



The
UNIVERSITY
of VERMONT

FACULTY SENATE

Research, Scholarship & the Creative Arts Committee
September 13, 2018
427a Waterman 12:30-2:00

Present: Brandon Ackley (GSS), Chris Burns (LIB), Rachelle Gould (RSEN), Britt Holmen (CEMS), David Neiweem (CAS), Cathy Paris (Faculty Senate President), Matthew Price (CAS), Albert van der Vliet (COM)

Absent: Steve Budington (CAS), Mary Cushman (LCOM), Tammy Kolbe (CESS), Dimitry Krementsov (CNHS), Steve Keller (CAL), Chuck Schnitzlein (GSB)

Guests: Thomas Chittenden (FS President Elect), Richard Galbraith (OVPR)

Chair Chris Burns called the meeting to order at 12:34pm in 427a Waterman.

- 1. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of May 10, 2018 were approved as written.
- 2. Chair Welcome.** Chair Chris Burns welcomed new and past committee members. He talked about the 5 standing committees of the Faculty Senate and how they relate to the RSCA. He gave a brief description of the RSCA and their role in both the Burack Lecturers and The Distinguished Professor Award.
- 3. RSCA Operating Procedures,** The RSCA operating procedures were approved by the committee.

Adopted by RSCA 09-13-2018

Last updated 09-13-2018

Faculty Senate Research, Scholarship, and the Creative Arts Committee

Operating Procedures

RSCA Membership & Responsibilities (Source: Faculty Senate Bylaws)

7.1.2.1 Elected Members.

- Number. Except as described below, standing committees and standing subcommittees shall be composed of at least one member from each of the major academic units (the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Education and Social Services, Engineering and Mathematics, and Medicine; the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Business Administration, and Natural Resources; and the Officers of Extension, and of the Libraries. A unit with more than 200

full-time eligible faculty members may elect one additional member to each standing committee and standing subcommittee.

- b. Eligibility. Any eligible faculty member may stand for election by his/her college or school to serve on a standing committee except as otherwise stated in these Bylaws.
- c. Term. Members of the standing committees shall be elected for three years or as otherwise stated in these Bylaws, starting on July 1. Terms shall be staggered so that approximately one-third of the standing committee members shall be elected each year.
- d. Election. The election of standing committee members shall be the responsibility of the individual college and school faculties. Elections shall be held no later than April of each year and shall be conducted by secret ballot distributed to all eligible faculty members of the college/school. An opportunity must be provided for all eligible faculty members to volunteer to run for election to Senate standing committees. The Faculty Senate shall supervise the elections of Senate Standing Committees; concerns regarding election irregularities must be communicated to the Senate President by May 1.
- e. Vacancies. If a standing committee member vacates his/her seat the vacancy shall be filled by a special election within the unit from which s/he was elected. The term of a member under these circumstances shall commence immediately and shall normally be for the unexpired term of the regularly elected member. If a standing committee member is granted leave for one year or less a replacement shall be elected by a special election within the unit from which s/he was elected to take the absent standing committee member's seat for the period of the leave.
- f. Attendance. A standing committee member absent from three committee meetings in a calendar year in the absence of mitigating circumstances will be considered to have vacated his/her seat.
- g. Members of the Senate. A standing committee member may also serve as an Elected Senator. Standing committee members are members of the Senate without vote if not also an Elected Senator.

7.1.2.2 Ex Officio Members.

The Senate President is a voting ex officio member of every Faculty Senate committee and subcommittee, with the exception of the Nominating Committee in 3.5, and may designate a member of the Executive Council to act on his/her behalf. The Faculty Senate Vice-President is a nonvoting ex officio member of every Faculty Senate committee and subcommittee except when serving as the Senate President's designee.

7.1.2.3 Student Members.

- a. Standing committees may invite graduate and/or undergraduate students designated by student governing bodies on a one-year renewable basis to serve on the committee.

7.1.3 General Duties of Standing Committees.

- a. They shall recommend policy and changes in policy in their areas of responsibility to the Faculty Senate. They may initiate action on matters clearly within their province and request that they be placed on the agenda of the Senate meeting by the Executive Council.
- b. They shall receive and consider policy proposals in their areas of responsibility from the Faculty Senate, the administration, student bodies, etc., and present their recommendations to the Faculty Senate for action.
- c. They shall consider budgetary implications for policies in their areas of responsibility and make appropriate recommendations to the Faculty Senate and the administration regarding University priorities.
- d. They shall annually review sections of the Officers' Handbook pertaining to their areas of concern and make recommendations for revision.

- e. They shall consult with and provide advice to the administration, student groups, etc., in their areas of responsibility when requested to do so. Policy proposals generated as a result of these consultations shall be presented to the Faculty Senate for consideration and action.
- f. They shall keep records of their activities and present reports at least once a year to the Faculty Senate.
- g. They shall maintain close liaison with appropriate committees and groups established by the individual academic units, the student governing bodies, the Staff Council, and other University constituencies.
- h. They shall meet frequently in order to promptly and responsively discharge their duties to the Senate, the faculty, and the University as a whole.

7.1.5.4 Research, Scholarship, and The Creative Arts Committee.

This committee shall have responsibility for matters relating to research activities, scholarly work, and creative and performing arts carried out at the University, including graduate education and items referred to in Sections 1.1c, 1.2b, 1.2g, and 1.2k. It shall review, recommend, and participate in the formulation of policy with respect to resources related to these activities, including physical facilities and allocation of appurtenant space, library resources and resources for graduate programs, and make recommendations to assure effective use of these resources. It shall serve as liaison between the Senate and the administration on such matters as, but not limited to: the broad role of the University in advancing knowledge through research, scholarship, and the performing arts; external and internal support for encouraging these activities, including graduate and undergraduate research; intellectual property, and technology transfer; ethical issues and issues affecting the academic environment as these arise in research or scholarly work. It shall consult frequently with other University and collegiate committees that are charged to initiate, maintain, and monitor institutional support programs for research, scholarship, the creative arts, and graduate education, as well as maintain close liaison with appropriate administrative offices in its areas of responsibility.

Supplementing the membership described in 7.121a above, this committee shall include an additional member from the College of Arts and Sciences representing the field of the creative and performing arts.

Committee Procedures

- RSCA meets once a month during the academic year. Historically this has been on Thursdays from 12:30-2 in Waterman 427A. Elected members should have a schedule that allows for regular attendance at meetings.
- At its September meeting, RSCA shall orient new members to the committee and draft a list of topics it would like to cover during the upcoming academic year.
- Administrative offices that RSCA maintains close liaison with are:
 - Office of the Vice President for Research
 - Graduate College
 - Libraries
 - Office of Fellowships, Opportunities and Undergraduate Research
 - Provost's office
- Relationship with Office of Fellowships, Opportunities, and Undergraduate Research (FOUR). RSCA plays an advisory role with FOUR which includes but is not limited to:
 - Input on the Student Research Conference.
 - Collaboration on FOUR initiatives as agreed upon by both parties.
 - Assistance forging partnerships – either directly by the voluntary participation of RSCA members or indirectly through RSCA suggestions.
 - Assistance with new or ongoing initiatives or ideas.
 - Acting as “ambassadors” of FOUR by disseminating information to appropriate groups (faculty, staff, students) as applicable to your individual positions at the University.

The nature of communication will be through twice annual presentations by FOUR to RSCA.

- RSCA reviews the Burack Distinguished Lecture Series nominations twice per academic year, typically at the November and April meetings. Lecture nominations are considered confidential and should not be shared outside of the Committee. Information about the Lecture Series can be found here - <https://www.uvm.edu/~president/burack/>
- RSCA reviews University Distinguished Professor Nominations in the Spring semester, typically at the April meeting. These nominations are considered confidential and should not be shared outside of the Committee. Information about the University Distinguished Professor program can be found here - <http://www.uvm.edu/~provost/udp/>
- RSCA's work plan varies from year to year and is formulated by the Committee based on issues of concern to its members and issues brought to the committee by members of the faculty and administrative units. Issues RSCA has worked on in the past include:
 - Scholarly Productivity and Impact Metrics
 - Research Data Management
 - Undergraduate Research
 - Technology issues related to research, scholarship, and creative arts
 - Internal funding opportunities to support creative arts and humanities scholarship
 - Corporate and Foundation support for research, scholarship, and creative arts
 - Open access publishing
 - Interdisciplinary initiatives such as the Gund Institute for the Environment
 - Grant management

