



FACULTY SENATE

Student Affairs Committee

Minutes

February 1, 2024

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Microsoft Teams

Present: Thomas Borchert (Faculty Senate President), Matthew Carlson (CAS), Terry Delaney (CALs), Evan Eyler (FS VP), Krisan Geary (CEMS), Steve Gove (GSB), Denise Hersey (LIB), Taylor Kocian (GSS), Nathan Kokinda (CNHS), Michael McDonald (RSENR), Jennifer Prue (CESS), Devika Singh (LCOM), Scott Van Keuren (CAS)

Absent: Catherine Jones (SGA), Evan Siegel (SAG), Erin Tsai (LCOM)

Guests: Erica Caloiero J. Dickinson, Alicia Ebert, Suzanne Harrington

Co-Chair Jenny Prue called the meeting to order at 8:30 am via Microsoft Teams.

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of the January 2024 SAC meeting were approved as written.
2. **Chair Update.** The Faculty Senate considered the proposed change to the attendance policy that the SAC approved at the last meeting. It will be on the consent agenda for the February Faculty Senate meeting. Thomas Borchert thanked the SAC and Scott for getting this through the SAC and onto the Faculty Senate.
3. **Doctors note and deans' notifications management.** J. is creating a task force that will include the Deans Offices, Center for Health and Well Being, SGA, and the SAC. Steve and Scott will join this committee to help represent the different types of teaching including class size and labs. Some of the suggestions that were made included:
 - The SAC hold a forum that would allow for wider faculty input to share with the task force.
 - SAC members ask for input at college meetings to share with the task force.

The task force will work with Duke on their incapacitation form, the Faculty Senate Office will send the form out to the committee for review.

The SAC would like to invite Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to a future meeting for an update.

4. **Courses taken by high school students who matriculate at UVM, J. Dickinson.**

Courses taken by high school students who matriculate at UVM.

- ➤ High school students who take UVM courses often do well, but some earn an F or D if they are not yet prepared to do college level work.
- ➤ If they matriculate at UVM, courses they took as high school students become part of their UVM record, count in their GPA, and may fulfill requirements if the grade is high enough.
- ➤ The effects of a low grade, especially in the first semester, can be significant.
- ➤ Currently we consider requests for exceptions on a case-by-case basis. If a student requests not to have a course taken in high school count towards their UVM GPA, the course is moved to a non-degree level transcript. This also means it will not count towards degree requirements.

WHY is this important?

- ➤ Inequity: only affects students who take courses here as HS students – more likely to impact Vermonters
- ➤ Disproportional first year impact: One or two grades “loom large” in first year GPA
- ➤ Impact not included as a factor in most students’ choice to enroll in UVM course while in HS: HS students may not realize the full potential impact of the grade in a course on their future college career at UVM at the time they enroll

The committee discussed the following three options:

Policy option for UVM courses taken in HS	Pros	Cons
No change in current procedure. Continue to handle exceptions on a case-by-case basis.	Allows maximum flexibility for institution to consider individual student factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently no formal process for requests • Impact can be mixed – improved GPA but fewer credits/requirements fulfilled
Treat these as transfer credits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • do not count in the student's GPA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffers the impact of lower grades on GPA • Eliminates inequity of having UVM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students who earn high grades won't benefit from those in their GPA • Grades of D through C- would not be able to count towards requirements as these

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appear as 'TR' on transcript • If grade below C, doesn't transfer/appear on transcript 	<p>low grades count, but not low grades taken at other institutions</p>	<p>credits would not transfer</p>
<p>Students may elect to count, or not count these on their record</p>	<p>Allows maximum choice for students as they enter UVM</p>	<p>Establishing process requires many institutional decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would require a form • Which model -UConn and/or UMass? • Set deadline?

J. will update the slides and will present at the March SAC meeting for a vote.
 For a complete presentation please e-mail the Faculty Senate Office at facsen@uvm.edu.

5. Old / New Business.

- The SAC needs two representatives to serve on the Outstanding Advisor Committee, Scott and Denise have volunteered.
- Update of Residential Life on the living situations of the students.

The SAC was adjourned at 10:00a.m. The next meeting of the SAC will be on March 7, 2024, at 8:30am on Microsoft Teams.