



VCU

Faculty Senate

VCU's Philosophy on Share Governance states:

"We value transparency in university and unit decisions such that the various constituencies of the university are aware of how decisions are made and the rationale for those decisions, which will ensure the university remains mission-focused." For this transparency to work, please share information with your constituents. The full statement is located at

https://president.vcu.edu/media/president/assets/pdfs/Univ_Council_Philosophy_of_Shared_Governance_Approved_May_4_2017.pdf.

Faculty Senate

Connecting faculty to VCU administration and to each other

The purpose of the Faculty Senate shall be the furtherance and dissemination of knowledge and professional skills through teaching, study, research, creativity, exhibition, performance, and provision of community service. An additional objective will be to help insure through investigation, examination, comment and recommendation that the educational goal of the University is being realized by the policies and procedures employed in the University.

Faculty Senate Meeting DRAFT Bullet Points — December 3, 2019 University Student Commons, 4:00 – 6:00 PM

For complete minutes and related files, see: <http://www.facultysenate.vcu.edu/>
Please email Everett Carpenter (ecarpenter2@vcu.edu) questions or corrections.

Call to order by President Nancy Jallo, 4:02PM

Provost Office Report by Dr. Gail Hackett, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs – Provided a Presentation “Student Success at VCU”.

- The presentation will be attached to the minutes and posted on the faculty senate website. As faculty we need to have a discussion in our departments and units about some of these points. For example: When a course has a DFW rate of 20, 30, or even 50% we as faculty within our departments need to decide if this is a problem, if so, help identify a potential source of the problem such as lack of a placement tests or needed prerequisites, etc. And if additional resources are needed to help address a problem such as supplemental instruction sessions, then communicate back as to what resources are needed. There is no discussion about dumbing down courses to improve the DFW rate. There are also resources to help redesign the course based on models from the now closed group National Center for Academic Transformation. At the end of the meeting, a senator wanted members of Faculty Senate to be aware that as of early 2019, NCAT ceased operations and is no longer in business.

Faculty Senate President's Report Nancy Jallo, President Faculty Senate

- Resolution regarding Joan M. Pellegrini recognizing her long hard work with faculty senate as she is retiring.

Additional Committee Reports

- Scott Street and Jon DeShazo are on the committee to choose the next Learning Management System (LMS). The choices are Blackboard Ultra and Canvas — Blackboard Learn (our current LMS) is being discontinued in the near future (2021?); therefore, we must switch. Blackboard Ultra is nothing like Blackboard Learn, so we will be getting a new LMS with either Ultra or Canvas.
- All faculty are invited to participate in the annual Higher Education Advocacy Day on Thursday January 9, 2020 at the Virginia State Capitol. This is an opportunity for faculty to speak with legislators and advocate for issues related to higher education. Further details will be sent out to senators soon and will also be posted in the Faculty Senate web page.

Adjournment

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 28, 2020 — 4:00-6:00 PM in the MCV Larrick Center, Court End Ballroom

[https://maps.vcu.edu/mcv/larrickcenter /](https://maps.vcu.edu/mcv/larrickcenter/)