



FACULTY SENATE

Minutes

Monday, March 27, 2017

Memorial Lounge 4:00 – 5:30 pm

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

**Senators in Attendance:** 61

**Absent:** Senators Fraser (Art & Art History), Franklin (Classics), Cote (Communication Sciences), Varhue (Electrical & Biomedical Engineering), (Mechanical Engineering), Toolin (ERTC), Rayback (Geography), Mieder (German & Russian), Busier (Leadership & Developmental Sciences), Teuscher (Medicine), (MMG), Zenali (Pathology), Ambaye (Pathology), Wittpenn (Pediatrics), Naylor (Psychiatry), Patterson (Social Work), Carney (Vice President)

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**I. Approval of the Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the February 27, 2017 Meeting

**Vote:** 87% approve, 2% oppose, 11% abstain

**II. Senate President's Remarks** – Cathy Paris made the following announcements:

- The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Blackboard Jungle Symposium is scheduled to begin with a keynote address on Thursday, March 30, and continue with a full day of events on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- A faculty panel discussion on the topic of free speech is being planned for Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, from 4 - 5:30 p.m in Room 301 Williams Hall. This event is cosponsored by the Faculty Senate, United Academics, the Humanities Center, the Honors College, and the Department of Romance Languages and Linguistics. The title of the panel discussion is “When is Speech Violence?”
- On March 31<sup>st</sup>, President Sullivan will participate in a panel discussion titled “Free Speech and Hate Speech: Can they Coexist?” as part of the Blackboard Jungle symposium.
- The election for Senate Vice President will be held this spring. Nominations open today, and will be accepted from the Senate floor, or via email to the Faculty Senate office. Self-nominations are accepted. Nominations will close at the April 24<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting and an electronic ballot will be distributed by the end of April.

**III. President and Provost's Remarks**

President Sullivan expanded on the topic of the merits of internships, which was discussed at the February Senate meeting, by highlighting the results of a recent Gallup poll titled “Big Six

College Experiences Linked Life Preparedness” <http://www.gallup.com/poll/182306/big-six-college-experiences-linked-life-preparedness.aspx>. The poll found that undergraduate students felt that emotional support and experiential learning experiences were important factors in preparing them for life after graduation. The following six attributes or opportunities were strongly associated with student success:

- I had at least one professor who made me excited about learning
- My professors cared about me as a person
- I had a mentor who encouraged me to pursue my goals and dreams
- I worked on a project that took a semester or more to complete
- I had an internship or job that allowed me to apply what I was learning in the classroom
- I was extremely active in extracurricular activities and organizations while I was in college

Of the students polled, only 14% reported to have had all three emotional support experiences, and only 6% reported to have had all three experiential learning experiences. And 25% reported to have had none of the six attributes or opportunities. President Sullivan suggested that these data might be helpful in discussing the value of internships and how students can be successful in classrooms and after graduation.

Provost Rosowsky made the following announcements:

- As part of the President’s Strategic Action Plan, we are collecting ideas for improving efficiency and effectiveness. There is a link on the Provost’s webpage to submit suggestions. The website will be open to collect suggestions until April 30, 2017.
- The Institute for the Environment is moving forward, and an announcement regarding the status is expected in the next few weeks.
- A Data Management committee has been charged and will begin work in the coming weeks
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> coffee with Provost is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> in the Scarlet Oaks Lounge across from Henderson café, from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
- The End of Semester activities begin tonight with the annual Faculty Senate Dinner.

**IV. Enrollment Management Goals and Initiatives** – Stacey Kostell, Vice President for Enrollment Management, and Beth Wisner, Executive Director of Admissions presented an overview of Enrollment Management, their goals, trends, admission policies, and recruitment strategies (presentation slides are attached to these minutes). Discussion included the complexity of balancing the goals of accessibility, diversity, and competition. Each year brings a different set of challenges, and there are no target numbers for out-of-state, or students of color, etc., because the enrollment picture is about more than the first-year students. The goal is to bring in students, improve the reputation of UVM so more students want to attend, increase the diversity of the student body, and attract the best of Vermont’s students. Vermont student recruitment has been a significant challenge, with only 50% or less of the Vermont high school graduates enrolling in college. UVM has several strategies for reaching out to Vermonters. Two initiative are the Catamount Commitment which offers academic, personal, and financial support for Pell-eligible Vermont students, and the Pathway to UVM from CCV program, which provides a clear path for students to begin their college career at CCV and transfer to UVM.

V. **Sustainability Curriculum Review Committee Report & Update.** Deane Wang, Co-chair of the SCRC presented a capacity and assessment update of the Sustainability General Education requirement (presentation slides are attached to these minutes). Professor Wang reminded the Senate that the sustainability requirement began in fall 2015 with the goal of providing SU designated courses for undergraduate students across the university, and having students meet the requirement in their first or second year. Much work has been done to anticipate the number of student seats needed, and to ensure the course offerings met the needed capacity. Courses need to include the four identified Sustainability Learning Outcomes to receive the SU designation. The Sustainability Faculty Fellows program has helped faculty across the campus adapt their courses to meet the requirement. Deane Wang hopes that this support will continue for two more years. An assessment committee for the Sustainability General Education requirement has been formed, and this faculty-driven process will continue over the next several years.

VI. **Curricular Affairs Committee Report** - Laura Almstead, Chair of the CAC, presented three items for vote.

- **New Certificate of Graduate Study in Agroecology.** Submitted by the Department of Plant & Soil Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, this is a low-residency program that capitalizes on faculty expertise and initiatives unique to UVM in an area where there is a societal need and student demand. It will place UVM in a position to be a leader in the field of agroecology, and will complement and support current graduate programs.

**Motion:** To approve the new Certificate of Graduate Study in Agroecology

**Vote:** 98% approve, 0% oppose, 2% abstain

- **New Minor in Education for Cultural and Linguistic Diversity.** Submitted by the College of Education and Social Services, this new minor will enhance the education of both Education majors who are preparing to teach in PreK-12 schools with English language learners and non-Education majors who will work in professions in diverse settings by providing valuable training in the impact of multiculturalism, language learning issues, and diversity.

**Motion:** To approve the New Minor in Education for Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

**Vote:** 84% approve, 6% oppose, 10% abstain

- **Proposal for new General Education Requirement, Quantitative Reasoning.** The proposal for a University-wide General Education requirement in Quantitative Reasoning was developed by a committee of faculty. If approved, undergraduates entering fall 2017 must meet the QR requirement by completing a course, curriculum, or co-curriculum approved by the Faculty Senate QR Curriculum Review Committee. The QR requirement is intended to assure that graduates of UVM possess the ability to think critically, evaluate information, and reason quantitatively in order to excel in their chosen field and to perform as successful citizens in the world.

**Motion:** To approve the new General Education Requirement in Quantitative Reasoning

**Vote:** 76% approve, 14% oppose, 10% abstain

VII. **New Business.** No new business was presented.

VIII. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m.