



FACULTY SENATE

Financial & Physical Planning Committee

October 2, 2023, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Present: Thomas Borchert (Faculty Senate President), Chloe Elkort (SGA) Dan DeSanto (LIB), David Kaufman (RSNER), Jane Knodell (CAS), Lisa McGee (LCOM), Maureen Neumann (CESS), Guillermo Rodriguez (CAS), Andrey Ukhov (GSB), Beth Zigmund (LCOM)

Absent: Pending (CALS), Greg Rowangould (CEMS), Krista Shea (CNHS), Pending (GSS)

Guests: Shari Bergquist, Richard Cate, Bryn Geffert

The meeting was called to order by Chair Guillermo Rodriguez at 2:00pm via Microsoft Teams.

1. **Approval of the September Minutes.** The minutes of September 2023 will be voted on at the November meeting.
2. **Chair Update.** Guillermo is a member of the University Benefits Council that meets for an hour once a month, he has a teaching conflict this semester and is looking for coverage for the fall. The committee is made up of staff, administration, and faculty so it is important that faculty has representation. Andrey has volunteered to fill this position.

Chloe Elkort is the new SGA representative to the FPPC.

3. **Libraries Update, Bryn Geffert.** The memo from Dean Geffert will go out to the UVM community from the Faculty Senate office for review and comment in the next week. Dean Geffert provided the FPPC an overview of the memo and the process the libraries followed. To view the presentation and discussion please e-mail the Faculty Senate office at facse@uvm.edu.

Questions the committee had included:

How will this impact staffing?

- 8 people made major changes to their position. Employees that did not make changes remain in their current positions.
- 15 positions will be advertised, all internal applicants were awarded positions. There are still some open positions and some that will be posted.
- There are no new line positions, just shifts in job responsibilities.

- These changes were made with both staff and faculty, if it was a staff position, they needed to create a new position and the staff member needed to apply due to human resources regulations.

The Faculty Senate's Libraries Ad Hoc Committee will review the proposal, Maureen will represent the FPPC on this committee. Thomas encourages all FPPC members review the proposal and submit comments. And questions.

4. Tuition Freeze policy and VP of Finance Update, Richard Cate.

- Significant increase in the cost of health care that will burden the budget in the coming year. What they budgeted for the current year is not enough, the number of claims has not largely increased however the cost of the claims has gone up.
- There has been no decision made on an increase in tuition, it will be decided in the next couple weeks and Richard will report back to the FPPC when this happens.
- The cost of utilities is still an issue, they have locked natural gas in at a good rate for a one-year contract. This will help but doesn't solve all the utility issues.
- The UVM comprehensive sustainability plan is on the university website and lays out how UVM wants to move forward.

5. New / Old Business. There was no new / old business to report.

6. Adjourn. The committee adjourned the meeting at 3:01pm.

The next FPPC meeting will be November 6, 2023, from 2:00 to 3:30 on Teams.