



FACULTY SENATE

Minutes
February 10, 2014

Senators in Attendance: 48

Absent: Adams (Surgery), Ambaye (Pathology), Chan (Philosophy), Contompasis (Pediatrics), Couch (Surgery), Cowan (Family Medicine), Green (Radiology), Greene (Animal Science), Hehir (Neuroscience), Heiss (CDAE), Light (Libraries), Liptek (Chemistry), Lounsbury (Pharmacology), Mierse (Art), Naylor (Psychiatry), Schapiro (Anesthesiology), Tyzbir (Nutrition & Food Sciences), Wilcox (Pathology), Wu (Rehabilitation & Movement Science), Yang (physics), Beaudoin (FPPC), Prue (SAC), Rodgers (PSC), Kaza (Vice President)

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- 1. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of January 13, 2014 were approved as written.
 - 2. Senate President's Remarks.** President Roberts began her remarks by encouraging Senators to talk to their departments about volunteering to be involved in the WILD pilot. Departments should contact Char Mehrstens or Susanmarie Harrington if they are interested in participating. President Roberts also announced that the annual Faculty Senate Dinner will be held on Monday April 7, 2014 immediately following the Faculty Senate meeting. Invitations will be distributed next Month via email. Finally, President Roberts closed her remarks by noting that the second report on new and revised courses had been sent out electronically. If there are questions or concerns they should be directed to Kerry Castano at Kerry.Castano@uvm.edu.
 - 3. President & Provost Remarks.** President Sullivan used his time to speak briefly about the memo he had sent to all faculty, staff, and students regarding high risk drinking. He introduced Annie Stevens, the Dean of Students, and John Porter, Director of the Center of Health and Wellbeing, who are actively working on addressing this issue on campus. A taskforce will be put together to come up with a recommended action plan for the University. This taskforce will be made up of faculty, students, staff, alumni, and parents; nominations for this committee are welcome. This is a community-wide problem and will be treated as such. It was questioned if UVM will be working in partnership with the State of Vermont given the focus on substance abuse in the most recent State of the State address. President Sullivan answered that he hopes we can.
 - 4. IBB Subcommittee Reports.** The IBB subcommittee reports have been released and may be accessed [on the IBB website](http://www.uvm.edu/provost/IBB/?Page=subcommittees_ibb.html). (http://www.uvm.edu/provost/IBB/?Page=subcommittees_ibb.html). The next steps in

the process will be to combine the reports, assess common themes, and come up with recommendations. One question that was asked from the Senate floor is where the General Education would fit into the budget model. Provost Rosowsky answered that steering committee will see the bigger picture once the reports are combined and commonalities like general education will be split up easily using a formula.

- 5. General Education: Sustainability.** Laura Hill-Birmingham, co-chair of the General Education Committee on Sustainability presented the committee's progress to the Faculty Senate. Since their last report out the committee has held an open forum for students, to collect information and critique on the draft outcomes. The feedback collected at this event suggested that UVM is doing reasonably well already with teaching sustainability within the existing curriculum. There is another open forum scheduled for faculty on 2/19/14. Once this feedback has been collected, the committee is hoping to finalize the drafted outcomes. The committee hopes to review the outcomes, create an assessment strategy, and design a pilot program this semester. They will return to the Senate to share their progress over the spring.
- 6. Fora on Benefits.** The University Benefits Advisory Council has held two fora on benefits to collect input on the proposed change in benefits cost sharing. Mostly staff attended these events; however, there were some faculty present. It is important to note that the UBAC will not be making the decision on how the benefits cost sharing will change; rather they are an advisory committee to the administration who will decide this for unrepresented staff. Faculty and unionized staff will still go through the regular bargaining process. There was a request from the floor to make the feedback mechanisms for those who cannot attend these town hall style meetings more public and available.
- 7. Curricular Affairs.** Cathy Paris, Chair of the Curricular Affairs Committee reported out two acronym changes that had been approved by the CAC. The first was Women's and Gender Studies (WGST) to Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GSWT). The second was within the graduate level nursing program from GRNU to GRNS.
- 8. New Business.** There was no new business at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm.