

DRAFT



The University of Vermont
FACULTY SENATE

Minutes

Thursday, May 16 2019
Memorial Lounge 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Senators in Attendance: 64

Absent: Senators Agnarsson (Biology), Tobin (CDAE), Schneebeli (Chemistry), Jabb (Computer Science), Kete (English), Harrington (English), Stafford (Neuroscience), Gorres (Plant & Soil Science), Peters (Rehabilitation & Movement Science), D'Amato (RSENR), Pontius (RSENR), Strickler (Sociology)

1. Approval of Minutes of the April 22, 2019 meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes of the April 22, 2019 meeting as written.

Vote: 78% **approve**, 6% oppose, 16% abstain

2. Resolution in Memoriam for Robert Arns, CAS

Matthew White, Assistant Professor of Physics in the College of Arts and Sciences, presented a Resolution in Memoriam for Robert G. Arns, Emeritus Professor of Physics. The resolution is attached to these minutes.

Motion: Matthew White moved to inscribe the Resolution in Memoriam for Robert Arns in the minutes of the Faculty Senate and to send a copy to the family.

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

3. Presentation of Degrees

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.

Agriculture and Life Sciences (374)

Arts and Sciences (761)

Education and Social Services (159)

Engineering and Mathematical Sciences (262)

Graduate College (362)
Grossman School of Business (172)
Honors College (132)
Larner College of Medicine (104)
Nursing and Health Sciences (209)
Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources (117)
University Honors (261)

Motion: To accept the degrees as presented

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

4. Faculty Senate President's Remarks. Cathy Paris made the following remarks:

- End of year reports from the six Senate Standing Committees are posted on Faculty Senate website.
- A joint committee on UVM's Residential Learning Communities (RLCs) is being charged to articulate and seek solutions to the complex issues around RLCs. The charge will include reviewing and making recommendations on topics including the manner by which RLCs (not just RLC courses) are funded, faculty oversight of RLC courses, and appropriate number of credits for such courses. The timeline goal is to have a report and set of recommendations presented to the Faculty Senate by December 2019. This workgroup will include representatives from the UVM faculty, RLC staff and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs. The plan to formulate this committee has been endorsed by the Faculty Senate Executive Council, President Sullivan, and President-Designate Garimella.

5. UVM President's Remarks. President Tom Sullivan announced the 2018-2019 recipients of the various Presidential Awards and Recognition.

- UVM Outstanding Faculty Advising Award – Lia Cravedi
- Outstanding Part-Time Faculty Teaching Award – Celia Alleen Whitson Cuddy
- President's Distinguished Senior Lecturer and Lecturer Award – Walter Poleman and Thomas Dunn
- President's Distinguished University Citizenship and Service Award – Katharine Shepherd

6. UVM Provost's Remarks. Patty Prelock described her history at UVM as one that allowed the development of deep connections in both the academic health sciences, as well as arts and sciences. She has served as Dean of CNHS, as Department Chair (CAS), and as a Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders during her years at UVM. The interdisciplinary nature of Prelock's research and teaching (investigating the nature and treatment of children with autism), reaches across colleges, and has helped her understand the core of what makes us who we are and how we can apply that in our practices. Provost Prelock will continue her active research agenda, which includes a

12-student lab and a virtual lab, and plans to continue lecturing. As Interim Provost, her plans to connect with faculty include:

- Visiting classrooms and labs to observe innovative practices that will inform and add relevance to discussions at the leadership level and with donors.
- Creating 2-minute videos to communicate with the community, starting with “What is a provost?”
- Attending college and school meetings, and all Faculty Senate meetings to listen and understand issues.

Provost Prelock stated that her plan for working together begins with a belief that we are all committed to academic excellence, the success of our students, and the good of our University. She described herself as a mindful leader with an approach that looks at different points of view and appreciates multiple perspectives. With respectful dialogue, the exchange of ideas is essential and debate is healthy. Provost Prelock is a consensus builder, and acknowledged that consensus is not always possible. She stressed that faculty have a critical role and responsibility to model for our students constructive and thoughtful dialogue with multiple points of view. Provost Prelock thanked the Senators for their commitment to shared governance and for their service to the University.

7. **Curricular Affairs Committee Consent Agenda.** Laura Almstead, Chair of the CAC, brought two items to the Senate for consideration. At its meeting on May, 2019, the CAC approved the following:

- **Name Change Requests – Department of Theatre and Department of Music and Dance (CAS).** Due to a shift of the Dance Program from its current affiliation with Music into a new affiliation with Theatre, the Department of Theatre will be renamed the Department of Theatre and Dance. The Department of Music & Dance will be renamed the Department of Music. The change will not affect the current curriculum; the majors, minors, courses, and rubrics/prefixes will continue as they are. A report from the CAC is attached to these minutes.

Motion: Laura Almstead moved to approve the two items requiring a vote on the CAC Consent Agenda

Vote: 98% approve, 0% oppose, 2% abstain

8. **FPPC Resolution on Retirement Savings Plan Record Keeper Selection.** Don Ross, Chair of the Senate standing committee on Financial and Physical Planning, presented a resolution to retain both Fidelity and TIAA as record keepers for the UVM community. The resolution is attached to these minutes.

Motion: Don Ross moved to approve the resolution to retain both Fidelity and TIAA as record keepers for the UVM community.

Vote: 96% approve, 2% oppose, 2% abstain

9. **Resolution on Equitable Funding for Residential Learning Communities (RLC).** Thomas Borchert, Religion, presented a resolution on equitable funding for Residential Learning Communities drafted by a group of Senators. The resolution is attached to these minutes. The proposed resolution had four parts:

1. As a matter of policy, the body of the Faculty Senate resolves that all RLCs be funded on an equitable basis;
2. That the work of courses linked to RLCs should be consistent across the RLCs (for example, they should have the same number of credits);
3. That a system of oversight for RLCs be established which includes members of the faculty; and
4. We direct Senate and administrative bodies responsible for organizing the RLCs to return to the Faculty Senate in Fall 2019 with possible proposals to resolve these inequities before the class of 2024 enter the RLC system.

Motion: Jacques Bailly, Classics, moved the resolution. The motion was seconded and debated.

Motion: Sean Diehl, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, moved to *postpone action on the resolution until the 2019-2020 academic year*. The motion was seconded and debated.

Motion: Julie Roberts, Romance Languages, called the question. The motion was seconded and debate stopped. A vote was called on the *motion to postpone action on the resolution until the 2019-2020 academic year*.

VOTE: 45% approve, 54% oppose. **The motion failed.**

Debate continued on the Resolution

Motion: Robert Hondal, Biochemistry, LCOM, moved to reconsider postponement of the resolution. The motion was not seconded. Debate on the resolution continued.

Motion: Sean Diehl, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, moved to *divide the motion by striking #1,2, and 3 from the resolution and to only vote on #4*. The motion was seconded and debated.

Motion: Tim Stickle, Psychological Science, called the question. The motion was seconded and debate stopped. A vote was called on the *motion to divide the resolution and to strike #1,2,3 from the resolution*.

VOTE: 51% approve, 49% oppose. **The motion carried.** Debate continued on the amended resolution.

Motion: Bill Mierse, Art and Art History, called the question. The motion was seconded and debate stopped on the amended resolution.

A vote was called on the amended *resolution to direct Senate and administrative bodies responsible for organizing the RLCs to return to the Faculty Senate in Fall 2019 with possible proposals to resolve these inequities before the class of 2024 enter the RLC system*.

VOTE: 66% approve, 29% oppose, 5% abstain. The amended resolution passed. A copy of the approved resolution is attached to these minutes.

10. **Faculty Roundtable Report and Discussion: Themes from the April Faculty Senate Roundtable.** This agenda item was not taken up due to time constraints.
11. **UVM Board Chair's Remarks.** David Daigle made brief opening remarks before opening the floor for questions. Chair Daigle spoke about the positive impact of the Wellness Environment program on families choosing UVM, the financial situation at UVM, and the recent Presidential search process. Discussion topics in response to comments and

questions from the floor included the use of external search firms, faculty desire for greater voice in the search process, and the importance of communication in building trust.

12. **New Business**

Cathy Paris reminded Senators that President Sullivan was hosting a year-end reception for the Faculty Senate in Waterman Manor immediately after the Senate meeting.

