

**EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT AND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE**

A meeting of the Educational Policy and Institutional Resources (EPIR) Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College was held on Friday, October 29, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. in the Silver Maple Ballroom, Room 401 at the Dudley H. Davis Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Carolyn Dwyer, Vice Chair Jodi Goldstein, Cynthia Barnhart, John Bartholomew, Otto Berkes, Frank Cioffi, Johannah Donovan¹, Stephanie Jerome, Kisha Kalra, Carol Ode, Shap Smith, Lucy Rogers, and Samuel Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: President Suresh Garimella

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Faculty Representatives Colby Kervick, Evan Eyler and Mary Cushman, Staff Representatives Amanda McIntire and Sarah Heath, Alumni Representative Susan Wertheimer, Foundation Representative Cathi Wiebrecht-Searer², Student Representative Ursula Walczak and Graduate Student Representative Miki Beach

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Student Representative Sam Pasqualoni and Graduate Student Representative Max Cordes Galbraith

PERSONS ALSO PARTICIPATING: Provost and Senior Vice President Patricia Prelock, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Student Success Jennifer Dickinson, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Jim Vigoreaux, Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity and Title IX Coordinator Nicholas Stanton, and Interim Vice Provost for Student Affairs Erica Caloiero

¹ Joined at 8:20 a.m.

² Joined by phone

Chair Carolyn Dwyer called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and welcomed new Faculty Representative Colby Kervick, Foundation Representative Cathi Wiebrecht-Searer and Student Representatives Ursula Walczak and Miki Beach.

Approval of minutes

The minutes from the June 4, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made, seconded and voted to approve the minutes as presented.

Provost's report

Provost Patricia Prelock began her report by acknowledging faculty, staff and students for their compliance with the University's COVID-19 requirements including vaccinations and wearing masks indoors. Provost Prelock presented several highlights from her report, including the record number of undergraduate Fulbright Fellow finalists (14), six UVM professors being awarded the National Science Foundation CAREER Awards exceeding \$500,000 each, and a new record in external research funding, which totaled \$227 million and is the first time that UVM research has surpassed the \$200 million in the history of the institution. In a follow-up to the Provost's report in June on the sexual assault activism that occurred on campus last spring, Provost Prelock reported that the University has implemented a number of changes and enhancements in case response and community education/prevention. In addition, President Garimella requested an external independent review of the AAEO Office, the findings of which were shared with the campus community earlier this week.

Sexual Misconduct and Response Action Plan update

Nicholas Stanton, Director, Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity and Title IX Coordinator, and Erica Caloiero, Interim Vice Provost for Student Affairs, provided an update on the responses to community concerns on sexual misconduct. They reviewed the timeline beginning with the student-led activism in April 2021 and concluding with ongoing communication, partnership, and implementation of changes in Fall 2021. The institution's response to sexual misconduct is addressed in two primary and distinct ways: case response and community education/prevention. Prevention and education include a student advisory committee, training for clubs and organization, student internships and hiring of a sexual violence prevention coordinator. Efforts to address student support and case response have led to expanded campus victim's advocacy in a collaboration with HOPE Works, a 24-hour hotline, continued LiveSafe app funding, establishment of a multi-disciplinary response team, and an external review of AAEO investigation and case response. Efforts also include expanded training for Counseling and Psychiatry Services, UVM Police Services, Residential Life staff, and other staff.

Academic Success Goals' priority area: *Teaching and Learning*

Provost Prelock, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Student Success Jennifer Dickinson, and Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Jim Vigoreaux, gave a brief presentation on Teaching and Learning, a priority area of the Academic Success Goals (ASG). The ASG are intended to support President Garimella's strategic areas of impact and were developed during the spring 2020 semester. The goals are the result of ideas, suggestions, and feedback from the members of the Academic Leadership Council and the faculty and staff in their respective units.