RSCA Chair

- In the spring semester, the Faculty Senate office will contact all current RSCA members to solicit nominations, including self-nominations, for Chair to serve during the upcoming academic term (beginning June 1st). Once nominations are received, the Faculty Senate office will conduct a vote on the nominated members and report the results to RSCA.
- The Chair shall be report to the Senate at least once a year, schedule and conduct meetings, follow up on actions of the committee, and serve as committee spokesperson,
- The Chair shall serve as a voting member of the Faculty Senate,
- The Chair shall serve on the Senate Executive Council.
- The Chair shall serve as faculty representative to the Board of Trustees Educational Policy and Institutional Resource Committee.
- The Chair shall serve as a liaison to the Library Advisory Committee.

Continuous Improvement & Reporting

- At the end of the spring semester, the RSCA Chair will prepare a summary report to be submitted to the Faculty Senate describing the work of the committee during the academic year.
- At least once annually, RSCA should review its operating procedures, propose specific changes if needed, and submit to the Senate Executive Council for review and approval.

4. OVPR Update, Richard Galbraith. Vice President for Research is a position that aids faculty at the university to produce work in their fields, no matter what discipline they represent. University of Vermont is a land grant university that acts as a hub to better the Vermont community in general.

- a. Started a \$30,000 a year fund for the humanities and the arts. It can be accessed through an application process.
- b. Humanities Center and OVPR co fund summer opportunities for those in the humanities.

- c. REACH Grant Program, The REACH grant program seeks to promote and help fund promising research, scholarship, and creative arts in all areas of the University. The aim is to encourage faculty members to envision and describe ambitious, long-term projects that will have a substantial impact on their own profiles as scholars or creative artists, as well as enhance the profile of UVM by the quality and significance of their achievements. The program is designed to foster conditions of possibility in which these projects can grow by providing seed money or exploratory or complementary funding.
- d. OVPR Express, is an internal, competitive funding program designed to stimulate research and scholarship by new junior faculty members. Specifically, the EXPRESS program will provide awards up to \$3,000 to newly hired UVM tenure-track assistant professors. The goal is that these awards will aid, within the first year of appointment, initiation of the research, scholarship, and creative works that will propel the careers of junior faculty recipients.
- e. SPARK provides a modular infrastructure to facilitate the discovery-to-innovation-to-commercialization process. A new initiative at UVM is helping to bridge the divide between research and the marketplace by bringing promising researchers together with business innovators and biotech leaders. The goal of SPARK-VT is to address the challenges of translating novel research into the community.
- f. The UVM Foundation has major gift officers for the colleges, however there are areas that are overlooked. OVPR is working on finding ways to get more funding for a wider range of projects.
- g. CLICK, is the dominant research management software in the country. It will be rolled out in phases. Click is interactive with PeopleSoft.
- h. Inquiry, an annual UVM magazine will be out in the next couple weeks. It will include the collective work of the university.
- i. Data Management, there is federal mandates on data management. Who is responsible for paying for the curation of data and building the databases? This will be an ongoing conversation throughout the year.

OVPR would like RSCA to give feedback on?

- a. Student Research Conference. The RSCA will put brainstorming on the agenda for a future meeting.
- b. Interdisciplinary collaboration

5. 2018/2019 Planning.

- a. Recognition of creativity in the community, Rachelle will work with Chris on how to structure that conversation.
- b. Open Access, where can the RSCA and the Faculty Senate go?
- c. Showing graduate students that staying in VT after graduation is an option.
- d. Campus wide recognition for GSS students and the work they do around research, scholarship and the arts.

6. **New Business.** There was no new business at this time.

Adjourn at 2:00pm.

The next meeting of the RSCA is scheduled for Thursday, October 11, 2018 from 12:30 – 2:00 in 427a Waterman.