



FACULTY SENATE

Executive Council

October 12 2020, 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Minutes

Present: Professors Chittenden, Burns, Almstead, Beckage, Borchert, Cushman, Delaney, Eyler, Giangreco, Knodell,

Absent: Professors Prue, Read, Wood

Guests: Jinny Huh, Melissa Pespeni

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM on Microsoft Teams.

1. **Minutes** of the September 14, 2020 meeting were approved as written with 8 votes in favor and 2 abstentions.
2. **Degree Corrections.** Laurie Eddy presented degree corrections requests from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Honors College for consideration.
Motion: Tom Borchert moved to approve the degree corrections as presented. The motion was seconded and carried with one abstention.
3. **Chair's Remarks.** Thomas Chittenden made the following remarks:
 - a. Deans Reviews – In keeping with the University Policy, as laid out in Section 301.4 of the University Manual, the Faculty Senate Executive Council will appoint three faculty members to serve on the committee charged with the five-year summative performance review of a Dean. There are three potential Dean reviews likely in January. Thomas asked the Executive Council members to begin thinking about candidates to serve.
 - b. Feedback & Takeaways from survey of Faculty Senators included a desire for materials in advance, little interest in longer or more frequent meetings, and an openness to connect Senators with Standing Committees.
4. **Faculty of Color Recruitment & Retention** – Dr. Jinny Huh and Melissa Pespeni, provided background information on the Faculty of Color Group at UVM (FOC), and

concerns regarding recruitment and retention of faculty of color. Members of the FOC are working with administration in an effort to prioritize FOC recruitment and retention. The FOC ask that the Faculty Senate support a resolution to ask that senior administration be more intentional and increase support for faculty of color. Thomas Chittenden noted that this issue is being addressed by the Executive Council because the Faculty Senate standing committees do not have a clear home for issues of diversity, equity and inclusion. This topic will be added to the agenda for the October Faculty Senate meeting as an informational item with a presentation by Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Jim Vigoreaux, and representatives from the FOC group. A resolution is anticipated for the November Senate meeting. Discussion included a desire for additional data on faculty turnover. Jinny Huh reported that they are working with the OIR to obtain the data.

5. **General Education Curriculum Committee** – The General Education Task Force drafted a structure for the Catamount Core Curriculum Committee. Chris Burns shared a draft of the proposed committee structure. The bylaws review committee is discussing the future addition of General Education as a standing committee, but there is an immediate need for the curriculum committee to begin course approvals in order to be ready for the Catamount Core requirements to go online. Chris reported that he is working with members of the task force to adjust the proposal to make the Catamount Core Curriculum Committee a joint committee with the Office of the Provost, and to firm up the connection to the Senate. The proposed committee composition includes both voting and non-voting members representing the colleges, content area experts, student representatives, advisors, and program review and assessment. Laura Almstead asked that a line of communication with CAC be added to the committee structure.

6. **Committee updates & open discussion – Standing Committee Chairs**

FPPC Chair Jane Knodell reported that the administration is projecting a 9.4-million-dollar gap in the current operating budget of UVM, which is to be made up in the academic units. IBB is still in use, and there are two colleges that have surpluses and the others have deficits. The plan is for the colleges and schools to work to reduce their expenses in the current year. If unable to meet the target, they will be instructed to draw down their reserves. Jane encouraged faculty to ask Deans for budget update. Thomas Chittenden reported that Richard Cate will be presenting at the next Faculty Teams Event.

7. **Agenda for P&P Meeting.** The following items were forwarded as the agenda items for the Executive Council meeting with the President and Provost:
 - a. Financial Solvency & University Budget Outlook
 - b. UVM Re-Org Preliminary Report, Effort Trajectory and Timeline

8. **Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate Meeting**

4:00	1. Faculty Senate President’s Welcome Remarks – Thomas Chittenden [5 min]
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4:05	2. Consent Agenda (vote) [5 min] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of the 9/21/20 Faculty Senate Meeting
4:10	3. Conferral of Degrees (vote) [3 min]
4:13	4. Resolution in Memoriam for Charles J. Goodnight Professor of Biology (1955-2020) - Ingi Agnarsson (vote) [7 min]
4:20	5. Liberal Arts Gen Ed Requirements - Pablo Bose (vote) [15 min]
4:35	6. Faculty of Color Recruitment & Retention Efforts on Campus – Jinny Huh & Jim Vigoreaux [30 min]
5:05	7. UVM Re-Org Committee Preliminary Report – Dave Jenemann [20 min]
5:25	8. New Business [5 min]
5:30	9. Adjourn

Motion: Laura Almstead moved to accept the agenda for the October Faculty Senate meeting as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

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

- RSCA chair Mary Cushman reported that a subcommittee of the RSCA is working on a revision to the academic freedom section of the Faculty Manual, as required by the CBA. This section was last updated in 2007.
- Laurie Eddy reported that a runoff election is underway for the at-large member to the Executive Council.

10. Laura Almstead moved to adjourn at 5:25 PM. The motion was seconded and carried.