

1 **THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA FACULTY SENATE**

2 Wednesday, November 6, 2024

3 This session was held in person at the Russell House Theatre

4 PRESIDING CHAIR WAYNE OUTTEN

5 Chair Wayne Outten called the meeting to order at 1500 EST.

6
7 **Called Meeting of the Faculty Senate**

8 FACULTY SENATE CHAIR WAYNE OUTTEN (hence: CHAIR OUTTEN) welcomed the
9 audience to the Faculty Senate meeting.

10 *Approval of the October 9, 2024, Faculty Senate meeting minutes:* Minutes were approved.

11 ***President's Report***

12 There was no report.

13 CHAIR OUTTEN called Provost DONNA ARNETT (hence: ARNETT) to deliver her report.

14 ***Provost's Report***

15 ARNETT conveyed AMIRIDIS' regrets and informed the senate that AMIRIDIS was meeting
16 with the leadership of the state senate today and was thus unable to attend the faculty senate
17 meeting.

18 ARNETT stated that she held two additional bi-weekly Provost check-in calls: on October 21 On
19 October 21st, Charlie Pierce talked about AI, the changing AI landscape and "how we are
20 adapting within both our educational mission but also our research mission"; on the week before
21 the faculty senate meeting, Vice Provost Marianne Fitzpatrick talked about a whole suite of
22 faculty development offerings that the office of the provost, along with their partners across
23 campus, had created. ARNETT highlighted two: the many workshops offered by Thomas
24 Cooper library and offerings from the revamped Center for Teaching excellence.

25 ARNETT stated that, under the leadership of the new director Matt Thatcher, the CTE website
26 had been refreshed and many new offerings with series and programs suitable for every stage of
27 one's career, all focused on the area of teaching. She stated that CTE had toolkits that can help
28 faculty through the grading and grade submission process.

29 ARNETT stated that she hoped to announce the Blackboard to Banner automated grade
30 transition "within one or two months."

31 ARNETT reported on the 2024 Oktoberfest, an annual teaching innovation event. She
32 encouraged all to listen to the invited talk by Sarah Rose Kavanaugh, senior associate director for
33 teaching and learning at Simmons University, on the topic of supporting faculty and student
34 mental health.

35 ARNETT reminded senators that the nominations for awards would close on November 11.

36 ARNETT asked whether there were any questions.

37 ABBAS TAVAKOLI (College of Nursing; hence: TAVAKOLI) asked whether there were
38 discussions ongoing in the Office of the Provost about the likely impact of the recent federal
39 election on visa issuance for international students on graduate programs. He expected it to be
40 similarly disruptive to that following the 2016 elections.

41 ARNETT responded that no discussion had taken place and that she would refer the matter to
42 SAM TODD, vice provost for global affairs.

43 *There were no further questions.*

44 CHAIR OUTTEN thanked ARNETT and called to the lectern DR. LANAÉ BUDDEN (hence;
45 BUDDEN), Director of the First-Generation Center and invited her to present the work of that
46 center and the federal work-study program.

47 BUDDEN used a slide deck for her presentation. For convenience, the content of most of the
48 slides is provided below.

49 BUDDEN informed the senate that the first-generation center is located in Maxcy College and
50 that its staff includes assistant director Melissa Kupfer, providing their contact information:
51 briggsr@mailbox.sc.edu, kupferm@mailbox.sc.edu, and 803-777-9850.

52 BUDDEN described the center's core functions:

- 53 • Provide support and advocacy for first-gen students.
- 54 • Develop comprehensive first-gen focused programming and services that promote
55 students' academic, personal, and professional growth.
- 56 • Coordinate connections to campus mentorship and resources.
- 57 • Promote research and scholarship around the first-gen student experience.

58 BUDDEN described the Federal Work Study program at USC:

- 59 • *Federal Work Study (FWS)*: financial aid program funded by the federal government and
60 administered by the university. Students can find employment to help pay for college
61 expenses beyond the tuition bill.
- 62 • *Who Qualifies*:
 - 63 - Incoming freshmen through graduate students
 - 64 - Students MUST fill out the FAFSA to be eligible each academic year
 - 65 - Must register for at least 6 credit hours in Spring, Summer or Fall to be offered the award
- 66 • *Who can hire FWS students?* ALL ON CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES can hire a work-
67 study eligible student
- 68 • *FWS Experts (with hyperlinks correct as of November 29, 2024)*:
 - 69 - [Human Resources](#)

- 70 - [Financial Aid](#)
- 71 - [Career Center](#)
- 72 • *Student Benefits:*
 - 73 - Assists students with meeting their basic needs
 - 74 - Increases retention and engagement
 - 75 - Provides a sense of belonging
 - 76 - Expands students' social capital
- 77 • *Employer Benefits:*
 - 78 - Contributes to student retention and engagement
 - 79 - Provides students with training, skills and knowledge to be career-ready
 - 80 - Costs the department a minimum amount
 - 81 (Once the student is hired using FWS funds, the award will cover 75% of the
 - 82 student's wages, while the department they are hired for will cover the other 25%
 - 83 using departmental wages.)

84 BUDDEN asked senators to advertise the FWS program at USC and consider offering additional
85 work study positions, to take advantage of it.

86 CHAIR OUTTEN asked whether there were questions for BUDDEN. There were no questions
87 from the floor. CHAIR OUTTEN noticed that he had some FWS students working in his lab and
88 asked BUDDEN whether they were allowed to take undergraduate research credits and still be
89 paid. BUDDEN stated that the issue is under review.

