



# VCU

## Faculty Senate

### Faculty Senate Leadership Meeting Agenda — October 20, 2020

4:00-6:00 pm

Faculty Senate Leadership meeting link:

<https://tinyurl.com/faculty-senate-vcu>

For complete minutes and related files, see: <http://www.facultysenate.vcu.edu/>

Please email [ecarpenter2@vcu.edu](mailto:ecarpenter2@vcu.edu) with questions or corrections.

#### Procedural Items:

##### **Call to order**

Nancy Jallo, President

4:00-4:02

##### **Minutes from September 15, 2020**

Everett Carpenter, Recording Secretary

4:02-4:05

##### **Faculty Senate President's Report/Issues**

##### **University Committees Update/Issues**

Faculty and Political Views (Nancy)

COVID-19 Task Force meeting (10/19/20)-Nancy et al

Provost search committee (Nancy/Everett)

Annual evaluations (faculty research expectations/exemption)

Academic Continuity (Valerie Robnolt)

Spring schedule

Calendar Committee (Scott Street)

Pat Cummins/Carmen Rodriguez (FS Va)

Other items: All Committee members

4:05-4:40

##### **Stretch Break**

4:40-4:45

##### **Synthesis of Discussion Groups (9/15/20) and next steps**

Valerie Robnolt

4:45-5:20

##### **Faculty Senate Agenda (October 27,2020)**

Annual Safety Talk- Assistant Chief Nicole Dailey

Issues and Budget- Matt Conrad

Blythe Alison Bowman Balestrieri- University Grievance Annual Report

Provost Office

Office of Alumni Relations - Larry Powell ?

Feedback from break out groups from 9/15/20 meeting

1) how to support students; 2) ideas how to meet goals for inclusion/anti-racism; 3)

5:20-5:30

discussion with students  
Round table discussions (Breakouts) this meeting??  
Work time for committees? (different zoom link)

## **Faculty Senate Committees Business/Goals**

5:30-6:00

Faculty Affairs -faculty evaluations  
Maria Teves (chair)

Shared Governance-shared governance (school/unit)-what are other schools doing..  
Neno Russell (chair)

Academic Programs and Research -course evaluations (?)  
Susan Bodnar-Deren (chair)

Diversity and Inclusive Excellence-anti-racism statement (all)  
Sarah Jane Brubaker (chair)

Academic Support Services-facilities  
Valerie Robnolt (chair)

Alumni and Community Relations-inclusion and diversity  
Gaynell Sherrod (chair)

Website and Social Media  
Ashley Brewer (chair)

Credentials and Rules  
Scott Street (chair)

State Legislative and Statewide Relations  
Carmen Rodriguez (co-chair)  
Pat Cummins (co-chair)

Student Affairs  
Chris Saladino (chair)

Economic Status, Budget, and Planning  
Roxanne Spindle (chair)

VCU Health Systems Relations  
Allison Gregory (co-chair)  
Vamsi Yadavalli (co-chair)

MCV/MPC Representatives  
Mark Crosthwaite MCV Campus Rep; Health Professions,  
Radiologic, Technology  
Jesse Goldstein Monroe Park Campus Rep College of Humanities and Science,  
Dep of Sociology

## **Request for Faculty Senators**

1) The VCU Safety and Well-being Advisory Committee

2) The Domicile Appeals Committee requests a faculty member to serve as a voting committee member on this new committee. This Committee has the final authority at the university for all appeals related to domicile for tuition purposes. The responsibility for this committee has recently transitioned from Student Affairs to Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM). The committee meets once a month. The length of the meetings can range from a couple of hours to closer to four or five hours. It depends on the number of appeals the committee needs to review. Also, the appointment is for a 2-year term, although committee members can be reappointed for multiple terms.

## **Adjourn**

Meeting called to order at 4:00 by Nancy Jallo

- Political Views - Should we support a statement on expressing political views with the upcoming elections? Was there a previous statement from Rao's office during the 2016 elections? Examples were given where students have been complaining about political topics being used in class. Bring it up with Provost on Thursday.
- COVID taskforce - a Q&A with provost's group for over 45 minutes. Regarding concerns about annual evals and tenure decisions. Provost's response was good helping give the dean's guidance. But there was no policy discussed on it. Maybe there should be one created for the institutional memory with her leaving. Going to expand testing in the spring.
- Provost Search Committee - Shared the AAUP letter regarding the search, Nancy Jallo has an official invite for the committee. Asking for more details of the process and committee make-up
- Annual Evaluations - No updates as yet. CHS has a working group on faculty evaluations, new process for this year, changes how people are rated, not typically excellent, vg, etc. Instead going with above expectations, etc. Maybe share the suggestions from CHS with other units. Concerns about the impact of COVID statements be used against faculty later. Problems with evals highlight inequities among faculty. It does not create them just highlights them.
- Academic Continuity - Spring schedule came out, no spring break, point was made that try to find a couple of days during the semester to take off. Need to remain aware that our students need some time to recharge during the semester without it.

