

Faculty Senate Resolution Number S-2026-08

TO: Sandra Bulmer, Ph.D., Interim President, Southern Connecticut State University
FROM: Joan Weir, Ph.D., President, SCSU Faculty Senate

The attached Resolution of the Faculty Senate is entitled:

RESOLUTION Regarding CBA Travel Funds for 2026-2027

This resolution was approved by Faculty Senate on: May 6, 2026

This resolution is presented for APPROVAL

This resolution is presented for INFORMATION

In accordance with the CSU-AAUP Contract (Article 5.10), "When the Senate makes a written recommendation to the President, the President shall acknowledge and respond to the recommendation in writing within fifteen (15) days of receiving the Senate's recommendation."

After considering this resolution, please indicate your action on this form and return it to the President of the Faculty Senate.

Joan Weir

Joan Weir, Ph.D., President, SCSU Faculty Senate

06/08/2026

Date

cc: Julia Irwin, Ph.D., Interim Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

ACTION OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

Resolution for Approval

Resolution APPROVED

Resolution DISAPPROVED (Attach statement)

Resolution for Information

Resolution NOTED (applies to Informational Resolutions only)

Sandra Bulmer

Sandra Bulmer, Ph.D., Interim President, SCSU

06/08/2026

Date

Statement



FACULTY SENATE

Resolution Regarding

CBA Travel Funds for 2026-2027

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence;

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty;

Whereas, The CSU-AAUP CBA Travel Fund ["Travel Fund"] supports faculty attendance at professional seminars, workshops, conferences or educational exchanges (CSU-AAUP Contract Article 9.5.1);

Whereas, Participation in such conferences and academic gatherings enhances the ability of SCSU Faculty members to achieve excellence as scholars in their particular disciplines;

Whereas, The Collective Bargaining Agreement (9.5.1) specifies that the President or designee shall consult with the cabinet and the Senate President in assigning travel funds, and each full-time member normally shall not be allowed more than \$1,500 reimbursement per contract year toward the cost of fees, and each part-time member not more than \$750 from the Travel Fund;

Whereas, Reduced frequency of travel during the coronavirus pandemic resulted in a significant amount of residual monies in the Travel Fund at the end of 2019-2020;

Whereas, Residual monies will remain in the Travel Fund and be added to the 2025-2026 CBA-determined Travel Fund allocation, leading to an unusually large pool of funds for travel;

Whereas, The Faculty Senate and the Provost have identified a mutual desire to use available travel funds to support faculty attendance at professional seminars, workshops, conferences or educational exchanges and also to promote active participation;

Whereas, Cost increases for travel and conference fees have significantly affected faculty members' opportunities to participate in national and international professional seminars, workshops, conferences and educational exchanges;

Whereas, The SCSU Administration and the SCSU AAUP have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) allowing an exemption from the \$1,500 (FT) & \$750 (PT) limits for 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 & 2024-2025 & 2025-2026 travel funds for full-time and part-time faculty, respectively;

Whereas, the recent signed AAUP contract has a increase in the maximum limits used for travel for both full-time (\$2275) and part-time faculty (\$1150); and

Whereas, through this resolution the Faculty Senate is acting to fulfill its responsibility in conferring with the President on the establishment of a maximum annual SCSU funding limit on travel funds provided by the CBA for 2026-2027; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate recommends that the travel fund reimbursement caps for 2026-2027 be set as \$3050 for tenured full-time faculty members and non-tenured faculty members on special appointment (non-tenure track), \$3400 for non-tenured full-time faculty members on tenure track, and all travel needs to be completed before August 23rd, 2027; and be it further

Resolved, That for full-time members of the faculty traveling to a professional seminar, workshop, conference or educational exchange shall have the travel cap raised by \$250 for one of three circumstances:

- a) for travel that requires 1800 miles or more to arrive at destination, OR
- b) if the member is faculty traveling to attend a professional seminar, workshop, conference or educational exchange as an invited speaker¹/awardee, and whose expenses are not covered in full by the sponsoring organization, OR
- c) if a member is presenting their work or organizing/chairing a session, seminar, or workshop at the event;

and be it further

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate recommends that the travel fund reimbursement caps for 2026-2027 be set at \$1550 for part-time faculty members; and be it further

Resolved, That part-time members of the faculty traveling to a professional seminar, workshop, conference or educational exchange shall have the travel cap raised by \$125 for one of three circumstances:

- a) for travel that requires 1800 miles or more to arrive at destination OR

¹ For the purposes of this document, an invited speaker is a person who was asked to do a presentation during a conference at an event covered by CBA-provided travel funds. A faculty member applying for an increased travel fund cap based on having been invited, must provide a copy of a written invitation, which states the amount of expenses paid, if any, by the sponsoring organization and any stipend awarded, if any, by the sponsoring organization to cover expenses.

- b) if the member is traveling to attend a professional seminar, workshop, conference or educational exchange as an invited speaker and whose expenses are not covered in full by the sponsoring organization;
- c) if a member is presenting their work or organizing/chairing a session, seminar, or workshop at the event;

and be it further

Resolved, That according to the foregoing, the maximum total travel reimbursement cap shall be \$3,300 for tenured full-time faculty members and for non-tenured faculty members on special appointment (non-tenure track); \$3,650 for non-tenured full-time faculty members on tenure track; and \$1675 for part-time Faculty members².

² This provision is not intended to change any other terms and conditions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement