



FACULTY SENATE

Student Affairs Committee

Minutes

January 14, 2021

8:30-10:00

Microsoft Teams

- Present** Charlie Borah (SGA), Chris Burns (Faculty Senate President), Sin Yee Chan (CAS), Terry Delaney (CALs), Jonathan Flyer (LCOM), Steve Gove (GSB), William Louisos (CEMS), Jennifer Prue (CESS), Kris Stepenuck (RSENR), Berke Tinaz (GSA), Sarah Twitchell (LCOM), Scott Van Keuren (CAS)
- Absent** Kenneth Allen (CNHS), Vacant (LIB), Jonathan Flyer (LCOM)
- Guests** Lana Al-Namee, Kim Martin, Deanna Garrett-Ostermiller, Annie Stevens

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

- 1. Minutes.** The minutes of the December 2020 meeting were approved with no changes.
- 2. Student Concerns, SGA.** The Vice President of the SGA is working on a student housing check list of identities. This would help match identities and help eliminate problems that occur when opposing identities are housed together. Charlie will continue to update the SAC as the SGA committees meet throughout the spring.
- 3. Black-Lives-Matter Resolution.** SGA was tasked with the administration of the 3rd flag pole at the Davis Center. The SGA has a committee that reviews requests. The committee follows guidelines that are provided by the University of Vermont administration. The SAC would like to review the guidelines that the SGA was given. Lana will provide both the administrative guidelines and the SGA flag policy to the SAC.

The committee approved that they will attempt another version of the resolution. Terry will work on version 5 with the help of Lana and Scott. The Faculty Senate Office will conduct an electronic vote once the final draft is complete. The SGA would like to have this resolution moved forward as soon as possible. If the SAC wants it on the Faculty Senate agenda for the February 1st meeting it will be a tight turn around.

Resolution In Support Of Black Lives Matter (Ver 4)

WHEREAS, The Black Lives Matter Movement has at its heart, a strong message that acknowledges the value, contributions, and promise of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), and decries racial inequality;

WHEREAS, The BIPOC community has been victimized by systemic racism;

WHEREAS, the faculty has a responsibility to embody a culture of equality and respect for all, by expressing clearly and publicly its support for the global movement toward racial justice;

WHEREAS, the faculty defends the rights of all people and acknowledges the struggles faced by BIPOC persons;

WHEREAS, the faculty wishes to demonstrate its support to the Black Lives Matter movement by acknowledging the long history of racism in our country and the pressing need for change, recognizing that systemic change will not come solely from awareness of racism, but from dialogue and action within our government and our institutions of higher education, which have the power to be transformative;

WHEREAS, the administration has pledged their commitment to Justice in its *Our Common Ground* statement that calls on the UVM community to “unite against all forms of injustice”; and

WHEREAS, the administration has pledged to give “stewardship over the third flagpole at the Davis Center” to the Student Government Association (Sept. 29, 2020 memo, from President and Provost);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of Vermont supports the Black Lives Matter movement and recommends that a BLM flag fly at all times except when honoring other groups that have suffered from injustice. They further support the role of the SGA in establishing a flag policy that honors these groups.

- 4. Academic Integrity, Annie Stevens, Kim Martin and Deanna Garrett-Ostermiller.** The first change is centered around academic integrity that occurs when the offender is not associated with a specific course. When a student colludes with another student resulting in an academic integrity violation this would allow for the student that is not in the class to also be penalized. The second change focuses on Doctoral and Masters students.

Sanctions

The Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee and/or the Academic Integrity Council will impose sanctions after determining that a Respondent has been found responsible or taken responsibility for violating this Code. When doing so, they may consider mitigating and aggravating circumstances. Factors that will be considered may include, but are not limited to the following:

Aggravating

- Does the Respondent have a prior violation of the Code of Academic Integrity?
- Is there indication that the conduct was premeditated?
- Did the Respondent seek to threaten or purposefully intimidate the Complainant, witnesses, or others involved?
- Was there an active attempt to conceal or hide the incident?

