to be updated)

Travel Fund Report				Date:	11/5/2021
Full Time	Beginning	Spent	Encumbered	Remaining	
FT Rollover	\$262,837.31	\$11,571.23	\$2,139.31	\$249,126.77	
FT New	\$297,970.00	\$6,371.36	\$32,860.70	\$258,737.94	
Creative Activity	\$85,000.00	\$12,971.52	\$23,862.63	\$48,165.85	
Combined Total	\$645,807.31	\$30,914.11	\$58,862.64	\$556,030.56	
Total Spent & Encumbered (S&E)		\$89,776.75	% S&E 14%		
Part Time	Beginning	Spent	Encumbered	Remaining	
PT Rollover	\$30,078.00	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$29,228.00	
PT New	\$33,108.00	\$875.00	\$7,390.00	\$24,843.00	
Combined Total	\$63,186.00	\$1,725.00	\$7,390.00	\$54,071.00	
Total Spent & Encumbered (S&E)		\$9,115.00	% S&E 14%		

- V. [Resolutions approved by Faculty Senate](#) – Updates on the resolutions and their status may be found on the FS website.

Addendum to FS President's report for 12/1/21 meeting

In an email from the Provost yesterday, he stated that he expected the following statements be clarified for the Faculty Senate. He requested that I do this in writing; I have no problem doing this. I have also sent an email correspondence to the Provost with this information.

The Provost's questions/statements that he requested be clarified in writing appear in blue.

- 1) *Nine (9) credits have been allocated and Jeff is getting 9 cr reassigned time in the Spring.*

The agreement at our last meeting was that 3 credits be provided in the fall and 6 in the spring. Per the Provost's subsequent correspondence, all credits will be provided in the spring. However, whether the entire 9 are awarded in the spring or 3 in the fall and 6 in the spring, we are still down 9 credits for the academic year from where we have been traditionally.

- 2) I asked Trudy about FD Fall activities that you stated were "neglected". Here is what I learned:

FD Activities in Fall 2021 included (from Trudy):

"Faculty Development began with a week-long schedule of new faculty orientation events. We sent out Handbooks to new department chairs. We participated in Chasing Childhood premier (both financially as well as during planning meetings that both Jen Hudson and I participated in).

Jenn continues to host mentoring circles (she announced all of the fall dates early this semester); she has also connected those who requested faculty mentors/mentees. In addition, she worked to get the CSU system to use Quali for the system-level grants.

She and our Grad Assistant continue to post teaching tips on facebook; they also assist those who received development/curriculum grants last year promoting events and helping with paperwork, room reservations, etc."

There is no question that many activities that would have taken place in the fall had someone been in the FD Director position for 9 or even 6 credits, did not occur. Jennifer and the FD GA continued to execute their usual activities; what they accomplished was typical and expected of their positions. However, there were no faculty in the FD Director position(s) to execute the typical activities that would have been implemented by these individuals. Please note that the orientation activities were a result of planning that took place during the previous academic year and Chasing Childhood was not a FD-sponsored activity. It was conceived and coordinated by Kate Marsland and then co-chaired by her with Jemel Aguilar.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of the goals for the year that have largely been neglected to date. This information was extracted in part from FD reports from the FD Directors (Fellows) from last year.

- Faculty Development Grant Competition
 - Work with the FDAC to revise the call-for-proposal and evaluation rubric.
 - Consider arranging a campus Q&A session with the committee so that faculty have an opportunity to seek their guidance on grant application expectations.
 - Improve the visibility of grant recipients.
- Curriculum Related Activities Grant Competition
 - Work with the FDAC to revise the call-for-proposal and evaluation rubric.
 - Consider arranging a campus Q&A session with the committee so that faculty have an opportunity to seek their guidance on grant application expectations.
 - Improve the visibility of grant recipients. Possibilities include including mandatory participation in a “Curriculum Grant Activities” Showcase. Alternatively, this showcase could also be included in current events (e.g. Research Tapas) for example.
- J. Philip Smith Outstanding Teacher and Advisor awards (campus-based)
 - Engage the committee earlier in the Fall semester for a revision of the application process and requirements. Consider limitations on file contents and/or size.
 - Encourage more sustained and involved participation from elected committee members.
 - Engage recipients of awards to provide workshops on effective teaching/advising strategies.
- Maintain and update the Faculty Development website to provide a more cohesive and informative centralized location where faculty may find information on grants, funding, and especially timelines for submission.
- Coordinate and work with the Office of Online Learning to design, lead and record (when appropriate) trainings to meet specific needs.
- Coordinate with various campus offices, committees, departments, and programs to determine their technology/online teaching needs and how they might best be addressed.
- Evaluate trainings provided to plan for improvement.
- Provide particular support for the new online graduate programs that have just been approved and work with their faculty to address their curriculum and online teaching needs.
- Plan, coordinate, and host the 2022 Teaching Academy.
- Develop the 2022 Faculty Forum.
- Video and Story Project. Work on a video/story initiative to document experiences of the larger university related to social justice.
- Help to support and nurture grant applications on topics to meet the goals of Faculty Development and the larger institution.
- Collaborate between the Faculty Development Team on grant applications relevant to online & hybrid teaching and learning.
- Plan and coordinate the 2022/2023 New Faculty Orientation.

3) Shared governance issues

Regarding your claim that there was no "faculty input", Trudy tells me: "There were no changes made to FD without faculty input." Again, please ask them or Trudy directly if you need more information.

When I referred to the changes that were made to FD without faculty input, I was referring to the co-opting of FD within the CTL. It is factual that there was no communication on this issue and this took faculty, including all of the elected faculty leaders, by surprise. Speaking with select faculty members here and there on issues that are relevant and sometimes even crucial to the faculty, as is FD, does not constitute shared governance and does not demonstrate the respect that should be shown to those in the leadership positions who have been entrusted by the faculty to represent them on these issues.

4) Review of FS President's reports prior to sending them to Senate

If going forward if it would be helpful to you, I'd be glad to review your President's report just to spot check to make sure we're in alignment as perhaps there are things in my domain that you may have missed.

I strive to be as accurate, honest, and informative in my President's report as possible. However, if at any time, there are inaccuracies, I am always willing to clarify in writing or at Senate meetings. I do not think it would be appropriate for my reports to be reviewed by the administration prior to sending them to the Senators, although there are many instances when I fact-check with relevant parties prior to sending the reports to ensure accuracy.

Travel Fund Report			Date:	11/30/2021
Full Time	Beginning	Spent	Encumbered	Remaining
FT Rollover	\$262,837.31	\$11,571.23	\$2,139.31	\$249,126.77
FT New	\$297,970.00	\$11,125.50	\$45,379.99	\$241,464.51
Creative Activity	\$85,000.00	\$15,934.04	\$21,215.15	\$47,850.81
Combined Total	\$645,807.31	\$38,630.77	\$68,734.45	\$538,442.09
Total Spent & Encumbered (S&E)			\$107,365.22	% S&E 17%
Part Time	Beginning	Spent	Encumbered	Remaining
PT Rollover	\$30,078.00	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$29,228.00
PT New	\$33,108.00	\$1,034.60	\$11,255.40	\$20,818.00
Combined Total	\$63,186.00	\$1,884.60	\$11,255.40	\$50,046.00
Total Spent & Encumbered (S&E)			\$13,140.00	% S&E 21%