

I. Opening

A. The meeting was called to order at 9:38 am.
B. A quorum was reached at 9:38 am.

II. Announcements

A. Workshop Friday, 2 pm
   1. English Department common room, EN D255
   2. How to incorporate teaching reading and writing

B. Southern/New Haven (SNAP) Colloquium For Teacher Educators: 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., DA 219.

C. Two upcoming programs
   1. My Name is Rachel Corrie
      a. Saturday, Nov 1, 8 pm, Engleman C112
      b. Funds raised will support community theater
   2. Bushra Rehman (ed, Colonize This!)
      a. November 5, 6:15–8 pm
      b. Sponsored by English and Women's Studies Departments

D. Update re: Transform 2020 Road Maps from Faculty Senate
   1. Subcommittees will review roadmaps and flag areas of faculty purview
   2. AAUP officers also looking for potential issues
   3. Formal feedback will be given this fall to President Gray

III. Approval of UCF minutes of October 16, 2014

A. The minutes were approved with no corrections.

III. Standing Committee Reports
A. Notifications Management Committee (NMC)
1. Discussion of the meeting on October 23, 2014
2. **Motion** to approve Revised Course Proposals
   a. MIS 361 – Production and Operations Management
   b. MIS 430 – Advanced Project Management
   c. MIS 460 – Advanced Security Management
   d. MIS 470 – Management of Information Systems Design
   e. ART 493 – Senior Exhibition
   f. MKT 425 – Marketing Research
   g. MKT 440 – E-Marketing
   h. MGT 400 – Values and Conflicts in Managerial Decision Making
   i. MDS 280 – Media Issues and Problems
3. **Motion** was approved unanimously.
4. **Motion** to approve Proposals for Minor Changes to Multiple Courses
   a. BS in Accounting 1
   b. BS in Accounting 2
   c. The content of the expedited proposals includes course title changes, prerequisite changes, changes to course numbers. One revised course had several prerequisites, so each prerequisite course was changed with the new expedited form.
5. **Motion** was approved unanimously.
6. **Motion** to approve Revised Program Proposals
   a. BS in Business Administration_CONC_MIS
   b. BS in Business_CONC_Accounting
   c. BS in Business Administration_CONC_International Business
   d. BS in Business Administration_CONC_Minor in MIS
   e. BS in Business Administration_CONC_MIS
   f. BS in Business Administration_CONC_Management
   g. BS in Business_CONC_Finance
   h. BS in Business Administration_CONC_Marketing
   i. BA in Media Studies
   j. BS in Studio Art_CONC_Ceramics, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Jewelry/Metals, Sculpture
   k. BA in English
   l. Chemistry_Minor
7. **Motion** was approved unanimously.
8. Minutes received.

B. University Wide Impact Committee (UWIC)
1. Discussion of the meeting on October 23, 2014
2. **Motion** to approve the following New Program Proposal:
   a. **New Program Proposal: English Minor in Language, Literature, and Writing**
3. **Motion** was approved
4. **Motion** to approve the following language about readmitted students:
   “Once readmitted, students are held to the academic requirements in effect at the time of their readmission. However, the department chair may allow the student to follow the program articulated in the catalog for any semester since their initial matriculation at Southern Connecticut State University.”
5. **Motion** was unanimously approved.
6. Minutes received.
C. Program Review and Assessment Committee (PRAC)
1. Discussion of the meeting on October 23, 2014
2. Evaluation of the Chemistry Department’s self-study
   a. “improve program quality by changing the curriculum to improve student learning”
3. PRAC recommends that the Chemistry Department be granted continuing approval.
4. **Motion** to grant continuing approval to the Chemistry Department
5. **Motion** was unanimously approved
6. Minutes received.

D. Writing Across the Curriculum Committee (WACC)
1. Discussion of the meeting on October 23, 2014
2. **Motion** to approve W course proposals
   a. BIO 334: Microbial Ecology, Roberts
   b. THR 382: The Movies, Garvey
   c. **Motion** was unanimously approved
3. Minutes received.

