



FACULTY SENATE

Executive Council
August 22, 2022, 4:00 – 5:30 PM
Minutes

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

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

1. **Minutes** of the May 2022 meeting were approved as written.
2. **Chair's Remarks** – Thomas Borchert made the following comments:
 - Welcome Colby Kervick, back from sabbatical
 - Welcome three new members joining the Executive Council: Guillermo Rodriguez (co-chair of FPPC), Jill Preston (co-chair RSCA), and Louis deRosset (at-large member).
 - Thanked co-chairs for working to divide responsibilities for their committees. Reminded that both co-chairs are welcome to participate in Executive Council and Senate meetings, however the chair only receives one vote.
3. **Degree Corrections** - Laurie Eddy presented degree correction requests from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College.
Motion: Tony Julianelle moved to approve the degree corrections as presented.
Vote: 10 approve, 0 oppose, 0 abstain. The motion carried.
4. **Issues for the Coming Year**
 - a) **Fleming and University Manual** – Thomas Borchert shared a proposal from the Administration to change the reporting structure of the Director of the Fleming Museum from the Provost's Office, to the Director of the School of the Arts. This is a change to the University Manual, which requires a review and consultation of the Executive Council – not an approval by the Senate. The Executive Council will review the proposal and report out to the Senate. The administration would like this to go to the Board of Trustees in October. Executive Council members are asked to review the proposal and direct questions/concerns to Thomas Borchert prior to the September Executive Council meeting.

- b) Policy review** – Tom Borchert would like to create a regular review cycle for the policies, such as grading policies, on the Registrar’s website.
 - c) School of Languages timing (ad hoc committee)** – The Senate has not received formal notification of when this proposal will move forward. It is anticipated that the College of Arts and Sciences will discuss the proposal this fall. If the proposal passes the college level review, the Senate will appoint an ad hoc review committee, with the goal of completing the review process prior to the February Board of Trustees meeting.
- 5. Academic Stewardship Committee (draft document)** – Thomas Borchert shared draft guidelines for an Academic Stewardship Committee. The preamble of that document attempts to answer two concerns: 1) the recommendation from the Academic Reorganization Working Group to establish a joint committee that would pay attention to ongoing questions of institutional improvement in lieu of a dramatic restructuring of the University, and 2) the 2019 NECHE report that noted that most of the long-term strategic planning has been directed by the senior administration and faculty had little role in those processes. Thomas Borchert and David Jenemann drafted the guidelines to provide a sustainable mechanism for faculty to participate in strategic planning. The idea is that a portion of the Faculty Senate Executive Council would meet with a handful of people from the senior leadership in a day-long retreat to put together some priorities for the coming year. The Executive Council was chosen because it is an elected body of faculty with knowledge in which to engage in conversations with senior administrators. Discussion included some recommended changes to this draft, including changing the title to “Academic Priorities Council” to more closely link to Amplifying Our Impact and Academic Strategic Goals; concerns about the difference between “stewardship” and “priorities”; concerns about changes to the charge and role of the FPPC in strategic planning; desire to specify how membership is chosen; suggestion to strike the need to balance interests of colleges and university as the interests should be aligned. Thomas Borchert stated that there will be another draft for the Executive Council to review, and a conversation with the President and Provost may be requested for September or October.
- 6. Centers and Institutes** – Thomas Borchert shared a draft template for establishing Centers. Although there are currently several centers and institutes at UVM, there is no process in place for establishing or reviewing a center or institute. Many are internal to a college and are subject to review and assessment within the college. However, there are several that do not fall under the purview of a college. There is a current need for establishing a review process for Centers and Institutes. A proposal for a new Osher Center for Integrative Health is currently in circulation for comment, and a proposal for a new Institute for Agroecology is anticipated soon. Discussion included questions and concerns about the Osher Center proposal, and the timeline for establishing new procedures for both the review of center and institute proposals, and the process for academic program review for centers and institutes. Thomas Borchert will ask the Provost to attend the September Executive Council meeting to address questions and concerns about the Osher Center proposal.

7. Discussions

- Senate discussion with BOT Chair Ron Lumbrá– Topics suggested included BOT view of the tuition freeze policy; financial condition of the university; housing conditions and effect of hiring; BOT view of challenges and opportunities
- Meeting modality for Faculty Senate – Tom Borchert will put meeting modality on the Senate agenda to ask senators for guidance.
- Agendas for P&P Meeting (September 15, 3:00 – 3:45)- this item was moved to the September 12th Executive Council meeting.
- Vice-provosts at committee meetings - this item was moved to the September 12th Executive Council meeting.

8. Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting Monday, August 29, 4:00 – 5:30 PM

4:00	1. Faculty Senate President's Welcome Remarks – Thomas Borchert [5 min]
4:05	2. Welcoming Remarks, Ron Lumbrá Chair UVM Board of Trustees [10 min]
4:15	3. Consent Agenda (vote) [5 min] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes of the May 2022 Faculty Senate Meeting
4:20	4. Degree Conferrals (vote) [5 min]
4:25	5. Resolution in Memoriam (vote) [5 min] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roberta Pfeufer Kahn, Associate Professor Emerita of Sociology (CAS)
4:30	6. Senate Orientation – Committee Chairs introduction [15 min]
4:45	7. Issues upcoming Fall 2023 (Thomas Borchert) [10 min]
4:55	8. Discussion: meeting modality [5 min]
5:00	9. Reports that do not require a Senate vote: [5 min] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catamount Core Curriculum Committee
5:05	10. Catamount Core Curriculum Discussion (Pablo Bose, J. Dickinson) [20 min]
5:25	11. New Business [5 min]
5:30	12. Adjourn

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

9. New Business –

- Louis deRosset stated that a group of faculty retained an accountant to do a thorough review of university finances using publicly available information. Questions have been raised about exactly what the status of various resources is over the course of the years. Louis will send a sample of the accountant's work to the Executive Council for consideration and future discussion regarding Senate and Executive Council involvement.

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 PM