



FACULTY SENATE

Student Affairs Committee

Minutes

September 1, 2022

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Microsoft Teams

- Present:** Thomas Borchert (Faculty Senate President), Matthew Carlson (CAS), Evan Eyler (FS VP), Terry Delaney (CALS), Krisan Geary (CEMS), Denise Hersey (LIB), Nathan Kokinda (CNHS), Trish O’Kane (RSENR), Jennifer Prue (CESS), Devika Singh (LCOM), Sarah Twitchell (LCOM), Scott Van Keuren (CAS)
- Absent:** Pending (GSS), Pending (GSB) Pending (SGA)
- Guests:** J. Dickinson

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

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of the April and May SAC meeting were approved as written.
2. **Chair Update and Welcome.** Welcome to the returning members and new members, Krisan Geary, Nathan Kokinda and Trish O’Kane.
3. **SAC Operating procedures.**

DRAFT – UPDATED TO REFLECT FACULTY SENATE BYLAWS AMENDED APRIL 2021

Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee (SAC) Operating & Voting Procedures

SAC Responsibilities & Membership (Source: Faculty Senate By-Laws)

7.1.5.3 Student Affairs Committee. This committee shall have responsibility for matters relating to student affairs, their effect on the educational process, and the academic climate of the University, including items referred to in Sections 1.1d, 1.2e, 1.2f, 1.4, and 1.5. It shall recommend policy with respect to honors programs, remedial programs, athletics, discipline, health service, placement, housing, student activities, etc. It shall include among its duties in-depth and ongoing review of University admissions and financial aid policies, including their relation to projected enrollments. This committee shall establish policy in matters related to general admissions standards and prerequisites, as referred to in Section 1.1d, and shall review, recommend and participate in formulation of admissions procedures. The committee shall establish a continuing liaison with student government groups and with all appropriate administrative and academic offices.

7.1.2.1 Elected Members.

- a. **Number.** Except as described below, standing committees and standing subcommittees shall be composed of at least one member from the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Education and Social Services, the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, the Larner College of Medicine, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, the Grossman School of Business, the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, and the University 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 (as defined in section 2.1) may stand for election by their 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 March 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 their seat the vacancy shall be filled by a special election within the unit from which the member 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 to take the absent standing committee member's seat for the period of the leave.
- f. **Attendance.** A standing committee member absent from two committee meetings in a calendar year in the absence of mitigating circumstances will be considered to have vacated their 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 their 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. The Student Affairs Committee and the Educational and Research Technologies Committee shall include one graduate and one undergraduate student member designated by student governing bodies for a one-year term.
- b. The Professional Standards Committee shall not include student members.
- c. Standing committees may invite one graduate and one undergraduate student designated by student governing bodies to serve on the committee for a one-year term.

Student members serving on committees are voting members of that committee but may not serve as chair.

7.1.2.4. Resource Personnel. Standing committees may add nonvoting resource personnel on the basis of their position, interest, or expertise.

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 University governance documents, such as the University Manual, 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.

7.1.4 Committee Officers. The chair of each standing committee shall be elected by each committee from its elected membership for a one-year term. Faculty Senate office staff will keep minutes. Standing committee chairs or their designees shall serve as faculty representatives to the appropriate Board of Trustees committees (9.1). The duties of the chair shall be to report to the Senate at least once a year, schedule and conduct meetings, follow up on actions of the committee, serve as committee spokesperson with respect to the duties in 7.13(e), serve as voting members of the Faculty Senate, and serve on the Executive Council.

Committee Procedures

Meetings (Dates, Times, Location)

- The SAC has a standing meeting time scheduled on Thursdays from 8:30 - 10:00 AM. On occasion the length of the meeting time may be extended if required to meet deadlines. Elected members should have a schedule that allows for regular attendance at meetings on Thursday mornings at the designated time.
- Agenda items for each meeting are determined by the Chair/Co-Chair. These agenda items are identified from the following sources:
 - Committee members
 - SGA requests or resolutions.
 - Faculty Senate Leadership (President, Vice President, Executive Council..) requests.
 - Administration requests
- Agenda item priorities are determined by the committee during the May meeting and regularly during the 'Other Business' end of meeting discussion.
- It is the responsibility of the SAC Chair to notify all members of the specific dates, times, and locations of committee meetings.
- Throughout the academic year, the SAC may also spend meeting time discussing general issues of relevance to the work or functioning of the committee.

