



FACULTY SENATE

**Executive Council**

January 13, 2019                      4:00 – 5:30 pm  
Waterman 427A

Minutes

Present: Professors Allen, Burns, Beckage, Chittenden, Cushman, Eyler, Giangreco, Massell, Paris,

Ross, Toolin Absent: Professors Almstead, Harrington, Prue, Read

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The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. in Waterman 427A

1. **Approval of December 9, 2019 Minutes.**

**Motion:** Evan Eyler moved to approve the minutes as written.

The motion was seconded and **passed unanimously.**

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

- Welcome Dave Massell. Dave is the member at-large replacing Thomas Borchert during his sabbatical for the Spring 2020.
- Brian Beckage, member at-large, has notified Thomas of a teaching conflict for the Spring semester. Thomas will be talking with Brian about options for fulfilling his duties.
- The Faculty Senate office will be mapping out the default Senate/committee meeting schedule for 2020-2021.
- RLC Discussion from December Senate meeting – Chris Burns reported that more conversation on the RLC assessment plan will be on the January Senate agenda. Thomas thanked the EC for thoughtful conversation around the accusations of fraud made from the Senate floor. Although this is not a parliamentary matter, it has highlighted the importance of professional behavioral. Thomas will make a statement at the January Senate meeting regarding Our Common Ground and best practices for assemblies.
- By-Laws review committee for 2020-2021 – Thomas will charge a review committee at the end of the semester to begin work on a review and update of the Faculty Senate Bylaws next year.

3. **CAC Consent Agenda**

Laura Almstead was not in attendance, but provided materials to be considered for the CAC consent agenda:

- a. New Post-Professional Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (CNHS/GRAD)
- b. No Contest Termination Bachelor of Music degree (CALs)
- c. Name Change of the PhD in Animal, Nutrition, and Food Sciences to the PhD in Animal Biosciences (CALs/GRAD)

**Motion:** Michael Giangreco moved to place the CAC consent agenda on the January Senate agenda. The motion was seconded and **passed unanimously**.

4. **FPPC – Divestment of Fossil Fuels Resolution** - Don Ross presented the following resolution that was unanimously approved by the FPPC at their meeting today:

WHEREAS, the Faculty, including those who study climate change science and the impacts of climate change, recognize the local and global impacts of climate change as a critical policy issue.

WHEREAS, continued investments in the fossil fuel industry are counter to the University of Vermont's ethos as a green university with a sustainability education requirement.

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate acknowledges that maintaining fiduciary responsibility in the past has included disinvestment in such things as tobacco companies and those doing business in South Africa due to apartheid.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate reaffirms their March 2013 resolution in support of student activities at that time requesting UVM to divest from fossil fuels and requests Board action in 2020.

Discussion included concerns about the resolve to support the March 2013 resolution, and "student activities", as well as other details in the March 2013 resolution that are no longer relevant. Don Ross will revise the resolution to simply focus on divestment of fossil fuels. Don will forward the revision to the FPPC for comment before it is distributed to the Senators with the January meeting materials.

**Motion:** Evan Eyler moved to place a resolution in support of Divestment of Fossil Fuels on the Senate agenda for January. The motion was seconded and **passed unanimously**.

#### 5. **Committee Chair Updates**

Thomas Chittenden asked the chairs of the Senate Standing Committees to provide an update of items that their committee might bring to the Senate for action this Spring.

**SAC** – Ken Allen reported that the SAC is working the the following: 1) changing how repeated courses are calculated into the GPA, 2) attendance policies around varsity athletes led to a revision of the attendance policy, 3) The SGA is bringing a resolution to the SAC for endorsement, which will address normalizing speech around alcohol and drugs in the classroom.

**RSCA** – Mary Cushman reported the following: 1) Dean Geffert presented on scholarly publishing. All units are encouraged to invite Dean Geffert to discuss the Elsevier issue with their faculty, 2) The RSCA is writing a letter of support for the Fellowship Opportunities in Undergraduate Research (FOUR) office to bolster resources for that office, 3) Discussion around diversity and inclusion across UVM Advisory and Governance Boards has led to questions regarding the Faculty Senate committees and the potential for a senate standing committee on diversity, and inclusion, and a possible task force to consider if the senate would benefit from creating a new standing committee or broadening the scope of an existing committee.

**FPPC** – Don Ross reported that Richard Cate will be outlining the plan to revise IBB by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Richard will be updating the FPPC, and the plan could be part of Richard's annual presentation to the Senate this Spring.

**ERTC** – Regina Toolin reported 1) there is an ongoing review and evaluation of the BlackBoard system by the Learning Management System Review Advisory Committee, 2) Matthew Price, Psychology, has presented Qualtrics as an alternative to Lime Survey. ERTC has endorsed the software and will be conducting a survey of faculty to gauge interest, 3) Simeon Ananou is conducting a survey of students for input on use of computer labs, and access to labs.

**PSC** – Michael Giangreco reported that the committee expects nearly 100 RPT reviews. There will be two sets of expedited reviews for the current searches for the Dean of CALS, and the VP for

Research. A third is on the horizon, which will be the search for the Dean of CNHS. Because this will be the first time the new expedited process will be fully executed, Michael has been keeping in close communication with the Provost and the search committee chairs.

**6. Agenda for the P&P Meeting of Friday, January 24, 11 – 11:45 a.m.**

- General Education at UVM – Past, Present and Future?
- RLC Assessment Next Steps

**7. Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting of January 27<sup>th</sup>**

4:00	1. Faculty Senate President’s Welcome Remarks – Thomas Chittenden <i>[10 min]</i>
4:10	2. Consent Agenda (vote) <i>[3 min]</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes of the 12/16/19 Faculty Senate Meeting <i>Curricular Affairs</i></li> <li>• New Post-Professional Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (CNHS/GRAD)</li> <li>• No Contest Termination Bachelor of Music degree (CALS)</li> <li>• Name Change of the PhD in Animal, Nutrition, and Food Sciences to the PhD in Animal Biosciences (CALS/GRAD)</li> </ul>
4:13	3. Conferral of Degrees (vote) <i>[7 min]</i>
4:20	4. Divestment of Fossil Fuels – Don Ross FPPC <i>[15 min]</i>
4:35	5. Residential Learning Community Assessment Plan – Alex Yin & J. Dickinson <i>[15 min]</i>
4:50	6. General Education Framework and Refinement Process – J. Dickinson <i>[35 min]</i>
5:25	7. New Business <i>[5 min]</i>
5:30	8. Adjourn

**8. New Business – none at this time**

The meeting adjourned at 5:30p.m.