Mitigating

- Does the Respondent demonstrate a clear understanding of the impact that their behavior has had on oneself and the community?
- Has the Respondent taken steps to positively address their behavior, or otherwise educate themselves in relation to the behavior of concern?

Please note, the absence of a mitigating factor is expressly precluded from being an aggravating factor and vice versa.

The Academic Integrity Council has discretion to assign sanctions less than an XF where they believe circumstances warrant a different sanction.

Note: While evidence to the contrary may be presented, the Academic Integrity Hearing process begins with the reasonable assumption that students who have joined the UVM community have been prepared with a principled understanding of the Academic Integrity standards and the Council retains discretion to determine the weight to be afforded any evidence to the contrary on a case by case basis.

Proposed new language:

If a student has already completed and been assigned a grade for a course for which they are subsequently found responsible for an academic integrity violation or if a student is found responsible for an academic integrity violation, but there is no course associated with the violation, (e.g., a student is responsible for cheating or collusion with another student in a course in which the student is not enrolled), a designation can be placed on the student's transcript indicating the student was found responsible for academic dishonesty. If the student successfully completes a Seminar on Academic Integrity, which is offered by the Center for Student Conduct each semester, the student can have the notation removed from their transcript. Students will only be eligible to have the notation removed from the transcript until one semester after graduation. If a student commits a second violation of this Code resulting in a notation on the transcript, there will be no opportunity to remove the notation from the transcript.

Sanctions which may be imposed include but are not limited to the following:

A Zero on the Indicated Coursework: This sanction will be applied by the instructor to the student's overall grade record.

Educational Sanctions: The Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee or the Academic Integrity Council may require completion of a variety of educational sanctions, which may include:

- A reflective essay or a research paper on principles of academic integrity
- A formal apology, in writing or in person
- Academic integrity projects
- Statements of purpose
- Planning or attending educational programs about academic integrity

Grade of XF: Upon receipt of information from the Center for Student Conduct, the Registrar will apply the XF grade to a student transcript. The student's transcript will indicate "failure resulting from academic dishonesty." An XF can be converted to a standard F, and the XF notation removed from the transcript, if the student successfully completes a Seminar on Academic Integrity, which is offered by the Center for Student Conduct each semester. Students will only be eligible to have the XF notation removed from the transcript until one semester after graduation. If a student commits a second violation of this Code resulting in a grade of XF, there will be no opportunity to convert the XF to a standard F.

A student who holds the grade of XF may be suspended from representing UVM at university- sponsored events, and may be removed or suspended from occupying a recognized position of student leadership. Student leadership positions include, but are not limited to, Student Government Association officers, Graduate Student Senate officers, residential advisors, athletes, teaching assistants, or graders, for a length of time to be determined by the appropriate University authorities. A grade of XF may also affect a student's employee status at the University.

Masters and doctoral students taking their comprehensive exams who are found responsible for a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity, and receive a sanction of XF, will receive a permanent notation on their transcript indicating the comprehensive exam was failed due to academic dishonesty. If the student is permitted to take the comprehensive examination a second time, the first notation of XF remains and cannot be removed.

Masters and doctoral students defending their thesis or dissertation who are found responsible for a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity, and receive a sanction of XF, will receive a permanent notation on their transcript indicating the thesis or dissertation defense was failed due to academic dishonesty. If the student is permitted to defend the thesis or dissertation a second time, the first notation of XF remains and cannot be removed.

The committee suggests that the review of violations should be added to the senior graduation checklist.

The SAC would like to see the final draft of revisions once they are completed.

- 5. New Business.** There was no new business at this meeting. Any agenda items can be e-mailed to Terry or Jennifer.

The SAC was adjourned at 10:00am. The next meeting of the SAC will be on February 4, 2021 at 8:30am on Microsoft Teams.