



FACULTY SENATE

Executive Council
April 15, 2024, 4:00 – 5:30 PM
Minutes

Present: Professors Borchert (President), Eyer (VP), Allen (at large), Bonifield (PSC), deRosset (at large), Everse (CAC), Gove (SAC), Hurley (RSCA), Julianelle (at large), Kervick (CAC), Pope (at large), Read (ERTC), Rodriguez (FPPC)
Absent: Prue (SAC)

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM on Microsoft Teams

1. **Minutes** – The minutes of the March 2024 meeting were approved as written.
2. **Chair's Remarks** – Thomas Borchert reported the following:
 - The University is encouraging the shift of internal materials to the internal web platforms (Teams and SharePoint). A draft plan for Faculty Senate internal documents was shared and a mockup will be shared at the May meeting.
 - The working group for the future of the Catamount Core Curriculum Committee (CCCC) recommended that the CCCC become a standing committee of the Faculty Senate. A charge for the committee will be drafted and a bylaws change will be voted by the faculty in the fall 2024. The CCCC will continue to work as a joint committee until the bylaws change is complete. To ensure that the work of the committee moves forward during the transition, Thomas Borchert suggested that he appoint the current chair (not as a Provost Faculty Fellow) to continue the work of the CCCC during this transition year. A vote by the Executive Council will be held under New Business.
 - Thomas Borchert spoke to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees regarding the following: 1) the desire for more or clearer avenues of interaction with the BOT, 2) the campus climate is fragile and not always pulling in the same direction, and 3) there are recent examples of faculty involvement in long term and/or strategic planning including the academic success goals and the Planetary Health Initiative.

- Annual reports to the Faculty Senate are due from the chairs of the standing committees on Monday, April 29.
3. **Posthumous Degree** – The Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Student Success recommended the awarding of a posthumous degree to Madison “Madie” Saltsburg. The Provost’s Office has reviewed the academic record and found that Madie meets the criteria for the award of a posthumous degree in May 2024
Motion: Steve Gove moved to award a posthumous degree to Madison “Madie” Saltsburg in May 2024. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
 4. **CAC Consent Agenda** – Colby Kervick put forward the following two items to be placed on the senate consent agenda for vote at the April meeting:
 - A. New mCGS in Integrative Health and Wellness Coaching (CNHS)
 - B. New CGS in Computer Science Education (CESS)**Motion:** Jennifer Hurley moved to place the items presented on the consent agenda for the Faculty Senate meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.
 5. **Research Data Management Policy** – After the March meeting, Thomas Borchert and Jennifer Hurley communicated with Ingrid Nelson, UA Contract Administrator, Kirk Dombrowski, VP for Research, Trent Klingerman, General Counsel, and Tessa Lucy, Director of Compliance. The UA’s concern is that the proposed new policy violates academic freedom and potentially has RPT implications. The issue is currently under negotiation with UA, not as part of the CBA, but as a separate contract administration matter under the present CBA. Jennifer Hurley will follow-up with Kirk Dombrowski to request the most recent draft of the policy, and to clarify the IRB policy on use of Teams and Sharepoint for data storage. Discussion included options for bringing this issue to the attention of the Faculty Senate.
 6. **Review sections of the University Manual** – Thomas Borchert opened discussion on the sections of the University Manual shared for review. Thomas will forward the comments, questions, and suggestions to the review committee on Tuesday.
 7. **Campus Security Academic Freedom Report.** – Thomas Borchert opened discussion on the report “Balancing Campus Safety and Academic Freedom: A Review of the Decision to Rescind Use of University Space to Hosting of Muhammed El-Kurd, October 26, 2023.” Discussion included confirmation from committee members that they were given information sufficient and specific enough to reach the conclusion that the decision was reasonable; recommendation that the report more specifically state that the committee

received sufficient information; and the desire for the policy to include a test or threshold for cancellation. Thomas Borchert will create a cover sheet or executive summary to present with the report to highlight the timeline, process, key conclusions, and recommendations. The report will be shared with President Garimella before it goes to the Faculty Senate.

8. **Review Summaries of Round Table** – This item was not discussed.
9. **Agenda for P & P meeting with Executive Council – (Wednesday, April 17, 3:00-3:45PM)**
 - I. Update on administration activities that the senate should know about
 - II. Admissions, the fallout of FAFSA problems and UVM’s response
10. **Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting (Monday, April 29, 4:00-5:30 PM, on Teams)**

Thomas Borchert will distribute a draft agenda to the Executive Council for a vote later this week.
11. **New Business** –
 - A. Thomas Borchert requested a motion to accept his appointment of Kat Scollins to serve as chair of the Catamount Core Curriculum Committee (CCCC) for the AY 24-25. A bylaws change is anticipated in the Fall 2024 to move the CCCC to a standing committee of the Faculty Senate from the current status as a joint committee.

Motion: Lizzy Pope moved to accept President Borchert’s appointment of Kat Scollins to chair the Catamount Core Curriculum Committee for AY 24-25. The motion was seconded. Discussion included a charge that the vote was unconstitutional, questions regarding the constitutionality of the committee structure, acknowledgement of the Faculty Senate authorization of the CCCC, and confirmation that faculty are the voting members of the CCCC and administrators are non-voting members.

Vote: 9 approve, 1 oppose, 0 abstain. The motion carried.
 - B. Thomas Borchert is exploring the possibility of hosting a reception for Senators after the May 17 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:54 PM