



FACULTY SENATE

Financial & Physical Planning Committee

September 10, 2018 2:00 – 3:30 pm
Waterman 427A

Minutes

Present: Andrew Barnaby (CAS), Bryan Dague (CESS), Terri Donovan (RSENR), Laura Gewissler (LIB), Joel Goldberg (CAS), Timothy Higgins (LCOM), Cathy Paris (Faculty Senate President), Joanne Pencak (GSB), Don Ross (CALs), Walter Varhue (CEMS), Jackie Gillen (GSS)

Absent: Steven Ades (COM), Teresa Cahill-Griffin (CNHS), Walter Varhue (CEMS)

Guests: Richard Cate, Thomas Chittenden, Rory Waterman

The meeting was called to order by chair Barnaby at 2:08 pm in Waterman 427A

1. **Approval of May 7, 2018 Minutes.** Chair Barnaby moved to approve the minutes as written. The minutes were approved.
2. **2017/ 2018 Review. Chair Barnaby made the following remarks:**
 - Joel Goldberg will serve as the FPPC representative on the Educational Stewardship Committee
 - A representative to the Budget, Finance & Investment Committee (BFI) of the Board of Trustees is needed. The Faculty Senate appoints representatives to BOT committees. According to the Senate bylaws, the two faculty representatives to the BFI come from the FPPC. As Chair of the FPPC, Andrew Barnaby fills one seat, and the other seat is currently open. The BFI meets 3 times per year. Andrew will send out the dates to the FPPC members and asked members to notify him if interested in filling this open seat. Information about the charge of the BFI and meeting dates can be found on the BOT webpage http://www.uvm.edu/trustees/?Page=standing_com/bfi/content.html&SM=submenu1.html
 - The FPPC has been dealing with broad issues related to Incentive-based Budgeting (IBB). As Chair of the FPPC, Andrew serves on the IBB Steering Committee. Andrew provided an overview of the current work of the IBB Steering Committee, and the major topic areas being reviewed by the committee. It is anticipated that the committee will provide recommended modifications to the IBB model by the end of the semester.
 - Chair Barnaby provided a handout (attached to these minutes) that included concerns raised by the Educational Stewardship Committee regarding Larner College of Medicine (LCOM) and undergraduate offerings.
- (see handout from Andrew) Educational stewardship committee – issue of LCOM & undergraduate courses. 1st year courses in the residential learning community – LCOM wellness environment course is 3-credit vs all other 1-credit.

Email Andrew with ideas, questions.

3. UVM Financial Update, Richard Cate.

Vice President for Finance and Treasurer Richard Cate discussed the university budget, and the how UVM manages the gap between the rate of increase in costs and the revenue projections. The increase in costs is generally 3% per year and revenue projections do not increase at that rate. There is a Net Tuition Stabilization Fund that can be used to cover the potential budget gap. This fund was created by the Board to address situations when revenue or expense projections change late in the budget process. The operating rules for the stabilization fund require that any amount borrowed must be repaid within two years.

4. COMU Credit Discussion. Rory Waterman, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences participated in a discussion of the Residential Learning Communities (RLCs), and First Year Experience (FYE) courses. All of the FYE courses are 1-credit with the exception of the Wellness Environment (WE), which is a 3-credit Larner College of Medicine course. The only other outlier is the Honors College, which has a curricular design that includes a 3-credit first-semester seminar course that anchors a 2-year sequence of 3-credit courses.

Discussion included the following issues, challenges and potential action around the 3-credit FYE course:

- students in highly programmed majors (nursing, CEMS) cannot fit the 3-credit course into the program
- students in highly programmed majors cannot participate in the WE RLC
- WE students are required to take the 3-credit course, vs. other RLCs do not require students to take the 1-credit FYE course
- The WE 3-credit course is graded with a letter grade
- Learning communities are good for the University, and are being expanded, not going away. Close to 85% of students are living in RLCs
- Number of credits for FYE courses are both a curricular and financial issue.
- Should all FYE courses be 1-credit co-curricular pass/fail?
- If the WE FYE course was redesigned to be 1-credit, students would still be able to take the 3-credit course as part of the Behavior Change Health minor
- There are other educational concerns about the WE 3-credit course
- The Educational Stewardship Committee has investigated concerns and made recommendations
- Individual courses created inside the unit are not required to have outside oversight. The Faculty Senate could decide that RLC needs oversight, similar to General Education
- FPPC might recommend that all RLC courses have the same multiplier because it is a financial consideration
- The Senate committees do not have the authority over the number of credits for a course, but the Senate can recommend that RLC courses should be 1-credit with the exception of Honors College.

5. New Business. There was no new business.

6. Adjourn 3:30pm

2018 / 2019 Meeting Schedule...Note the change in date of the OCTOBER MEETING!

FPPC	
Monday	
2:00-3:30	
9/10/18	427a
10/15/18	427a
11/5/18	427a
12/3/18	427a
1/7/19	327

2/4/19	427a
3/4/19	427a
4/8/19	427a
5/6/18	427a