Materials

Meeting materials will be sent to the committee from the Chair/Co-Chair or the Faculty Senate Office the Friday before each meeting (generally). Members are expected to review meeting materials prior to the meeting. Committee members are also welcome to share materials prior to meetings to inform discussions.

Voting Rights

The Undergraduate and Graduate Student representatives on the Student Affairs Committee have equal voting rights to all other elected members of the Committee.

Definitions of Voting Terms

Yes: A "Yes" vote is a determination by a voting-eligible committee member that an action under review is supported.

No: A "No" vote is a determination by a voting-eligible committee member that an action under review is not supported. In such cases, committee members voting "No" are encouraged to offer reason(s) for the "No" vote to be included in the meeting minutes.

Abstain: An abstention occurs when a voting-eligible committee member, who has the opportunity to vote, makes an active choice to vote neither "Yes" nor "No". As active choice, abstention differs from not voting due to absence. The option to abstain is discouraged, but may be an appropriate option in a small number of circumstances where a voting-eligible faculty member has personal or professional reasons that interfere with making a fair and unbiased determination. It is helpful to specify the reason(s) for an abstention but not expected.

Recusal: A recusal is recorded when a SAC member determines it would be inappropriate for them to vote on the matter at hand. This is entirely self-enforcing.

Absent: If a voting-eligible SAC member is not in attendance at a meeting and does not actively submit a proxy vote (i.e., Yes, No, Abstain) by email to the Chair, the available vote will not be recorded in the vote tally.

- When the review process is completed each semester, the votes and corresponding narrative will be submitted to the Office of the Provost.

A motion is to pass the Student Affairs Committee if the majority of the quorum in attendance supports the measure.

Units Selecting Members to Join the SAC

- When a vacancy occurs within in unit for an opening on the SAC, the Faculty Senate Office notifies the unit, which then holds an election for a faculty member to represent them on SAC.

Continuous Improvement & Reporting

- Throughout the year the SAC Chair / Co-Chair will maintain a log of issues and ideas pertaining to: future agenda items, operational process improvements, conduct of meeting practice and so on.
- At the end of the spring semester, the SAC Chair / Co-Chair will prepare a summary report to be submitted to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost describing the work of the committee during the academic terms and key issues and ideas related to ongoing improvement.
- At least once annually, before May 15th of each academic term the SAC should review its operating procedures, propose specific changes if needed, and submit to the Senate Executive Council for review and approval.

4. **2021 / 2022 SAC Year End Report.** The link to the SAC annual reports is https://www.uvm.edu/faculty_senate/sac-annual-reports. For more information on the SAC please visit the Faculty Senate Website under the SAC page https://www.uvm.edu/faculty_senate/student_affairs_committee
5. **Monkey Pox, Devika.** The CDC has provided states with an allocation of vaccine, and VT has a small allocation. There are high numbers in NY and MA. Vaccines are being offered out of the medical center in the adult Infectious Disease Center. Planned Parenthood will also offer the vaccine. All vaccines are by appointment only.

The Center for Health and Wellbeing and the Prism Center have been working with students. The committee would like to invite Michelle Paavola to the October meeting to get an update on what the campus is doing to support this. Terry and Jenny will provide a list of proposed guests to invite to continue discussions around this topic.

6. 2022 / 2023 SAC Goals.

- A.** Campus safety, Michael Schirling
- B.** Learning management systems, second semester update.
- C.** Out of class expectations, Scott Van Keuren
- D.** Student Accessibility Service, Sharon Mone
- E.** Global issues and the impact to students
- F.** Update from CAPS
- G.** Enrollment, Jay Jacobs
- H.** Residential Life and housing, Charles Holmes-Hope
- I.** Transfer students and retention
- J.** J. Dickinson proposals for the fall.
 - Final Exam Policy
 - Incomplete policies
 - Late / medical withdrawal policy
 - VT high school students and how their class grades impact them when they become UVM students.
 -

7. New / Old Business. There was no new / old business at this meeting.

The SAC was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting of the SAC will be on October 6, 2022, at 8:30am on Microsoft Teams.