



FACULTY SENATE

Executive Council
January 23, 2023, 4:00 – 5:30 PM
Minutes

Present: Professors Borchert, Eyler, Bonifield, Cushman, Delaney, deRosset, Everse, Knodell, Lopez-Vicuna, Paris, Read, Rodriguez
Absent: Professors Julianelle, Kervick, Prue

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 PM on Microsoft Teams

1. **Minutes** of the December, 2022 meeting were approved as written with one abstention.
2. **Chair's Remarks** – Thomas Borchert reported that a discussion about senate modality will be held at the January Senate meeting. Tom is considering holding a roundtable discussion at the February Senate meeting. Senate leadership elections are scheduled for March and will include the VP and three members at-large.
3. **CAC Consent Agenda** – The following items were presented by the Curricular Affairs Committee for Senate vote:
 - No-contest Termination European Studies Major
 - No-contest Termination Russian and Eastern European Studies Major
 - No-contest Termination Latin American and Caribbean Studies MajorThe following item was presented by the Curricular Affairs Committee for report to the Senate with no vote required:
 - Report-out item not requiring Senate vote (Global Studies revision)**Motion:** Stephen Everse moved to place the items presented by the CAC on appropriate sections of the Senate agenda. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
4. **Proposal to establish Institute for Agroecology.**

Thomas Borchert presented the following draft resolution based on the review and recommendation from the RSCA.

Resolution to Establish the Institute for Agroecology

Whereas in AY 2021 the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) established a competition to support the development of transformative research ideas at the University of Vermont; and

Whereas a proposal to create a center focused on Agroecology put forward by Dr. Ernesto Mendez of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences was chosen as one of these transformative research ideas; and

Whereas Dr. Mendez with the support of the OVPR developed a proposal to establish an Institute for Agroecology (IFA); and

Whereas the University Manual states that “Proposals to establish, substantially change or eliminate academic centers and institutes must be approved by the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the President and Provost following application of appropriate governance protocols, the latter to include Faculty Senate approval” (University Manual, 204.5); and

Whereas the Research, Scholarship, and Creative Arts Committee of the Faculty Senate reviewed the proposal to establish the IFA on behalf of the Faculty Senate and recommends that the Faculty Senate accept the proposal to establish the IFA;

Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of Vermont agrees with and accepts the proposal to establish the Institute for Agroecology at the University.

Motion: Cathy Paris moved to place the resolution to accept the proposal to establish the Institute for Agroecology on the Senate agenda for January 30, 2023. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

5. **Proposal to establish School of World Languages and Cultures**

Thomas Borchert presented the following draft resolution based on the review and recommendation from the ad hoc committee.

Resolution to Establish a School of World Languages and Cultures in the College of Arts and Sciences

Whereas the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences put forward a proposal to establish a School of World Languages and Cultures (SWLC) which would create a school by combining four language departments (Asian Languages and Literatures, Classics, German and Russian, and Romance Languages and Cultures) into a single school inside the College of Arts and Sciences; and

Whereas the University Manual states that “The establishment and elimination of academic units, enrollment units, instructional units, and degrees must be approved by the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the President and following appropriate governance protocols” (University Manual 204.1); and

Whereas the Faculty Senate established procedures for the establishment, reorganization, and elimination of a school within a college in October 2021 as a guideline for following the governance protocols called for in the University Manual (available [here](#)); and

Whereas the President of the Faculty Senate convened an ad hoc committee to review the proposal to establish the SWLC; and

Whereas the ad hoc committee reviewed the proposal, met with the proposers and the chairs of the affected departments; and

Whereas the ad hoc committee recommends that the Faculty Senate accept the proposal to establish the SWLC;

Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of Vermont accepts the proposal to establish a School of World Languages and Cultures in the College of Arts and Sciences, eliminating four independent language departments.

Motion: Mary Cushman moved to place the resolution to accept the proposal to establish the School of World Languages and Cultures in the College of Arts and Sciences on the Senate agenda for January 30, 2023. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

6. **Discussion about Senate modality** – Thomas Borchert opened a discussion on the modality of the Faculty Senate meetings for the Spring 2023 semester. The January meeting is scheduled as a Teams meeting, and the remaining four meetings are scheduled to be held in-person in Waterman Memorial Lounge. Discussion included clarification regarding the nature of the decision. UVM is no longer under emergency conditions. This decision is being made for the Spring 2023 semester, not a change in the meeting policy for the Senate. Hybrid meetings are not an option for the Faculty Senate. The Executive Council has the authority to make the decision, but will seek guidance from the Faculty Senate in the form of a non-binding vote on the question - “Shall the Faculty Senate continue to meet remotely for the remainder of the Spring 2023 semester?”

7. **Agenda for P&P Meeting (January 27, 10:00 – 10:45 am)**

- Agenda, Senate meeting January 30, 2023
- President Garimella will not attend as he be traveling. Provost Prelock and Jay Jacobs will be attending to discuss issues around enrollment management. Questions for Jay Jacobs should be emailed to Thomas Borchert by Wednesday at noon.

8. **Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting Monday, January 30, 3:00 – 4:30 PM on Teams** – Thomas Borchert presented the following draft agenda:

Motion: Evan Eyler moved to approve the draft agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

4:00	1. Faculty Senate President’s Welcome Remarks – Thomas Borchert <i>[5 min]</i>
4:05	2. Notice for call for nominations (first announcement) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice-President • Members at large
4:10	3. Reports that do not require a Senate vote: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAC – Substantial Revision to Global Studies Major and Minor
4:15	4. Consent Agenda (vote) <i>[5 min]</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Minutes of the December 2022 Faculty Senate Meeting B. Curricular Affairs Committee materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No-contest Termination European Studies Major 2. No-contest Termination Russian and Eastern European Studies Major 3. No-contest Termination Latin American and Caribbean Studies Major
4:20	5. Degree Conferrals (vote) <i>[5 min]</i>
4:25	6. Proposal to establish Institute for AgroEcology (vote)
4:35	7. Proposal to establish School of World Languages and Cultures (vote)

4:50	8. Senate meeting modality (discussion)15 min
5:05	9. SIS Systems update (Discussion, Simeon Ananou, Chief Information Officer)
5:25	10. New Business [5 min]
5:30	11. Adjourn

9. New Business –

- Thomas Borchert stated that he would like to have a more substantial conversation about some changes that are happening in the Graduate College and implications for the undergraduate curriculum. Tom posted a memo from Dean Forehand regarding co-located courses in the January folder of the Executive Council Teams channel.

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 PM.