Vice Provost Dickinson and Vice Provost Vigoreaux presented highlights on the following five goals:

- 1.1 *Develop a unified and impactful educational framework.* Initiatives include the new Catamount Core Curriculum, collaborating with the learning community experience, continually increasing the range of high impact practice, and focusing on the quality of graduate curriculum.
- 1.2 *Improve retention, progression and graduation rates.* Vice Provost Dickinson reported that enrollment management has done great work in this area while amplifying efforts on retaining first and second-year students and looking for opportunities to reduce barriers.
- 1.3 *Support post-graduation success.* This goal is met through maintaining excellent post-graduation success numbers and helping students understand how their academic experience leads to multiple career paths.
- 1.4 *Increase faculty professional development and mentoring.* A peer-to-peer mentoring program for new faculty has been established and new faculty are encouraged and supported in building their mentoring team.
- 1.5 *Increase diversity of perspectives, experiences, and thought.* The Henderson Fellowship Program is the signature program in this area. One of the most significant changes is the integration and addition of the Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to the Provost's Office which facilitates the integration of diversity into recruitment efforts.

Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee chair's report

Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee Chair Colby Kervick addressed questions from the committee members regarding her written report included as attachment 3 in the meeting materials.

Curricular Action items

Chair Dwyer reminded trustees that resolutions will be voted on as a consent agenda. Trustee Frank Cioffi requested the resolutions terminating the minor in Speech and Debate and the minor in Vermont Studies be pulled from the consent agenda.

Chair Dwyer presented the following resolutions:

Resolution approving the termination of the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Molecular Physiology and Biophysics in the Graduate College in conjunction with the Larner College of Medicine

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the termination of the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Molecular Physiology and Biophysics in the Graduate College in conjunction with the Larner College of Medicine as approved and advanced by the Provost on September 21, 2021 and President on September 22, 2021.

Resolution approving the termination of the Doctor of Philosophy in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics in the Graduate College in conjunction with the Larner College of Medicine

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the termination of the Doctor of Philosophy in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics in the Graduate College in conjunction with the Larner College of Medicine, as approved and advanced by the Provost on September 21, 2021 and President on September 22, 2021.

Resolution approving the termination of the Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacology in the Graduate College in conjunction with the Larner College of Medicine

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the termination of the Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacology in the Graduate College in conjunction with the Larner College of Medicine, as approved and advanced by the Provost on September 21, 2021 and President on September 22, 2021.

Resolution approving the termination of the minor in Italian in the College of Arts and Sciences

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the termination of the minor in Italian in the College of Arts and Sciences, as approved and advanced by the Provost on October 18, 2021 and President on October 19, 2021.

Resolution approving the termination of the major in Italian Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the termination of the major in Italian Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences, as approved and advanced by the Provost on October 18, 2021 and President on October 19, 2021.

Resolution approving the creation of a Certificate of Graduate Study and a Micro-Certificate of Graduate Study in Education for Sustainability in the Graduate College in conjunction with the College of Education and Social Services

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the creation of a Certificate of Graduate Study and a Micro-Certificate of Graduate Study in Education for Sustainability in the Graduate College in conjunction with the College of Education and Social Services, as approved and advanced by the Provost on October 18, 2021 and President on October 19, 2021.

An opportunity for discussion was offered. There being none, a motion was made, seconded and it was unanimously voted to refer the resolutions to the board for approval.

Chair Dwyer then presented the following resolutions for approval:

Resolution approving the termination of the minor in Speech and Debate in College of Arts and Sciences

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the termination of the minor in Speech and Debate in the College of Arts and Sciences, as approved and advanced by the Provost on October 18, 2021 and President on October 19, 2021.

Resolution approving the termination of the minor in Vermont Studies in College of Arts and Sciences

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the termination of the Vermont Studies minor in the College of Arts and Sciences, as approved and advanced by the Provost on October 18, 2021 and President on October 19, 2021.

An opportunity for discussion was offered. There being none, a motion was made and seconded and the following roll call vote was taken: Carolyn Dwyer – yes; Jodi Goldstein – yes; Cynthia Barnhart – yes; John Bartholomew – yes; Otto Berkes – yes; Frank Cioffi – no; Johannah Donovan – yes; Stephanie Jerome – yes; Kisha Kalra – yes; Carol Ode – yes; Lucy Rogers – yes; Shap Smith – yes; and Sam Young -yes. The resolutions passed by a vote of 12-1.

Other business

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Dwyer, Chair