



VCU

Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate Meeting Bullet Points — April 3, 2018

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

Please email Brian Daugherty at bjdaugherty@vcu.edu with questions or corrections.

Faculty Senate Officer Elections (Holly Alford)

- Alford reminded senators that candidates for 2018-2019 offices were nominated at our last meeting. There being no discussion, the slate of candidates was approved unanimously.

Marquita Aguilar Walkathon (Gabriela Salinas)

- Salinas reminded senators of the annual walkathon, and the benefits that it provides to current VCU students in terms of Virginia Caring University scholarships. Salinas also shared comments from previous scholarship recipients, and asked senators to contribute to the walkathon.

Black & Gold & You (Rich Spain)

- Spain announced this year's official campaign will run from April 2-May 16, and the goal is to obtain donations from all VCU employees. Street announced that Faculty Senate's giving rate is currently about 20%, and he accepted a challenge from Staff Senate to see which body is more generous. Faculty can learn more at support.vcu.edu/faculty, and donate at support.vcu.edu/give.

History and Commemoration across VCU and VCU Health Committee (John Kneebone)

- Kneebone explained the purpose and makeup of this committee. He shared a PowerPoint presentation, narrated by Jodi Koste, which explains VCU's connections to the Confederacy. Kneebone explained the importance of addressing this history in a transparent manner.

Provost's Report (Gail Hackett)

- Hackett told senators that VCU is waiting to see the state's forthcoming budget before determining increases in university tuition and/or fees. Hackett announced that the search for the Vice President for Research is continuing; the new dean of Social Work was recently hired; the Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment Management search also recently wrapped up. A search for a new position overseeing VCU's REAL initiative is also ongoing, and should wrap up soon.

Faculty Senate President's Report (Scott Street)

- Street explained that he and Senator Alford recently participated in a conference related to transfer students with Virginia's community colleges and other four-year colleges and universities. The discussions focused on how to better prepare students for transferring to universities such as VCU, and how to help them adjust to VCU upon their arrival.

Board of Visitors Meeting on March 22nd (Holly Alford)

- Alford discussed student presentations to the board, and said several students thanked faculty members for their work, and asked the Board to provide resources that faculty need to succeed.

"Evaluating Teaching Effectiveness" (Kristine Artello)

- Artello announced that her committee recently completed a report on student evaluations of teaching (SETs). Artello reviewed the latest trends regarding SETs at VCU, and announced that her committee would like to obtain VCU-wide data to provide some statistical analysis of this issue. Artello expressed concerns with SETs at VCU, including the number of questions, vague questions, a lack of detailed student responses, and a lack of customization possibilities for faculty.

"Standing Rules of Faculty Senate" (Joan Pellegrini)

- Pellegrini explained proposed changes to the "Standing Rules of Faculty Senate," and the reasons for the alterations and additions. Pellegrini also asked for feedback on the revisions from senators.