



FACULTY SENATE

Student Affairs Committee

Minutes

October 6, 2022

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Microsoft Teams

Present: Thomas Borchert (Faculty Senate President), Matthew Carlson (CAS), Terry Delaney (CALS), Krisan Geary (CEMS), Denise Hersey (LIB), Nathan Kokinda (CNHS), Jennifer Prue (CESS), Devika Singh (LCOM), Sarah Twitchell (LCOM), Scott Van Keuren (CAS)

Absent: Trish O’Kane (RSENR), Pending (GSS), Pending (GSB) Pending (SGA)

Guests: J. Dickinson, Erica Caloiero, Veronika Carter

Co-Chair Jennifer Prue called the meeting to order at 8:30 am via Microsoft Teams.

- 1. Minutes.** The minutes of the September SAC meeting were approved as written.
- 2. Chair Update and Welcome.** Steve Gove (GSB) has a conflict and GSB is unable to fill the seat. The Faculty Senate Office will work with GSB to try to get representation. We are also currently working with SGA and GSS to get consistent student representation.
- 3. Religious Holidays Policy.**

Religious Holidays. Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. Each semester students should submit in writing to their instructors by the end of the second full week of classes their documented religious holiday schedule for the semester. Each Faculty will treat these absences as excused and will provide reasonable accommodation to the student concerning missed instruction, assignments, and exams, including final exams. Any conflicts between student and instructor may be presented for resolution to the course department chair or college dean’s office.

The Academic Calendar has a link <https://www.uvm.edu/registrar/religious-holidays> of the Religious Holidays, this is where the interfaith calendar can be located

The committee discussed the policy. Thomas Borchert and Jenny Prue will work with J. Dickinson on a draft. Once it is complete, they will distribute to the committee for feedback. The policy will then be voted on by the SAC and reported out to the full Faculty Senate. This needs to be complete by March 1st.

4. Expanded Course Description.

- This is an opportunity for Faculty to make out of class expectations known to students.
- Veronika shared the Expanded Description and the committee discussed and made comments.
- Scott Van Keuren is willing to make a short presentation at the Faculty Senate meeting to raise awareness around the Expanded Course Description and the changes that are being made. Scott will work with Thomas to make this happen.
- Veronika will work on making the steps that need to be completed are in a bulleted list to make it easier for faculty.
- Jenny will work with SGA to get student representation around this topic.
- Veronika will share the correspondence about the ECD opening with Tom, Jenny, and Scott for input. This correspondence will be going out to faculty tomorrow when the ECDs open.

5. Shifts and Changes in the Orientation Process, Erica Caloiero. UVM moved the orientation from the division of Student Affairs to the division of Enrollment Management. It went from taking place in June to August, it now occurs right before the start of the semester. The new process is smooth and works well for families and students. The use of the six-week survey helps get a pulse on the incoming class. Some issues that have been expressed by students include.

- Not enough food options.
- 1st year advising and access to advising.
- Catamount Data Center has some information around student movement that would be interesting to look at.
- New advisors when faculty are off contract

Erica will return to the November meeting to follow up on some of these topics.

6. New / Old Business.

- The policies around the incomplete / withdrawal policies should be added to the November agenda.

- Jenny will invite Jay Jacobs to the November meeting, Jenny is forming a list of direct questions for Jay.
- The committee would like to invite a guest from the Student Services Collaborative.

The SAC was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting of the SAC will be on November 3, 2022, at 8:30am on Microsoft Teams.