



FACULTY SENATE

Executive Council
October 11, 2021, 4:00 – 5:30 PM
Minutes

Present: Professors Borchert, Eyster, Burns, Bonifield, Cushman, Delaney, Everse, Ikeda, Julianelle, Kervick, Knodell, Lopez-Vicuna, Paris

Absent: Professors Beltre, Prue, Read, Wood

Guests: David Jenemann

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 PM on Microsoft Teams.

1. **Minutes** of the September 13, 2021 meeting were approved as written.
2. **Degree Corrections.** Laurie Eddy presented a request from the College of Arts and Sciences for a degree correction to the August 2021 Graduates List.
Motion. Tony Julianelle moved to approve the degree corrections as presented. **The motion was seconded and carried.**
3. **CAC Consent Agenda.** Colby Kervick recommended the following items for the CAC Consent Agenda:
 - a. No-contest Deactivation of the RN-BS Program in Nursing (CNHS)
 - b. No-contest Termination Italian Studies Major (CAS)
 - c. No-Contest Termination Italian Minor (CAS)
 - d. No-Contest Termination Speech and Debate Minor (CAS)
 - e. No-contest Termination VT Studies Minor (CAS)
 - f. New Certificate of Graduate Study and Micro-Certificate of Graduate Study in Education for Sustainability (GRAD/CESS)**Motion:** Colby Kervick moved to place the recommended items from the CAC on the Senate consent agenda. The motion was seconded.
Vote: 8 approve, 1 oppose, 2 abstain. The motion carried.
4. **Chair's Remarks** – Thomas Borchert made the following remarks:
 - Dean's Review – The Senate has a formal role in the 5-year review of Deans. Dean Falls (CAS) is up for the 5-year review. The Senate Executive Council appoints three (3) faculty

members to the review committee. Send names of faculty members to consider to Tom Borchert.

- Ad hoc committee members needed for academic organization review. The proposed procedures for academic organization will be voted at the October Senate meeting. It is anticipated that a proposal from CAS for a School of the Arts will require review in November. Each Senate standing committee will need to appoint one member to the ad hoc review committee for this proposal.
- Final versions of the three Procedures for Academic Organization will be posted to the October Senate agenda for vote. Small changes were made to the documents presented at the September Senate meeting based on suggestions received from Senators. The changes were agreed upon by J. Dickinson and Provost Prelock.
- At their October meeting, the Student Affairs Committee took action on a resolution to grant late withdrawal flexibility for Fall 2021. The resolution is an extension of the flexibility on late withdrawal that was granted in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 to acknowledge the broad disruption of students' education caused by the pandemic, and to acknowledge that these disruptions may not directly involve medical issues but are similarly unpredictable in their timing and in the delayed and extended impact they may have on students' ability to complete their coursework. This action will be reported to the Senate at the October meeting.

5. **Amendment request on Resolution on Senate Authority.** The authors of the resolution are having difficulty securing members to serve on the ad hoc committee. The resolution specified that membership on the ad hoc committee be comprised of faculty senators. The request is to amend the language on membership from "faculty senators" to "representatives" from each academic unit.

Motion: Evan Eyler moved to place the request to amend the resolution on Senate Authority to the Faculty Senate consent agenda. The motion was seconded. Discussion included concerns about faculty service commitments, desire for equal representation across units and the capacity of smaller units to participate, the need for trust in colleagues to do the work and request feedback, and the desire to task existing standing committees before setting up ad hoc committees.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Academic Reorganization Working Group.** David Jenemann reported that the community input and feedback gathered over the course of the last 16-18 months has undergone a dedicated qualitative analysis. Over the summer, a group of faculty and graduate students coded the data and the qualitative analysis is summarized in a report available on the Provost's website

[https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Office-of-the-Provost/Reorganization Data Analysis Report August 2021.pdf](https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Office-of-the-Provost/Reorganization_Data_Analysis_Report_August_2021.pdf)

This report, along with external information, and historical information have been considered to produce a set of provisional recommendations drafted by the working group. The approach has changed from trying to create an organizational structure for the University, to establishing a process of continuous institutional improvement in the interest of building a strong and coherent institutional identity. Jenemann provided six (6) draft recommendations that are being reviewed by the entire Academic Reorganization Working Group.

The next steps include a presentation by Dave Jenemann to the Board of Trustees on the progress, although the work of the consultant group, Art and Science, will not be complete in time for the October BOT meeting. The final recommendations are scheduled to be presented to the Senate in December. Discussion included concerns that conflicts between colleges will remain, the desire for a more relaxed timeline, the need to create a mechanism to set benchmarks and timelines for conversation leading to change, questions and thoughts about the right-sizing of colleges, and acknowledgement of the work that is already happening on campus.

7. **Upcoming issues** - Thomas Borchert requested that the Executive Council consider and offer suggestions for a structure for campus-wide discussions on 1) moving toward becoming an R1 university, and 2) the Libraries budget clawback.
8. **Agenda for P&P Meeting (10/13, 4:00-4:45, President’s Conference Room, in person)**
After discussion, Thomas Borchert set the agenda to include: 1) CDE and PACE, and 2) Faculty Role in Financial Decisions.
9. **Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting 10/18, 4:00- 5:30 PM)**

4:00	1. Faculty Senate President’s Welcome Remarks – Thomas Borchert
4:05	2. Consent Agenda (vote) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of the September 2021 Faculty Senate Meeting • Ad hoc Committee on Senate Authority – Amendment to Resolution regarding ad hoc committee membership • Curricular Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. No-contest Deactivation of the RN-BS Program in Nursing (CNHS) b. No-contest Termination Italian Studies Major (CAS) c. No-Contest Termination Italian Minor (CAS) d. No-Contest Termination Speech and Debate Minor (CAS) e. No-contest Termination VT Studies Minor (CAS) f. New Certificate of Graduate Study and Micro-Certificate of Graduate Study in Education for Sustainability (GRAD/CESS)
4:10	3. Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curricular Affairs Committee Report on Actions Taken in Committee • Student Affairs Committee Report on Actions Taken in Committee
4:15	4. Degree Conferrals – Graduate Degrees (vote)
4:20	5. Revised Procedures for Academic Organization (vote) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senate Procedures Related to the Establishment, Reorganization, and Elimination of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Colleges and Schools b. School within a College c. Department
4:45	6. Catamount Core Curriculum Committee (GenEd) Pablo Bose and/or J. Dickinson

5:05	7. New Business
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Thomas Borchert stated that he will include a note in his pre-meeting email to the Senators that it is in their right to pull anything off the consent agenda if they have questions or comments – the purpose of the consent agenda is to be efficient not to eliminate speech.

Thomas Borchert called a vote. The draft agenda was approved with unanimous support.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:52 PM.