- Calendar - Has been set, start on Jan 25th, with no spring break. Calendar set to encourage the students to stay on campus and not travel. Modalities should be similar to the fall.
- FSVA - Budget was passed and is below. 1500\$ bonus if budget comes through. Maybe use CARES money for faculty moral, or cover faculty costs associated with online delivery. The format for January advocacy day, take a week by zoom meeting to maybe talk with home district representative. There will be some training videos available for new faculty. Nursing issues which came up with CCVA workloads. So now, instead of two 12 hours shifts but only getting paid for one shift. FSVA working on how best to advocate for those faculty.

[https://richmond.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/house-and-senate-adopt-budget-back-marcus-alert/article\\_83d1b643-bcc3-5d04-bc01-3bef8ae7f37e.html#tracking-source=home-top-story-1](https://richmond.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/house-and-senate-adopt-budget-back-marcus-alert/article_83d1b643-bcc3-5d04-bc01-3bef8ae7f37e.html#tracking-source=home-top-story-1)

Faculty Roundtable discussion results - see attachment

Committee Reports -- Committee chairs send out separate zoom link for committee work.

Faculty Senate received a request from Colleen Bishop, who is the director of Academic Technologies, to get 10-15 faculty from around campus/different disciplines to serve on a focus group to determine the instructional technology needs in classrooms across campus. John Bogan, from Technology Services, is hoping to convene the focus group(s) between Nov. 4-11 and the meeting will last about 2 hours. Please email Valerie Robnolt at [vjrobnolt@vcu.edu](mailto:vjrobnolt@vcu.edu) as soon as possible if you are interested in serving.

Canvas information for wide distribution:

1. On November 5th and 19th, the Learning Systems team that manages Canvas & it's transition from Bb and our consultant are holding two open discussions about Canvas. This is a great place for faculty open dialog. All training sessions are located here <https://learningsystems.vcu.edu/canvas/> under the Support & Training tab.

Canvas Open Discussion for VCU Faculty

Nov. 5, 12:00pm - 2:00pm, Online

Facilitator: Adam Kuntz, Canvas Consultant

Register: <http://training.vcu.edu> (keyword "Canvas")

This is a 2-hour, online open discussion event for VCU faculty, led by a Canvas Consultant. This is an opportunity for VCU instructors to ask questions about all things Canvas. Do you need to know how to do something in Canvas? Are you having trouble with a feature or process? This session is where you can get the answers to your burning questions.

Canvas Open Discussion for VCU Faculty

Nov. 19, 12:00pm - 2:00pm, Online

Facilitator: Adam Kuntz, Canvas Consultant

Register: <http://training.vcu.edu> (keyword "Canvas")

This is a 2-hour, online open discussion event for VCU faculty, led by a Canvas Consultant. This is an opportunity for VCU instructors to ask questions about all things Canvas. Do you need to know how to do something in Canvas? Are you having trouble with a feature or process? This session is where you can get the answers to your burning questions.

2. There is also the option for a department custom Canvas training. Obviously you can request this session to be an open dialog or specific how-to training to fit your program. (i.e. biology)

Request faculty training for your department and we will customize the session to meet your needs. Submit a support request ticket at <https://go.vcu.edu/itsupport> and someone from the VCU Learning Systems team will contact you.

3. VCU has purchased the Canvas Training Portal. This is full of Live and Self-Paced Training, [Video Tutorials](#), [Step-by-Step Guides](#), [accessibility information](#), [computer requirements](#) and more. The Portal has all this specific to a person's role; Instructor, Student, Admin, etc. This is an excellent resource for faculty and something we should take advantage of. There's a shortcut to the Instructor Training Portal. Be sure to visit it! <https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Training-Services-Portal-as-an-instructor/ta-p/772>

There's a VCU-specific Knowledge Base. Content is being added daily so check this often! <https://ts.vcu.edu/askit/teaching-and-learning/canvas---getting-started/> Pages are created as requested too. There's a student test accounts page that was created <https://ts.vcu.edu/askit/teaching-and-learning/canvas---getting-started/student-view/>

There's a student section to share with students: <https://ts.vcu.edu/askit/teaching-and-learning/canvas---getting-started/getting-started-with-canvas-for-students/>

From

<<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/?shva=1#inbox/WhctKJWJBTcvHkkSGvTwSxmdnIBbkGRIVktWznWnDDxclQJKNRnrQZRbkRqTGBVSXdKwNDV>>

**Next Meeting:**

***Faculty Senate, Next Meeting: October 27, 2020 4-6pm via zoom***

***Faculty Senate Leadership, Next Meeting: November17, 2020 4-6 pm via zoom***