



FACULTY SENATE

Approved Minutes  
May 19, 2016

**Called to order** 4:03 p.m.

**Senators in Attendance:** 45

**Absent:** Senators: Adams (Anesthesiology), Mierse (Art), Agnarsson (Biology), Franklin (Classics), Hutchins (Communication Sciences), Salembier (Education), Barney (English), Joo Yoo (English), Feurzeig (ERTC), Perry (Extension), Weinstein (Family Medicine), Ross (FPPC), Mehrtens (Geology), Mieder (German & Russian), Zdatny (History), (Leadership & Developmental Science), Ruiz (M. Physiology & Biophysics), Teuscher (Medicine), Mintz (MMG), Nelms (Orthopedic Rehab), Starrett (Plant & Soil Science), Feldman (Political Science), Rodgers (PSC), Naylor (Psychiatry), Lemos (Radiology), Borchert (Religion), Ricketts (RSENr), Chittenden (SAC), Witkin (Social Work), Adams (Surgery).

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1. Approval of the Minutes. (VOTE)

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of April 11, 2016 as written.

**Vote:** 100% approve, 0% oppose, 0% abstain

2. Presentation of Degrees (VOTE)

It was moved, seconded, and voted that the following numbers of graduates be recommended by the Senate to the President for the awarding of the appropriate degrees or certificates as authorized by the Board of trustees. Individual names of the graduates are recorded with the Minutes of this meeting in the permanent Senate records.

- A. College of Agriculture and Life Sciences 322
- B. College of Arts and Sciences
  - i. Bachelor of Arts 605
  - ii. Bachelor of Science 161
- C. Grossman School of Business 183
- D. College of Education and Social Services 150
- E. College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences 161
- F. Graduate College 322
- G. Honors College 109
- H. College of Nursing and Health Sciences 195

- I. College of Medicine 103
- J. Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources 119
- K. University Honors 243

**Motion:** To confer the degrees as presented by the Colleges

**By:** Cathy Paris

**Vote:** 100% approve, 0% oppose, 0% abstain

### 3. Faculty Senate President's Remarks- Cathy Paris

President Paris thanked the Senate for their support and is pleased to have the opportunity to serve as the Senate President for another term. President Paris is also pleased to report that Char Mehrstens of Geology will continue on the Senate Executive Council and will be joined by Brian Beckage of Plant Biology. She also expressed her thanks to Barbara Saylor Rodgers who will be leaving the position of Ombudsperson and welcomed David Neiweem (Music and Dance) who will be the new Faculty Senate Ombudsperson. The senate is need of an interim parliamentarian for the coming year as Bill Mierse will be out on sabbatical. The parliamentarian does not need to be a full voting member of the Senate.

Senate year-end reports are all posted on the Faculty Senate website, please visit them at [http://www.uvm.edu/faculty\\_senate](http://www.uvm.edu/faculty_senate).

Next year senate meetings will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month with the exception of December and May. This is a change from the current meeting pattern; please mark your calendars accordingly.

### 4. UVM President's Remarks

President Sullivan thanked Lisa Aultman-Hall, Cathy Paris, and Jan Carney for their leadership over the past year. President Sullivan also acknowledged some of the accomplishments of both the faculty and the Faculty Senate.

- The CAC has approved thirteen programs in the past academic year.
- The PSC reviewed 75 faculty dossiers, 23 faculty members have been promoted to full professor.
- The PSC reviewed 60 sabbatical requests.
- A creation of a new faculty rank in the College of Medicine.
- Over 75 books have been published in the past year.
- Well over 100 articles published and many other creative works done by the faculty of UVM in 2015-2016.
- Continued work on general education requirements including diversity, writing, and sustainability.
- The hard work reviewing the CEMS restructure proposal
- Working with SGA to solve calendar conflicts.
- Continued work on the First Year Experience.

President Sullivan takes great pride in the work the Senate has done over the last year through the committees and the senate as a whole.

5. Books4equality – Ben Vaughn and Willoughby Bourne

Ben Vaughn and Willoughby Bourne were not present to address the Senate at this time.

6. ERTC Resolution on Faculty Computers – David Feurzeig (VOTE)

The ERTC presented the full Senate with the following resolution:

**A Resolution on Faculty Computers**

The Educational & Research Technologies Committee has compiled information on faculty computer acquisition policies across the various Units, and we have polled the entire faculty on their satisfaction with the current policies. We note the following conclusions:

- 1) An up-to-date desktop or laptop computer is essential to fulfilling faculty responsibilities in teaching, research, and service for all faculty, independent of any specialty research computing needs.
- 2) The nature of information technology and software upgrades limits the efficient useful lifetime of a computer to a few years.
- 3) Great discrepancies exist at the University of Vermont among units and departments, with some providing faculty with replacement computers on a regular schedule, while others provide a computer only at startup, with no replacement.
- 4) Information security and privacy, as well as faculty efficiency, are compromised when faculty do not use up-to-date hardware and software.
- 5) Faculty have expressed the importance of using the operating system of their choice.

In light of these observations, the Faculty Senate requests that the Provost work with all Units to establish a policy that will provide all full-time faculty with a computer sufficiently recent and powerful to fulfill their work responsibilities efficiently. This policy should include replacement of each faculty member's computer on a schedule consistent with standard practice in higher education. Computer options should be robust and include various operating systems. The provision of a principal work computer should not be funded by negotiated Professional Development Funds.

**Vote: Approve 100%, Oppose 0%, Abstain 0%**

7. New Business, Committee update:

Thomas Chittenden, SAC:

The SAC has worked on a number of issues this past year including:

- Grade letter F and how it impacts students.

- The Administrative F and how faculty, the result of faculty neglecting to enter their course grades by the deadline.
- August 22 campus-wide meeting, that will cover topics important to faculty.
- On line course evaluations integrated into the myUVM portal, if a unit chooses to do so.

Chris Burns, RSCA:

The RSCA has worked on a number of issues this past year including:

- Faculty Recognition
- Sponsored Programs and Foundation and how to help faculty use these resources.
- Barack lectures
- University Distinguished Professors

## 8. Board of Trustees Remarks – Chair David Daigle

University of Vermont Board of Trustee chair, David Daigle is a native Vermonter, from Jay Peak. He is a 1989 graduate of the University of Vermont, the first person in his family to go to college. He later received his MBA at the University of Chicago. In 1989 he moved from Vermont and has lived out of state since.

The risks and opportunities for the University of Vermont

### 1. Leadership

- a) The lack of good leadership is a driving force to failure. Both President Sullivan and Provost Rosowsky are exactly what the University of Vermont need to be competitive.
- b) The faculty are the heart and soul of this university. There is very little the administration and the Board can do without the excellent work of the faculty.

### 2. Financial Stability

- a) Debt policy is very stable
- b) Making sure there is liquidity so that the poor decisions don't have to be made.
- c) UVM did not have the radical cuts that other universities had in 2008-2009, because of the conservative administration

### 3. Trust, Integrity and working together

- a) The governance triangle at UVM
- b) One UVM, working together to solves problems and enhance the student experience.

## 9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32p.m.