

FACULTY SENATE*Minutes of March 26, 2014*<http://www.southernct.edu/facultysenate/senateminutes/>

The twelfth meeting of 2013-2014 was called to order at 12:10 pm by President William Faraclas.

Members Present/Absent (Members absent are designated in **bold**)

Emmanuel Emenyonu (Accounting)	Ramon Vega de Jesus (Couns/Sch Psych)	Luisa Piemontese (WLL/Foreign Language)	Mel Prince (Marketing)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Heather Pizzanello (Social Work)
Joseoh Manzella (Anthropology)	Jim Fullmer (Earth Science)	Lisa Vitale (World Literature Language)	Maria Diamantis (Mathematics)	David Pettigrew (Philosophy)	Stephen Monroe Tomczak (Social Work)
Greg Cochenet (Art)	Sam Andoh (Econ/Finance)	Leon Yacher (Geography)	John Scheuermann (Mathematics)	Jim Dolan (Physics)	Jessica Kenty-Drane (Sociology)
Meghan Brown (Athletics)	Beena Achhpal (Education)	Nikos Chrissidis (History)	Wes O'Brien (Media Studies)	Kevin Buterbaugh (Political Science)	Patricia Major (Special Ed/Reading)
Jonathan Weinbaum (Biology)	Peter Madonia (Ed Leadership)	Byron Nakamura (History)	Mark Kuss (Music)	Gayle Bessenoff (Psychology)	Ron Tamura (Special Ed/Reading)
Adiel Coca (Chemistry)	Joel Dodson (English)	Jerry Dunklee (Journalism)	Chris Denhup (Nursing)	Kevin Colwell (Psychology)	Larry Nye (Theatre)
Derek Taylor (Communication)	Mike Shea (English)	Elsie Okobi (Library Science)	Lisa Rebesch (Nursing)	William Faraclas (President)	Susan Cusato (Past President)
Deborah Weiss (Com Disorders)	Paul Petrie (English)	Rebecca Hedreen (Library Science)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Deb Flynn (Public Health)	Elizabeth Keenan (UCF)
Amal Abdel Raouf (Computer Science)	Matt Rothbard (Exercise Science)	Jeff Dickens (Library Services)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Jan Jones (Recreation/Leisure)	Chris Petto (Grad Council)
Michelle Lawler (Counseling)	Robert Gregory (Exercise Science)	Rick Bassett (Management)	(Part-Time Faculty)	Catherine Koehler (Science Ed/Env Stud)	Mary Papazian (SCSU President)
Guests:	Guests:	Sarah Green (Student Government)			

Approval of Minutes: March 5, 2014 - approved as distributed.

Senate Representative report: Dr. Matthew Rothbard (University Strategic Planning Steering Committee- Academic Excellence sub-group) - Dr. Rothbard updated the Senate that his subgroup is collecting data from different representative constituents and students, etc.

- There are 4 themes of Strategic Planning: (a) Academic Excellence; (b) Scholarship and Innovation; (c) Resources and Infrastructure; (d) Engagement
- The theme for subgroup a is to deliver exemplary, accessible, transformative education in a student-centered empowerment.
- The Vision: SCSU will become nationally recognized as a model university (center for teaching and learning where faculty engage in outstanding creative activity and challenge students to reach their full potential
- The focus group questions:
 - What does a model university look like (exemplary education)
 - How well does SCSU do this?
 - What metrics do we use?
 - How do we assess this?
 - How do we remove barriers for graduation?
- At this time, he asked for feedback and comments from the Senate floor:
 - o Shared governance should be included with curriculum design and students' admission
 - o Student support, technology support, support in the classroom, support for research are crucial
 - o To encourage research and provide the framework for both students and faculty
 - o University needs to be clear on expectations of teaching, research, and service
 - o University fully utilizes the talents of faculty
 - o Full banquet of extra curricular activities for student development outside classroom
 - o Easy navigation for students of what to do and where to go for assistance
 - o Strong Liberal Arts program
 - o University that has innovations, experimentations in courses, etc
 - o Curricular decision, enrollment needs to be inclusive from faculty
 - o Best practice and define outcomes for students with methods to monitor
 - o SCSU must have commitment from political branch, because it is good for all the CT citizens
 - o Specific definition from community colleges; since a community college is defined different from a university
 - o Centralize the faculty excellence
 - o Student abilities have to play an important role in decision making
 - o Is faculty accepting 9/9 credit load for academic research/creative activities?
 - o Involve students in the faculty creative activity
 - o Excellence in teaching and learning and should be driven by students' needs
 - o Students need to know how to develop an academic plan for their education
 - o Diversity among students and faculty
 - o A model university needs the administration to seek funds to improve the resources so that education for our students is improved
 - o Investing in public education (higher) is what the administration should be seeking, for example funds to improve/update software for courses

- Support in infrastructure of the university, tutoring, library, IT.
- To eliminate barriers to graduation, define internally and externally specific communication. Barriers to graduation: can't be addressed, unless we know what barriers exist.
- Scholarships due to financial needs
- All needs (library) should be included in the strategic planning
- Good advising is what a model university must have and students have to take those advising tips
- Training of administrative staff
- Need of more conversations across the university faculty/staff/students, thus, displaying faculty respect for curriculum and its delivery.
- Any further thoughts/suggestions, please email: Rothbardm1@southernct.edu

Announcements - none

President's Report - distributed and following items discussed:

- Lisa Galvin, is named the Director of Graduate Admissions and Dr. Robert J. Rennie, is the Chief Information Officer (Beginning July 15, 2014)
- BOR President Gregory Gray announced that consultants have been hired (\$2M) to develop an Academic Master Plan in a 12-month timeline.
- BS in Nursing was proposed from the Three Rivers CC; decision will be pending the Consultants' report
- A meeting is scheduled with the graduate student affairs committee, on April 7 at 3 pm to hear graduate students' concerns - invitation to attend if possible
- Many concerns and questions were raised on the Spring Graduate Open House (April 7) to be held at 900 Chapel Street and featuring only the following programs:
 - Accelerated MBA
 - Traditional MBA
 - Certificate in Accounting
 - MS Tracks in Computer Science (Cyber-security and Software Development)
 - MS in Applied Physics

Open houses are expensive and attendance has been very low, thus this open house has been selected for "hot fields, ready to go". This is a pilot for this year, hopefully next year it will include other programs.

The Graduate Council was aware, announcement was made but no strong comments were made.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Proposed Conceptual Structure for a new Grade Appeal Process - the document was distributed and after lengthy discussion the Sense of the Senate was in favor to proceed and adopt this as conceptual framework.
- Resolution to Improve Access to Information about the Report of Sexual Harassment
 - The report from committee was accepted and a motion from the floor to approve the resolution was seconded.
 - During the discussion an amendment was proposed: to add in the second and third paragraph: "..where the Faculty Senate has found.."
 - The amendment was approved by majority, one objection.

- Another amendment: there should be a clause to include that it "will be written in clear and accessible language with a minimum of legal jargon"
- Second amendment to delete "accessible" was seconded and approved. Since there was no objection to calling the question on the second amendment - it was approved.
- The amendment was approved by majority.
- The motion to approve main resolution, as amended, was approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Revised Chairperson's Document --- the changes were presented and briefly discussed by Senator Coca, section by section.
 - Senators expressed gratitude to Senator Coca for providing such informative summary, thus, senators should review carefully. Due to lack of quorum at this time, senators need to review the documents and then proceed with approval at the next Senate meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 2:07.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Diamantis
Faculty Senate Secretary