



FACULTY SENATE

Executive Council

December 09, 2019 4:00 – 5:30 pm
Waterman 427A

Minutes

Present: Professors Allen, Borchert, Burns, Chittenden, Eyler, Giangreco, Harrington, Paris, Ross

Absent: Professor Almstead, Beckage, Cushman, Prue, Read, Toolin

Guests: Paul Suk-Hyun Yoon

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. in Waterman 427A

1. **Approval of October 14, 2019 Minutes.**

Motion: Evan Eyler moved to approve the minutes as written.
The motion was seconded and **passed unanimously.**

2. **Degree Corrections.** The November 11, 2019 meeting was cancelled, and an electronic ballot was distributed for approval of one degree correction from the Graduate College.
The degree correction was unanimously approved.

3. **Chair's Remarks** – Thomas Chittenden made the following remarks:

- Gender Diversity on the Board of Trustees – Paul Bierman, Geology (CAS), brought this issue to the Executive Council. Thomas Chittenden and Mary Cushman had a conversation with Ron Lumbra, Vice Chair of BoT, about looking at the current policy for the self-perpetuating trustees, and potentially revising the guidelines for selection. Thomas and Mary are scheduled to meet with Paul Bierman next week.
- A date will be set for a ½-day retreat for the Executive Council to be held in May.
- Committee Chairs are asked to encourage their members to use the Exchange/Calendar for committee meetings. It is also important to avoid changes to the set meeting pattern in order to enable members to attend committee meetings, and honor their other commitments.
- Thomas will be generating the February Senate report for the Board of Trustees and will be reaching out to Chairs for input.
- A special election will be held to fill Thomas Borchert's at-large seat for the Spring semester while he is on sabbatical. A call for nominations will be distributed and announced at the December Senate meeting. Nominations will close on Wednesday, December 18th. An electronic ballot will be distributed on January 6th and close on January 13th.

- Grievance Committee Process Inquiry – Mary Brodsky, Director Labor Relations & Employment Services, notified Thomas that there is a possibility that the Faculty Senate’s faculty grievance committee will be called upon to provide the President with a list of faculty who might serve on a disciplinary panel. Thomas suggested that the Executive Council serve as an ad hoc Grievance Committee, and draft a process to be followed should the need arise. Thomas will send a draft of the process to the Executive Council before it is forwarded to Mary Brodsky.
- The FPPC will likely be bringing a resolution on fossil fuel divestment to the Senate in January.

4. **CAC Consent Agenda**

Laura Almstead brought the following items to be considered for the CAC consent agenda:

- a. New Minor Biosecurity (CALs)
- b. No Contest Termination BA in Engineering (CEMS)
- c. Policy Documents
 - I. Proposal to Deactivate an Academic Program
 - II. Proposal to Reactivate an Academic Program
 - III. Revisions: Timeline for Policy & Proposal Review Process
- d. Report Out: Substantial Changes to the Global Studies Major & Minor

Motion: Evan Eyler moved to place the CAC consent agenda on the December Senate agenda. The motion was seconded and **passed unanimously**.

5. **Agenda for the P&P Meeting of Wednesday, December 11, 2:00 – 2:30 p.m.**

- Zero Tuition Increase initiative
- Thomas will request a brief written response from the President and Provost on the topic of the F35 petition.
- Thomas and Chris will request that the length of the P&P meetings with the Executive Council be scheduled for at least 45 minutes.

6. **Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting of December 16**

- Faculty Senate President’s Welcome Remarks – Thomas Chittenden [5 min]
- Consent Agenda (vote) [5 min]
 - Minutes of the 11/18/19 Faculty Senate Meeting
 - CAC items
 - New Minor Biosecurity (CALs)
 - No Contest Termination BA in Engineering (CEMS)
 - Policy Documents
 - Revisions: Timeline for Policy & Proposal Review Process
 - Report Out: Substantial Changes to the Global Studies Major & Minor
 - Curricular Affairs: Proposal to Deactivate an Academic Program & Proposal to Reactivate an Academic Program – Laura Almstead (vote)[5 min]
 - UVM's contract with Elsevier's Science Direct - Dean of Libraries Bryn Geffert [20 min]
 - Impact of the basing of the F35 at the Burlington International Airport (vote) [20 min]
Thomas will ask the P/P to provide a short statement of thoughts on this issue.
 - Residential Learning Communities Report – Chris Burns & J Dickinson [20 min]
 - New Business [5 min]

7. **Commission on Inclusive Excellence** – Paul Suk-Hyun Yoon, Vice Chair of the President’s Commission for Inclusive Excellence (PCIE) engaged in a dialogue with the Executive Council. The

PCIE is advisory to the President working through and with Wanda Heading-Grant. PCIE membership includes faculty, administrators, staff, and students. Its mission is to advance the strategic diversity and inclusion goals of UVM. Although the PCIE is not on the front-lines to directly make change, the PCIE can influence change by amplifying voices and providing a compelling recommendation to the President. Through conversation with the Faculty Senate, the PCIE help build connections with the faculty, gather information on items of concern, and bring recommendations to the President for consideration.

8. New Business –

- Cathy Paris expressed concern about the academic calendar and specifically the 9-day break during Thanksgiving, followed by one-week prior to final exams. It was recommended that Cathy engage with the Part-of-Term Committee, the SGA and the Registrar to coordinate prior to drafting a proposal for calendar change to bring to the Student Affairs Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.