



FACULTY SENATE

Student Affairs Committee
Minutes

427a Waterman
October 12, 2017

Present Kenneth Allen (CNHS), Jamie Benson (SGA), Thomas Chittenden (GSB), Dan DeSanto (LIB), Mia Hockett (LCOM), Karla Karstens (CEMS), Stephen Pinauro (CAL), Jennifer Prue (CESS), Cathy Paris (FS President), Martin Thaler (CAS), Nancy Welch (CAS)

Absent Zail Berry (COM), Trish O’Kane (RSENR), Omar Oyarzabal (EXT)

Guests Gayle Nunley, Stephanie Loscalzo, Brian Reed*

Co-Chair Jennifer Prue called the meeting to order at 8:31 in Waterman 427a.

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of September 14, 2017 were approved as written.
2. **Widely Observed Daytime Holidays and the Officially Posted UVM Academic Calendar.**

Interfaith Inclusionary Academic Calendar Listings

Student Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate
University of Vermont
10/19/2016

Committee Members: Kenneth Allen, Zail Berry, Hillary Brown, Thomas Chittenden (Co-Chair), Dan DeSanto, Jeffrey Hughes, Don Loeb, William Louisos, Jane Molofsky, Omar Oyarzabal, Kristen Pierce, Jennifer Prue (Co-Chair), Scott VanKeuren

Issue: Widely celebrated religious holidays fall on traditional class days each semester. These highly recognized holidays create personal conflicts for many university students, faculty and staff.

Proposal: Include on the official University of Vermont academic calendar the listing of widely recognized holidays and reference to a comprehensive listing of interfaith holiday observances. Consideration for inclusion of a widely

recognized holiday in the Academic Calendar table would involve a review and petition process managed by the Registrar's office.

Rationale: When Faculty layout their course schedule each semester, they reference the official UVM academic calendar. Inclusion of these widely recognized and honored religious events in the official UVM Academic Calendar will guide faculty to consider these holidays when they finalize their course schedule.

http://www.uvm.edu/~rgweb/?Page=importantdates/i_academiccalendars.html&SM=i_menu.html

<i>Current Academic Calendar</i>				<i>Proposed Academic Calendar Listing</i>			
Fall 2016*				Fall 2016*			
Events	Dates	Day		Events	Dates	Day	
First Day of Classes	29-Aug	M		First Day of Classes	29-Aug	M	
Last Day to Add Classes without Instructor Permission	2-Sep	F		Last Day to Add Classes without Instructor Permission	2-Sep	F	
Labor Day Holiday	5-Sep	M		Labor Day Holiday	5-Sep	M	
Add/Drop, Pass/No Pass, Audit Deadline ¹	12-Sep	M		Add/Drop, Pass/No Pass, Audit Deadline ¹	12-Sep	M	
Fall Recess	10-Oct	M		<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	Oct 3-4	M, T	
Last Day to Withdraw ¹	31-Oct	M		Fall Recess	10-Oct	M	
Thanksgiving Recess	Nov 21-25	M-F		<i>Yom Kippur</i>	12-Oct	W	
Last Day of Classes	9-Dec	F		Last Day to Withdraw ¹	31-Oct	M	
Reading Days	Dec 10,11,14	Sa,S		Thanksgiving Recess	Nov 21-25	M-F	
Exam Period	Dec 12-16	M-F		Last Day of Classes	9-Dec	F	
Exam Days	Dec 12,13,15,16	M,T		Reading Days	Dec 10,11,14	Sa,S	
¹ <u>Refund policies vary. Click here for more information.</u>				¹ <u>Refund policies vary. Click here for more information.</u>			
Spring 2017*				Spring 2017*			
Martin Luther King Holiday	16-Jan	M		Martin Luther King Holiday	16-Jan	M	
First Day of Classes	17-Jan	T		First Day of Classes	17-Jan	T	
Last Day to Add Classes without Instructor Permission	23-Jan	M		Last Day to Add Classes without Instructor Permission	23-Jan	M	
Add/Drop, Pass/No Pass, Audit Deadline ¹	30-Jan	M		Add/Drop, Pass/No Pass, Audit Deadline ¹	30-Jan	M	
Presidents' Day Holiday	20-Feb	M		Presidents' Day Holiday	20-Feb	M	
Town Meeting Day Recess	7-Mar	T		Town Meeting Day Recess	7-Mar	T	
Spring Recess	Mar 13-17	M-F		Spring Recess	Mar 13-17	M-F	
Last Day to Withdraw ¹	3-Apr	M		Last Day to Withdraw ¹	3-Apr	M	
Honors Day	21-Apr	F		<i>Passover</i>	Apr 11-18	T-T	
Last Day of Classes	5-May	F		<i>Easter</i>	16-Apr	Su	
Reading Days	May 6,7,10	Sa,S		Honors Day	21-Apr	F	
Exam Period	May 8-12	M-F		Last Day of Classes	5-May	F	
Exam Days	May 8,9,11,12	M,T		Reading Days	May 6,7,10	Sa,S	
Commencement - Graduate	20-May	Sa		Exam Period	May 8-12	M-F	
Commencement - Undergraduate	21-May	Su		Exam Days	May 8,9,11,12	M,T	
Commencement - Medical	21-May	Su		Commencement - Graduate	20-May	Sa	
¹ <u>Refund policies vary. Click here for more information.</u>				¹ <u>Refund policies vary. Click here for more information.</u>			
<i>*Approved by the Faculty Senate April 13, 2015</i>				<i>*Approved by the Faculty Senate April 13, 2015</i>			
				No Classes Held			
				Widely Observed Holiday			
				World Religions Ca			

