Executive Council
Minutes
October 10, 2016    4:00 – 5:30 pm
Waterman 427A

Present:    Professors Almstead, Barnaby, Beckage, Burns, Carney, Chittenden, Danks, Feurzeig, Gurdon, Mehrtens, Paris, Pechenick

Absent:    Professors Prue, Rodgers

Guests:    none

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. in Waterman 427A.

1. Approval of September 12, 2016 Minutes. The minutes were approved as written.

2. Degree Corrections (vote)
   Laurie Eddy presented degree correction requests from the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Honors College. Cathy Paris moved to approve the degree corrections as presented. Motion carried.

3. Chair’s Remarks. Cathy Paris remarked that one of her goals for the Faculty Senate is to increase the credibility and authority of Faculty Senate with all of the governance groups at UVM, including student groups, Staff Council, the faculty union, and senior administration. The Faculty Senate will be as strong and respected, and have the ability to influence in proportion to our ability to function well and effectively as a team. Senators and Senate Executive Council members must put aside their other affiliations, and come wearing their Senate hat, because our credibility depends on it.

4. Agenda for P&P Meeting Tuesday, October 18, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m
   •  Open ended discussion of Senior Leadership priorities for the coming year.

5. Curricular Affairs Report
   Laura Almstead presented the consent agenda. (vote)
   •  New PhD in Human Functioning & Rehabilitation Science submitted by the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. The program is inter-professional program between all departments in CNHS that will facilitate the generation of new knowledge by providing an academic training platform for research collaboration. It would begin in the Fall of 2017. The proposed program supports the strategic goal of both the University and CNHS to enhance our research infrastructure while requiring a minimum of resources.
   Cathy Paris called a vote that the proposed PhD in Human Functioning & Rehabilitation Science be added to the October Faculty Senate agenda. The motion carried.
6. Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting of October 24, 2016
Cathy Paris presented the following agenda, and suggested that the New Business section be moved up in the agenda to occur before the IBB Forum. One New Business item has been received from Chris Burns regarding an announcement of Open Access Week for Libraries. No additional comments or suggestions were received and the agenda was accepted.
- Minutes of the September 26 meeting 2 min
- President’s Remarks 5 min
- President and Provost’s Remarks 5 min
- Update on Assessment at UVM (J. Dickinson) 10 min
- CAC Business (Laura Almstead) 8 min
- Faculty-Led IBB Forum 55 min
- New business 5 min – Chris Burns – Open Access Week ** move this item to prior to the IBB forum on the agenda
- Adjourn

7. Graduate Student Senate & Student Government Association Committee Members
The Faculty Senate bylaws section 7 Committees, 7.1.2.3 Student Members, states:

- Standing committees may invite graduate and/or undergraduate students designated by student governing bodies on a one-year renewable basis to serve on the committee.
- In addition to the faculty members elected as described above, the Student Affairs Committee and the Educational and Research Technologies Committee shall also include a graduate and undergraduate student member designated by student governing bodies, renewable yearly.

Cathy Paris reported that as newly elected President, she met with governance leaders to make connections. At the meeting with the Graduate Student Senate leaders, Cathy mentioned that the Faculty Senate bylaws allow student members on standing committees. In August, the GSS vice president notified the Senate office that they had found members for the Senate committees. Cathy stated that it was not her intent to override the committee chairs, and opened the discussion regarding student membership on standing committees. The work of the Professional Standards Committee is highly confidential, and does not include student members, or Senate staff support. The Chairs of the CAC, SAC, ERTC, and RSCA all reported that the student perspectives are helpful, and unobtrusive, and the students provide a positive link to the Student Government Association and the Graduate Student Senate. The biggest challenge is achieving consistent student attendance at meetings. The FPPC chair stated that the FPPC decided not to invite student members this year. Concerns were expressed regarding student members and voting rights. Discussion included the importance of all members having the same rights, and the need for clarity regarding the language in the bylaws. The committee chairs will use their discretion regarding inviting student members. Student members on standing committees will have full rights of committee membership, including voting rights. The issue of clarifying the language in the Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws could be taken up in a future meeting if requested.

8. FPPC Concerns - Andrew Barnaby presented the following:
- IBB Forum - The FPPC requested that a member of the FPPC, that is not Don Ross, be included in the IBB Forum scheduled for October 24th. The concern is that the FPPC has a different perspective on IBB than the steering committee. Andrew Barnaby stated that although Don Ross is a member of the steering committee and a member of the FPPC, Don feels uncomfortable representing the FPPC on the panel.
- Meetings with President & Provost - The scheduled meetings of the Executive Council with the President & Provost for the Fall semester conflict with the FPPC chair’s teaching schedule. Discussion included creating a co-chair to represent the FPPC at the meetings that the chair cannot
attend, or requesting a change of date for at least one meeting for the semester that would accommodate the FPPC Chair.

- Proposal Review – Andrew Barnaby stated that the charge of the FPPC empowers the committee to review proposals with financial/budgetary implications. Discussion included a question of where the lines are drawn? Should FPPC review only items that require SIF funds?

**Motion:** Thomas Chittenden moved to allow an FPPC member on the Faculty Senate IBB panel to have the committee feel more included and give them more of a voice.

**Discussion:** Executive Committee members expressed the value of FPPC knowledge on the IBB panel, a broader perspective than the IBB steering committee, and the value of multiple voices in a deliberative body. Concern was also expressed that the FPPC is already represented on the panel by Don Ross, and that all representation should be non-confrontational, and civil.

**After discussion and further amendment the following motion was voted on:** “An FPPC member of the committee’s choice will serve on the Faculty Senate IBB panel at the October Senate meeting.” Alison Pechenick seconded the motion. Cathy Paris called the vote. **The Motion carried.**

**Motion:** Jan Carney moved that the President and Provost be invited to not attend the faculty IBB forum at the October Senate meeting.

**Discussion:** Executive Committee members expressed the value of the President and Provost listening to the questions and concerns of the faculty. Concern was also expressed that faculty might seem stifled by the presence of the President and Provost, and that the forum could devolve into a question and answer session with the President and Provost. It was suggested that the forum minutes not include names, but only a summary of the general themes and questions. The minutes would be provided to the President and Provost.

**After discussion and further amendment the following motion was voted on:** “In advance of the October Senate meeting, the President of the Faculty Senate will request that the UVM President and Provost leave the October Senate meeting prior to the start of the IBB forum.” Cecilia Danks seconded the motion. Cathy Paris called a vote. **The Motion carried with one abstention.**

9. **Review of September 26, 2016 Faculty Senate Meeting; Best Practices for High-Functioning Committees 30 min**

Themes in this agenda item were touched on throughout the agenda, and not taken up as a separate discussion.

10. **New Business 5 min**

11. **Adjourn – 5:41 p.m.**