



FACULTY SENATE

Executive Council

September 14, 2020, 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Minutes

Present: Professors Chittenden, Burns, Almstead, Wood, Giangreco, Cushman, Delaney, Beckage, Eyler, Borchert

Absent: Professors Garvey, Knodell, Read, Prue

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The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM on Microsoft Teams.

1. Minutes of the June 23, 2020 meeting were approved as written.
2. Degree Corrections. Laurie Eddy presented degree corrections requests from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College for consideration.  
Motion: Michael Giangreco moved to approve the degree corrections as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.
3. CAC Consent Agenda. Laura Almstead presented two items from the Curricular Affairs Committee to be placed on the consent agenda for the September Faculty Senate meeting.
  - a. Online option for existing CGS in Complex Systems & Data Science, CEMS
  - b. New Credential: Micro-Certificate of Graduate Studies, Graduate CollegeMotion: Michael Giangreco moved to approve the CAC consent agenda for inclusion on the Faculty Senate agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.
4. Chair's Remarks. Thomas Chittenden made the following remarks:
  - a. Bylaws Review Committee. Chris Burns reported that the committee has begun their work and is planning to take a phased approach to addressing clean-up issues, General Education, diversity, equity and inclusion, and groundwork for a restructuring conversation.
  - b. A special election will be held for one At-Large Member for the Executive Council. Jason Garvey has had to step down due to a change in his department affiliation in the College of Education and Social Services. Laurie Eddy will send

out a call for nominations email, and nominations will be requested from the floor at the September Senate meeting.

- c. Ombudsperson vacancy. David Neiweem has stepped down as Faculty Ombudsperson. This not an elected position and does not need to be held by a member of the Senate. Because the UA is responsible for unionized faculty, the majority of the issues brought to the Ombudsperson are from LCOM faculty. Thomas will send out an email call for nominations.
  - d. Concerns about time for debate on the floor of Senate. The agendas are full and suggestions for increasing time for deliberation include increasing the frequency or length of meetings, and strict time-keeping. The Executive Council is responsible for setting the agenda and Thomas welcomes feedback on this issue.
5. Principles of Instruction for Fall 2020, Course modality and faculty autonomy. Thomas Chittenden stated that this was a topic discussed at the September meeting of the Executive Council with the President and Provost. The Provost has stated that faculty do have the ability to temporarily adjust modality due to circumstances. Impact bargaining is working on providing clarity on when faculty can change modality, temporary or otherwise. This issue may be revisited after impact bargaining if there is continued concern.
6. Faculty of Color Letter
- a. Conversion of letter to resolution. Thomas Chittenden and Chris Burns were copied on a letter to the administration from the Faculty of Color regarding concerns about faculty of color retention. The Faculty of Color is a self-organized group that advocates for changes they would like to see at the University. Chris Burns reported that the group is in discussion with the administration, and that he and Thomas had a conversation with the main author of the letter about how the Senate might offer support. Because the Senate does not have a committee charged with looking at issues of diversity, equity and inclusion, Thomas Chittenden opened discussion regarding the Executive Council bringing the issue to the Senate in form of a resolution. Discussion included the suggestion to create a task force to strengthen the data and clarify questions prior to a Senate resolution.
  - b. Black lives matter flag at Davis center – Thomas Chittenden reported that a Ken Allen, member of the Student Affairs Committee, has drafted a resolution calling on the administration to raise the Black Lives Matter flag at the Davis Center. After discussion, and no objections, the Executive Council supported taking action on this issue. Thomas Chittenden will communicate with Ken Allen, the SAC co-chairs, and the President and Provost regarding the likelihood of the resolution being placed on the October Senate agenda.
7. Open items of concern related to pandemic decision making – Thomas Chittenden opened discussion around the following concerns:
- a. Campus Child Care Center

- b. Faculty Representation on UVM Strong Committees (Board report)
- c. MS Teams vs Zoom
- d. COVID 19 cases dashboard

8. Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting

4:00	1. Faculty Senate President’s Welcome Remarks – Thomas Chittenden <i>[10 min]</i>
4:10	2. Consent Agenda (vote) <i>[5 min]</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes of the 8/24/20 Faculty Senate Meeting</li> <li>• Curricular Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Online option for existing CGS in Complex Systems &amp; Data Science, CEMS</li> <li>b. New Credential: Micro-Certificate of Graduate Studies, Grad College</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4:15	3. Conferral of Degrees (vote) <i>[5 min]</i>
4:20	4. Spring 2021 Academic Calendar Revisions – Bill Falls (vote) <i>[25 min]</i>
4:45	5. Liberal Arts Gen Ed Requirements– Pablo Bose (vote) <i>[20 min]</i>
5:05	6. UVM Re-organization Committee Update on Effort – Dean Jenemann <i>[20 min]</i>
5:25	7. New Business <i>[5 min]</i>
5:30	8. Adjourn

Motion: Tom Borchert moved to accept the draft agenda for the September Faculty Senate meeting as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

9. New Business – none at this time.

10. Adjourn Thomas Borchert moved to adjourn at 5:25 PM. The motion was seconded and carried.