90 CHAIR OUTTEN thanked BUDDEN and introduced the next item in the agenda.

91 ***Report of Faculty Standing Committees***

92 ***Committee on Curricula and Courses***

93 MICHAEL DICKSON (Department of Philosophy; Chair of C&C; hence: DICKSON) asked for
94 approval of the report published as an attachment to the agenda, in the online faculty senate
95 website. The report includes 93 proposals, as follows:

- 96 10 – College of Information and Communications
- 97 2 – College of Education
- 98 51 – College of Arts and Sciences
- 99 1 – College of Social Work
- 100 1 - College of Pharmacy
- 101 2 - College of Nursing
- 102 20 – Molinaroli College of Engineering and Computing

103 4 – School of Music
104 2– SC Honors College

105 There was no discussion. CHAIR OUTTEN moved for the report to be accepted.

106 ***The report was accepted; the motion passed.***

107 DICKSON stated that the report to be presented at the December faculty senate meeting would
108 include 252 proposals.

109 DICKSON asked proposers to be careful when submitting proposal and follow the published
110 guidelines. He stated that the committee would welcome suggestions for improvements to the
111 processing of curriculum and course proposals and encouraged senators to ask faculty in their
112 departments and units to email suggestions to him.

113 CHAIR OUTTEN thanked DICKSON and invited MARK MINETT (co-chair of the Faculty
114 Advisory Committee, FAC; hence: MINETT) to the podium.

115 ***Faculty Advisory Committee***

116 MINETT stated that the FAC was tasked by the Senate Steering Committee last year to develop a
117 course of action based on the recommendations contained in the report of the Carolina Core
118 Review and Revision Committee. One of the recommendations was to establish a standing
119 committee of the faculty to address issues surrounding the Carolina core. The FAC decided it
120 more appropriate to have a new committee instead of tasking this job to the existing Instructional
121 Development (INDEV) committee. The new committee would be called Committee on the
122 Carolina Core (CCC).

123 MINETT read the charge and composition of the proposed CCC, which was also included in
124 document entitled “Committee on the Carolina Core Proposal,” available on the faculty senate
125 website entry for the meeting subject of these minutes. The text he read was as follows.

126 First, the charge:

127 The Committee on the Carolina Core (CCC) will work with relevant faculty, student, and
128 administrative stakeholders to ensure the Carolina Core provides every student with the
129 basic skills necessary to pursue a fulfilling career, participate responsibly in a democratic
130 society, function well in a diverse global community, and develop a rich and meaningful
131 life.

132 At the start of each academic year, the CCC will meet with the Office of the Provost to
133 collaboratively set the year’s agenda in relation to the Core. The CCC will collaborate on
134 regular reviews of the Core and will consider stakeholder recommendations and develop
135 original proposals for improvements to the Core’s curricular content, implementation,
136 assessment, and administration.

137 The Carolina Core Approval Committee (CCAC) reviews proposed Core courses and
138 recommends modifications to the approved slate of Core courses. The CCC chair or their
139 designee will serve on the CCAC. The CCC will collaborate with the CCAC in reviewing
140 assessments results and will provide feedback on any proposed revisions to Core teaching

141 and assessment rubrics made by the CCAC. The CCC may also suggest additional or
142 alternative revisions. The CCC will assist in circulating any recommended revisions to
143 relevant stakeholders and will present them to the Faculty Senate for feedback and
144 approval.

145 The CCC will present to the Faculty Senate, for its feedback and approval, any
146 recommended revisions to the Core, including but not limited to the Core's overall
147 curricular content and policies regulating the Core's integration into programs of study.
148 The CCC will present to the Faculty Senate and other relevant stakeholders, for their
149 feedback, any recommended changes to the administration of the Core and will consult
150 with the Office of the Provost on their implementation. The CCC will review academic
151 affairs policy proposals related to the Core.

152 The CCC will collaborate with the Office of the Provost to develop language and
153 processes for clearly communicating the substance and value of the Core. The CCC will
154 assist in the development and circulation of best practices to ensure the Carolina Core
155 fulfills its mission.

156 Then, the Make-up (composition) of the proposed committee:

157 The committee will consist of eleven faculty members elected for staggered three-year
158 terms. No more than one elected member may be from any single dean-led Unit, with the
159 exception of the College of Arts and Sciences, which will have a minimum of three and
160 may have up to five elected members. One of the eleven elected faculty member will be
161 drawn from the Palmetto Colleges.

162 Each year, the president of the student body with the confirmation of the Student Senate
163 will appoint one undergraduate student to a one-year term as a non-voting member. Non-
164 voting ex officio members will include the Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate
165 Studies, the Director of Institutional Assessment in the Office of Institutional Research,
166 Assessment, and Analytics, a representative from the University Advising Center, the
167 Director for Academic Programs, and a representative from the Assistant Associate Deans
168 Council. Additional non-voting ex officio members may include a designee of the
169 Carolina Core Approval Committee and a designee of the Center for Teaching
170 Excellence.

171 MINETT also provided some rationale for the proposed composition (make-up) of the CCC, also
172 included in the "Committee on the Carolina Core Proposal" document already mentioned.

173 MINETT stated that he would welcome questions.

174 CHAIR OUTTEN explained that this proposal is provided for review by all, and that it would be
175 discussed further and voted upon at the December faculty senate meeting, since it involves a
176 change to the Faculty Manual..

177 There were no questions.

178 ***Report of the Chair***

179 CHAIR OUTTEN had no special report. He reminded senators that the meeting calendar was
180 changed for this year: there would be scheduled meetings in January and May, but no scheduled
181 meeting in June.

182 ***Unfinished Business***

183 No unfinished business.

184 ***For the Good of the Order***

185 CHAIR OUTTEN reminded the senators that the next meeting would be on the first Wednesday
186 of December (December 4) again in the Russell House theater. There were no other items
187 brought to the attention of the senate for the good of the order.

188 ***The meeting was adjourned at 15:26.***

189 [Minutes prepared by Marco Valtorta, Secretary]

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