At the Senate Reception, following the meeting, Cathy offered the following remarks (abridged):

Thanks to the 70 senators and 89 Senate Committee members who have given so generously of their time to forward the work of the Senate this year. I am particularly grateful to the Faculty Senate Executive Council, a group representing five colleges and the libraries. These colleagues have participated in at least three meetings per month in addition to a set of dean and provost interviews, and have responded to countless emails: I so appreciate this diverse, talented, and committed group of colleagues for their collaboration in Senate leadership. Most particularly I thank Jan Carney for her guidance, support, clear thinking, and capable mentorship. I will miss working with you, Jan, and look forward to crossing paths again and again on the east side of campus.

To Thomas and Chris, I wish you the best as you take up your new leadership roles. I have every confidence in you: the Senate will be in good hands. Work well with the new leadership team: they will be looking to you as they settle into their new roles as much as you will be looking to them.

Laurie and Tiera, my deep and sincere thanks to you both, for the support, the organization, the efficient disposition of Senate business, for your excellent support of our six Senate standing committees, three standing subcommittees, and of course the Senate Executive Council. You have kept me on task, kept me on time, kept me on calendar. Thank you.

13. **Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.



The University of Vermont
FACULTY SENATE

Resolution in Memoriam

Robert G. Arns
Emeritus Professor of Physics
1933 – 2019

Presented by Matthew White
Assistant Professor of Physics
May 16th, 2019

The UVM Department of Physics is sad to report that a beloved colleague and friend, Dr. Robert G. Arns, Emeritus Professor of Physics, passed away on April 6, 2019. Born in Buffalo, NY, Bob graduated from Canisius High School, graduated summa cum laude from Canisius College, and then earned his Ph.D. in nuclear and particle physics from The University of Michigan.

Dr. Arns taught at SUNY Buffalo and at The Ohio State University, and in 1977 moved to The University of Vermont as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost) and Professor of Physics. Physics was a great love for Bob, and after eight years as Provost, he returned to teaching in the Physics Department. Except for three years as Dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematics, Bob remained in the Physics Department until he took early retirement in 1999. Bob was truly dedicated to the University of Vermont.

Bob was a dedicated student and curator of the history of science, both at UVM and beyond. He spearheaded efforts to preserve experimental equipment and scientific records, and to use the historical pieces in practical learning experiences for UVM students. Bob's legacy lives on, as hundreds of students and visitors every day pass by the physics museum pieces that are proudly displayed in the entrance to Discovery Hall, sparking scientific curiosity in generations to come.

He was a passionate artist, painting under the pseudonym of Mutin. His later works were based on the astrophysical images from NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. Many of his works were presented in two one-man shows and a joint show with his daughter Sue.

Arns published on a variety of subjects, including experimental nuclear physics, physics pedagogy, management, and the history of science. His work on the development of the transistor was recognized by the 1998 IEEE Life Members' Prize in Electrical History. His colleagues and friends will remember him fondly for his sharp wit and his many years of generous service to physics department.

Catherine A. Paris
President, Faculty Senate

E. Thomas Sullivan
President, University of Vermont

Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate

To: The UVM Faculty Senate

From: Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate, Laura Almstead, Chair

Date: May 2, 2019

Re: Approval of 1) a proposal to change the name of the Department of Music and Dance in the College of Arts and Sciences to the Department of Music, and 2) a proposal from the Department of Theatre in the College of Arts and Sciences to change the name of the Department of Theatre to the Department of Theatre and Dance

At its meeting on May 2, 2019, the Curricular Affairs Committee approved the two actions recommended in the following memo.

The Curricular Affairs Committee approved proposals from the Department of Music and Dance and the Department of Theatre, both in the College of Arts and Sciences, to 1) change the name of the Department of Music and Dance to the Department of Music, and 2) change the name of the Department of Theatre to the Department of Theatre and Dance. The two proposals are related, but the name changes are separate actions that each require a Faculty Senate vote.

The fields of Dance and Theatre share similar production needs as well as pedagogical approaches. Since the inauguration of the Dance program in 2006, which currently includes a major and minor in Dance, the Department of Theatre has provided significant production support. Programming and shared resources have also become increasingly interrelated. In an effort to strengthen creative productivity and to streamline resources for faculty and students, a decision was made to move the Dance program and Dance faculty from the Department of Music and Dance to the Department of Theatre. Both Dance and Theatre faculty anticipate an artistic synergy in this merger leading to future opportunities in production and expanded experiential learning for students. This move will not change the existing major and minor in Dance or the existing major in Theatre, minor in Theatre, and minor in Musical Theatre. A letter from the Associate Chair of the Department of Music and Dance, Patricia Riley, indicated that the Music faculty unanimously support the proposal to move the Dance program from the Department of Music and Dance to the Department of Theatre. The Dance faculty also fully support the move. This movement of the Dance program and faculty from the Department of Music and Dance to the Department of Theatre is the rationale for the proposed name changes.