The committee will continue to work on this issue at future SAC meetings.

3. Global Gateways Program Discussion & Guest Gayle. The slides will be added once they are provided by GGP office.

4. Bike & Pedestrian Safety Topics at UVM. This topic was not discussed.

5. Online Course Evaluations. Thomas will presenting this proposal to the Faculty Senate at the October meeting.

WHEREAS the University of Vermont Faculty Senate passed a motion on online evaluations on April 9th 2012 (FS2012-174) supporting the creation of an online course evaluation platform for UVM courses; and

WHEREAS the University of Vermont Student Government Association passed a resolution supporting the revitalization and standardization of academic course evaluations on November 18th 2014 (SGA2014-04); and

WHEREAS the Student Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate, the Educational Research & Technologies Committee of the Faculty Senate and the Student Government Association passed additional resolutions calling for an integrated course evaluation system to have the following operational and policy parameters:

- The anonymity of respondent submissions should be maintained in all presented results with specific attention to semantic security limiting multi-dimensional response parsing to only include sub-populations with a minimum number of five collected responses from that sub group;
- Such a platform would make available the course questionnaire to students to complete up until being able to view their final course grade, and that a prompt would ask students if they would like to opt out or in to completing the evaluation;
- If the student opts to complete the course evaluation, this would only occur before the final grade is viewable ensuring that students must complete the course evaluation before their grade is viewable through the online portal;
- Functional units or departments on campus would not be under any obligation to use this integrated platform for course evaluations, and that the determination to do so rests with the governance structures in place within each functional unit/department;
- This platform would place full autonomy and control of the questions, responses and managed access to the responses solely with the functional units or departments on campus currently responsible for managing course evaluations;
- Any implemented system would include data access and access attempt auditing to maintain verifiable integrity over the departmentally controlled responses to these course evaluations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that

- The University of Vermont Faculty Senate supports the implementation of a myUVM-integrated departmentally controlled course evaluation platform.; and
- The University of Vermont should charge a joint Administration/Faculty Senate committee to develop a Request For Information (RFI) to solicit vendor proposals on a course evaluation platform to meet the desired characteristics outlined above.

6. New Business. There was no new business.

The SAC meeting adjourned at 10:11am

The next meeting of the SAC is scheduled for November 9th 2017 in 427a Waterman.