



FACULTY SENATE

Research, Scholarship & the Creative Arts Committee

March 17, 2022

12:30-2:00

Microsoft Teams

- Present: Thomas Borchert (FS President), Mary Cushman (LCOM), Evan Eyler (Faculty Senate Vice President), Rachelle Gould (RSENR), Jennifer Hurley (CESS), Dimitry Kremetsov (CNHS), Jill Preston (CALs), Daniel Weiss (LCOM), Chun Zhang (GSB)
- Absent: Raju Badireddy (CEMS), Brandon Bensel (Postdoctoral Association), Marieka Burg (CAS), Jonah Steinberg (CAS), Christie Silkotch (LIB), Pending (GSS), Sarah Wood (SGA)
- Guests: No guests at this meeting.

Co-Chair Gould called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm via Microsoft Teams.

- 1. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of the February 2022 meeting were approved with edits.
- 2. Chair Update.** At the February Faculty Senate meeting there was a discussion about a bill in the Vermont Senate about the configuration of the University of Vermont Board of Trustees. The bill did not move forward however it will probably come up again in the future. Mary would like to make sure if there are changes nonunion faculty have the same opportunity as unionized faculty.

The Faculty Senate also discussed the Art and Science proposal. They worked in breakout groups to gather information. Once the information is organized it will be available through the Faculty Senate Office.

- 3. Decolonizing Research, Rachelle.** The subcommittee met and focused on decolonizing research and what they can do to make more people on campus aware. They did not come up with a final definition but they want to give it space and attention. The committee would like to promote a small event on campus that is set up with a workshop format. The committee

discussed the best ways to go forward with this idea. Rachelle will continue to move forward with the subcommittee on ways to continue moving this topic forward.

**4. VPR Discussion and Questions for April Meeting.** Some of the topics that were suggested included

- Decolonization and what it means to the Office of Research.
- A preview on funding opportunities for next year so the RSCA can give input.
- How best can the RSCA serve the Office of Research and what tasks can the RSCA undertake.
- R1 and what did they learn from the newest report. What else needs to happen to move forward.

**5. Committee Update.** The following members have terms that will expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Faculty Senate Office has sent this information to the Colleges, members are encouraged to run again.

- Chun Zhang, GSB
- Daniel Weiss, LCOM
- Dimitry Krementsov, CNHS
- Rachelle Gould, RSENR
- Marieka Burg, CAS

The Faculty Senate Office will issue a call for nominations for chair and hold an election in May.

**6. Old or New Business.**

- **Critical Race Theory Resolution**, the committee agrees it is relevant to research and something the RSCA should discuss. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will discuss this at their next meeting, Mary and Thomas will report back to the RSCA. If committee members would review and reflect on the resolution it will be on the April agenda for consideration.
- **Academic Freedom Policy**, there have been minor changes since the RSCA last worked on the document. Both the Union and the Administration are working on this policy. It may be presented to the RSCA again for a vote. Thomas will continue to update the committee.

**7. Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

The next meeting of the RSCA will take place on Thursday, April 14th at 12:30 on Microsoft Teams.