Both name change proposals were approved by the College of Arts and Sciences curriculum committee and faculty. Letters of support were also provided by:

- Bill Falls, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
- Paul Besaw, Dance Program Director and Chair of the Department of Music and Dance
- Gregory Ramos, Chair of the Department of Theatre

RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN ADMINISTRATOR SELECTION & FACULTY/STAFF CHOICE

May 6, 2019

For Consideration by the Financial & Physical Planning Committee of the Faculty Senate

WHEREAS reducing the number of record keepers to only one requires a substantial contingent of the UVM community to move their investments and creates switching burdens without perceivable benefits;

WHEREAS Fidelity and TIAA excel at complementary products within their respective categories; and

WHEREAS the existence of multiple record keepers gives UVM faculty and staff freedom to choose the record keeper most aligned with their individual saving strategies and retirement goals;

WHEREAS requiring individuals within the UVM community to move their retirement savings without choice to a single record keeper will generate distrust within the UVM community;

BE IT SO RESOLVED that the University of Vermont should retain both Fidelity and TIAA as record keepers for the UVM community.

Motion to the Faculty Senate on Equitable Funding for Residential Learning Communities
May 2019

Preamble.

In the last several years, the University of Vermont has expanded the use of Residential Learning Communities (RLC) as a way of promoting student engagement in the intellectual projects of university life, as well as a tool for enhancing the retention of students. According to the Residential Life website, “Learning Communities are built around a common theme, faculty engagement, and easily accessible events coordinated by a dedicated program staff.” They include a course in which students are required to register in order to be a part of the RLC. In six of the seven RLCs, this course is a one-credit course; in the Wellness Environment, there is a three-credit course, COMU 001 (Healthy Brains Healthy Bodies).

While students come from different socioeconomic backgrounds, and bring different skills and interests to their time at the University of Vermont, as a general principle, students should have equal access to the resources of the university. Therefore, programs that students are required to participate in should be organized and funded in an equitable manner.

The Faculty Senate under the authority of the Board of Trustees is empowered to “Review and Establish Policies with respect to...All curricular matters, including the establishment, dissolution and potential changes of degree programs” (1.1.b). It is also empowered to “Review, Recommend and participate in the formulation of policy with regard to the Allocation and utilization of the University’s human, fiscal and physical resources” and the “Academic organization...of the general university and college academic structure” (1.2.b and 1.2.c) (https://www.uvm.edu/faculty_senate/faculty_senate_constitution_and_bylaws). Although residential life is not the same as the direct curricular program of the university, the two are closely related, and have an important effect on each other. This is particularly the case with the RLCs which are directed by University faculty, and have the clear goal of improving the academic success of students.

Proposed Resolution:

The proposal has several portions:

First, as a matter of policy, the body of the Faculty Senate resolves that all RLCs be funded on an equitable basis;

Second, that the work of courses linked to RLCs should be consistent across the RLCs (for example, they should have the same number of credits);

Third, that a system of oversight for RLCs be established which includes members of the faculty;

Fourth, we direct Senate and administrative bodies responsible for organizing the RLCs to return to the Faculty Senate in Fall 2019 with possible proposals to resolve these inequities before the class of 2024 enter the RLC system.

Thomas Borchert (CAS) (on behalf of)

Eyal Amiel (CNHS)

Jacques Bailey (CAS)

Brian Beckage (CALs)

Pablo Bose (CAS)

Christopher Burns (Libraries)

Chris Callahan (CALs/Extension)

Susan Comerford (CESS)

Louis deRosset (CAS)

David Feurzeig (CAS)

Julie Roberts (CAS)

Tim Stickle (CAS)

Laura Webb (CAS)

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Resolution Approved by the UVM Faculty Senate, May 16, 2019:

We direct Senate and administrative bodies responsible for organizing the RLCs to return to the Faculty Senate in Fall 2019 with possible proposals to resolve these inequities before the class of 2024 enter the RLC system.

Thomas Borchert (CAS) (on behalf of)

Eyal Amiel (CNHS)

Jacques Bailly (CAS)

Brian Beckage (CALs)

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