



VCU

Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate Leadership Retreat Agenda — August 15, 2017. Alumni Board Room, University Commons, MPC, 2:00 – 6:30 PM.

Attendance: Holly Alford, Ashley Brewer, Pat Cummins, Brian Daugherty, Nancy Jallo, Jeff Lodge, Andrew Ottens, Joan Pellegrini, Maria Rivera, Valerie Robnolt, Scott Street, Jennifer Wayne

2:15—Call to order & Introductions (Scott Street)

Minutes, May 2017 meeting (Brian Daugherty)

President's Report (Holly Alford)

- a. **Summer Updates, part 1:** Holly reported that many strategic planning committees met over the summer, including the Diversity and Equity Committee (on which she serves), in preparation for the updated VCU Strategic Plan.
- b. **Board of Visitors:** will meet on September 17 and Holly plans to attend.
- c. **Shared Governance Statement on President's website:** The statement has not yet been posted on the President's Office website, but Holly will continue pressing to have it added.
- d. **Last year's accomplishments, and how we met our goals:** Holly cited our 2017 resolution on diversity, and our shared governance statement, as successes.

President-elect's Report (Scott Street)

- a. **Summer Updates, part 2:** Scott reported that he has joined the VCU Strategic Plan task force, that he has been in consultation with the Integrity and Compliance Office on wording for a website update, and that he will be speaking at new faculty orientation.
- b. **Faculty Senate Webmaster:** Erin White has resigned as webmaster, as she is now a department head. Ashley Brewer will serve as our new webmaster. Scott would like to write a resolution thanking Erin for her service.
- c. **Review of 2017–18 Calendar (esp. Nov. & Dec. Leadership Meetings):** Scott asked senators to help determine the best dates for our November and December meetings, considering the holidays. Senators voted to meet on November 14 and December 12.
- d. **Faculty Convocation (Aug. 23rd at 3:30 PM):** Scott announced that organizers will be reserving seats for the Faculty Senate Leadership Group, so that we can all sit together.

Faculty Senate representatives to University Council 2017–2018 (Scott Street)

1. Scott Street (Faculty Senate President)
2. Nancy Jallo (Faculty Senate Vice-President)

3. Holly Alford (Faculty Senate Immediate Past President)
4. June Nicholson (Faculty Senate Former President)
 - Alternate: Pat Cummins (Faculty Senate Member)

3:45—Committee Updates

(60 minutes)

- a. Academic and Professional Status — Kristine Artello (Wilder School, Honorary): Jeff Lodge, as an alternate for Kristine, announced that the committee will continue to work on improving student evaluations of faculty in the coming year. The committee will also work on the broader question of how faculty are evaluated.
- b. Alumni and Community Relations — José Alcaine (Education, 2020): Scott Street reported that VCU Development sent an email today about the success of the Faculty and Staff Campaign, noting that ~10% of faculty and staff donated, and that donations increased substantially.
- c. Communication, Publicity, and Publications — Ashley Brewer (VCU-Lib., Honorary): Ashley introduced herself to the assembled senators, and said she looks forward to working on the senate website.
- d. Credentials and Rules — Joan Pellegrini (Dentistry, Honorary): Joan reported that her committee's work has been on hold because of the Human Resources policy redesign, and that once the redesign is completed, her committee will increase its work accordingly.
- e. Economic Status, Budget, and Planning — Brian Daugherty (H&S, 2019): Brian mentioned that this committee will be focusing on the VCU's budget redesign rollout this year, and specifically its impact on faculty.
- f. State Legislative & Statewide Relations — Carmen Rodriguez (H&S, 2020): Scott Street announced that VCU Faculty Senate will host the Faculty Senate of Virginia on October 28, and will share information about this in the near future. Pat Cummins asked for volunteers for the annual legislative lobbying day in January.

Annual Grievance Policy Report and Policy Revision update

(Marilyn Miller)

- Scott Street announced that we will wait on this update until the next leadership group meeting.

4:10—Goals for 2017–2018

(Scott Street)

- a. **Forum on Academic Freedom:** Scott and Holly plan to work with the Provost's Office to organize a forum on freedom of speech and academic freedom for this year.
- b. **New Budget Model:** Faculty Senate will work to disseminate information related to the VCU Budget Model Redesign as it becomes available.
- c. **HR Redesign:** Faculty Senate will continue to oversee and provide input and feedback on the redesign process, as it relates to faculty.
- d. **Strategic Plan 2019-2025:** Several senators are involved in the development of the updated strategic plan, and the Senate will continue to play a major role in the process.
- e. **Assessment of student evaluations of faculty, and faculty evaluations**

Potential Roundtable Discussion Topics for 2017–2018

(Nancy Jallo)

- Nancy led a discussion on roundtable discussion topics for our senate meeting during the coming academic year, and asked for ideas. Several topics were discussed, and senators suggested that we give senators the chance to introduce

topics. Suggested topics included: (a) student course evaluations, and faculty assessment; (b) possible implications of the new budget model on unit structure and curriculum

September 5th Faculty Senate Meeting

(Scott Street)

- a. New Senator Orientation (3:30 PM): we will attempt to move the starting time to 3:15pm.
- b. Seating will be at round tables by school/unit.
- c. Guests: possibly invite Chief Venuti to discuss safety and security on campus, and possibly parking. Or Marsha Rappley to discuss the reorganization of VCU Health.
- d. Roundtable Discussion Topic?: we will ask senators to come up with ideas for future roundtable discussions.

New Business

(Scott Street)

- a. October 3rd Full Senate meeting: we'll have representatives from VCU Athletics.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Brian Daugherty.