E. Liberal Education Committee (LEPC)
1. Discussion of the meeting on October 23, 2014
2. Minutes received.

IV. New Business
A. Guest: Strategic Planning Committee representative Maria Diamantas

B. Presentation: **Southern 2015-2025**
      a. Strategic plan attempts to synthesize goals of several bodies/directives
         i. Mission and Core Values
         ii. President and Cabinet
         iii. Steering Committee
         iv. Transform 2020
         v. Campus Volunteers
         vi. Graduate Program Prioritization and Review
         vii. Master Facilities Plan
         viii. President’s Commission on Campus Climate and Inclusion
         ix. Student Success Task Force
   2. Currently collecting feedback on the draft recommendations

C. Feedback
   1. Methodology
      a. None of the bodies with input are elected. All are volunteers or appointees.
      b. If this is a forward-looking document, is there a point in this process when we will evaluate how the process has affected students? We need measurement mechanisms/accountability. We want to see that this plan includes ways of ensuring that our students benefit from the changes.
      c. Amount of faculty participation was not negotiable and we were told from the outset that this was not an academic strategic plan.
         i. Concern about the lack of detail in the plan
         ii. The plan does not refer to shared governance, travel support, reassigned time, or providing smaller classes
d. Faculty appreciate having had the opportunity to conduct focus groups with students and faculty.

2. Content
   a. The four pillars (Excel, Innovate, Impact, Empower) do not incorporate preservation. The university’s key function is to preserve knowledge.
   b. The goals contain several phrases about publicity rather than substance, such as “Southern will become known as…” “Become a recognized leader” “position” and “increased visibility.” The faculty would rather see substantive goals than publicity plans.
   c. Presentation lacks any mention of visual and performing arts. Faculty have doubts/concerns for the future of the arts at Southern.

3. Goal 1: Excel
   a. “We pair talented and focused students with engaged and collaborative faculty and staff.”
      i. Concern about the insertion of staff rather than faculty in the academic advising process
      ii. Faculty should be recognized as being integral to student experience.
   b. The final three sentences of the goal statement (“Southern encourages … We pair … Southern inspires…”) are not actionable goals but rather statements of the status quo.
   c. “delivering exemplary, transformative, and accessible education in a student-centered environment”
      i. “Attract high achieving students who are academically prepared for college, while retaining the university’s mission of educational access.”
         • These are separate and competing priorities. In the classroom it is not possible to serve both kinds of students. We may have to give up on attracting “high achieving students” if we want to prioritize access for less prepared students.

4. Goal 2: Innovate
   a. This section lacks any mention of instruction. We want to be innovative in the classroom as well as through technology. Innovation should not be limited to the technological.
   b. “developing and sustaining a university-wide climate and infrastructure that nurtures creativity and innovation”
      i. The use of the word “sustaining” may address the lack of a “Preserve” directive.
   c. “We will clear the obstacles that block the pursuit of creativity and innovation through the creation of a campus infrastructure that supports and encourages these activities across the University.”
      i. Concern about what specifically will be deemed obstacles for elimination
   d. Support for Rob Rennie
      i. Rennie has made an impression on faculty as being genuinely concerned about student experience. His design plans incorporate understanding student experience firsthand.
      ii. Rennie seems to represent faculty concerns at the cabinet level.

5. Goal 3: Impact
   a. “engaging with local and global communities through exemplary leadership and service to promote community well-being, economic growth, and social justice”
   b. “Leverage athletics for increased visibility”
      i. What about musical ensembles, art shows, and theatrical presentations? We see small audiences at openings and performances which are rarely—if
ever—attended by Deans or administration.

6. Goal 4: Empower
   a. “providing exemplary, ethical stewardship of human, financial, technological and physical resources”
   b. No mention in this section about empowering students
   c. When faculty are seen as “customer service,” the university suffers. Faculty should not be judged on customer service skills and must not fall into the role of customer service representatives.

D. Conclusion of feedback session
   1. To provide additional feedback, use southernct.edu/strategic-plan/index.html or have Robert Forbus meet with your group.

V. Adjournment
   A. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Elena Grossman