



# VCU

Faculty Senate

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes — September 4, 2017.

Commonwealth Ballroom, University Student Commons, 4:00 – 6:00 PM.

<http://www.maps.vcu.edu/monroepark/univcommons/>

**Present:** Alcaine (EDU), Alford (ARTS), An (NUR), Artello (WS, Alt. for Jin), Bodnar-Deren (HAS), Bosco (BUS), Bostian (BUS), Boyes (HNR), Branch (VCU-L), Brewer (Webmaster), Clarkson (BUS), Coe (DEN), Cook (WS, Alt. for Howell), Cummins (HAS), Daugherty (HAS), Dixon (PHA), Docef (EGR), Dula (BUS), Faris (ARTS), Ferrari (StAff), Franzak (BUS), Fraser (SWK), Fueglein (UC), Ghosh (MED), Glover (VCU-L), Goldberg (MED), Gulla (EGR), Hawkins (StAff), Jallo (NUR, Alt. for Gregory), Jones (EDU), Jones (HAS), Klein (ARTS), Kopryanski (ARTS), Kornstein (MED), Kunkes (StAff), Lockeman (MED), Lodge (UC), Manjili (MED), Mansfield (EDU), Moslow-Benway (WS), Nadpara (PHA), Nicholson (HAS), Ottens (MED), Pellegrini (DEN), Price (RetFac), Rafiq (MED), Ramsey (MED), Rivera (HAS), Robnolt (EDU), Rodriguez (HAS), Russell (DEN), Saladino (HAS), Secret (SWK), Sherrod (ARTS), South (HAS), Stevenson (HAS), Street (HAS), Swenson (HAS), Wang (MED, Alt. for DiazGranados), Waugh (MED), Wayne (EGR), Zhang (MED), Zhou (MED)

**Absent:** Anthony (HAS), Arrington (ARTS), Coston (HAS), Crookendale (VCU-L), Dawson-Cruz (HAS), Frankenhoff (MED), Gronert (HAS), Hogan (MED), Hsu (MED), Jamerson (AHP), Kidd (MED), Le (MED), Roberson-Nay (MED), Samso (MED), Sun (MED), Wajciechowski (EDU), Wen (EGR), Wike (SWK), Williams (AHP), York (MED)

### Pre-meeting Orientation:

**Orientation for new Senators and Alternate Senators** (Scott Street and Nancy Jallo)

**4:05pm -- Call to order & Introductions** (Holly Alford, Scott Street)

**Minutes from May 2017 meeting** (Brian Daugherty)

### Guests:

**4:10pm -- Campus Safety Update** (Chief John Venuti)

- Discussion topics: Venuti discussed some of his key concerns and foci as chief of the VCU Police, including officer use of force, reduction of robbery, and satisfaction (or not) with the police response. He also discussed the use of new technology (including cameras and license plate readers), the expansion of VCU Police's jurisdiction, the size of the force and use of volunteers, and a new program aimed at reducing lethal episodes. Venuti also discussed VCU Parking, which is under the oversight of VCU Police, focusing on customer satisfaction and updates to VCU Parking and Transportation.
- Venuti also took questions, with Dr. Chuck Klink, Senior Vice Provost for Student Affairs, pertaining to campus video cameras, carrying weapons on campus,

cooperation with other police forces, approving or denying applications for marches or protests on campus, and spontaneous protests on campus.

### **Provost's Office Report**

**(Kathy Bassard)**

- Discussion topics: Bassard indicated that all faculty should have received, and be familiar with, "Managing Controversial Classroom Topics" resources distributed recently by the Provost's Office. The resources were developed by the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence. Bassard announced that "Managing Controversial Classroom Topics" will also be discussed at the September 12 Council of Dean's meeting. Bassard mentioned that President Rao is developing a new taskforce, made up primarily of faculty, related to managing conflict as well. Finally, Bassard noted that a number of campus entities are particularly focused on student safety and campus security at the beginning of the school year.
- Bassard also offered updates on several searches, including in the Provost's Office, the Dean of University College, and the Dean of the School of Social Work.

### **Faculty Senate Items:**

#### **4:45pm – Representatives on University Council**

**(Scott Street)**

- Discussion topics: by unanimous voice vote, these 5 individuals were approved to represent Faculty Senate on University Council during the 2017-2018 academic year.
  1. Scott Street (Faculty Senate President)
  2. Nancy Jallo (Faculty Senate Vice-President)
  3. Holly Alford (Faculty Senate Past-President)
  4. June Nicholson (Honorary Senator and Former Faculty Senate President)
  5. Alternate: Pat Cummins (Faculty Senate Member)

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

**(Scott Street)**

- a. The president introduced the Faculty Senate officers for 2017-2018.
- b. Street mentioned that he met with new faculty senators for an orientation session before today's meeting.
- c. Faculty Senate Webmaster: The president announced that Erin White has stepped down as webmaster because she has taken a new position in Cabell Library, and that her replacement will be Ashley Brewer. Street also presented a certificate of recognition and appreciation to Erin White for her service.
- d. The president mentioned changes announced today to the U.S. government's DACA program, and Dr. Street asked senators to read President Rao's email from today and to be sure to read related information about the changes.
- e. Goals for 2017-2018: (a) overseeing the implementation of the Human Resources reclassification of faculty/staff; (b) overseeing the implementation of the university's new budget model, and monitoring its impact on faculty and curriculum; (c) helping to develop the university's new Strategic Plan; (d) developing an event for Spring 2018 related to academic freedom and freedom of speech; (e) determining solutions related to student evaluations of faculty at the end of each semester, and how faculty are evaluated by their units.
- f. Senator Expectations: (a) The president asked senators to share information from, and about, Faculty Senate with their units in order to increase understanding of the organization and the issues it is addressing.

- g. September Board of Visitors Meeting: Street mentioned that he and Holly Alford will attend a reception the night before the next BOV meeting to represent faculty. The president reminded senators that Alford is our BOV representative this year.

**5:05pm – Board of Visitors Report**

**(Holly Alford)**

- Alford noted a number of key issues that she will be monitoring as representative to the VCU Board of Visitors, including diversity, the roles and responsibilities of faculty, and the Human Resources redesign process.

**Resolution for Dr. Wanda Mitchell**

**(Holly Alford)**

- Alford read a proposed resolution for Dr. Wanda Mitchell, who passed away this summer after establishing and leading the VCU Office of Inclusive Excellence. The resolution was unanimously adopted by Faculty Senate.

**Student Accessibility and Education Opportunity**

**(Ian Kunkes)**

- Kunkes announced that the Office of Disability Support Services has been renamed the Office of Student Accessibility and Education Opportunity. Kunkes acknowledged the importance of faculty input in the office's rebranding and its currently-offered services, and asked faculty to reach out to him (and to the office) in order to address any concerns.

**5:15pm – Faculty Senate Committees**

**(Nancy Jallo)**

- Jallo had the chair of each of committee explain the committee's foci and priorities, so that faculty senators can choose which committee(s) they will join.
  - a. Academic and Professional Status — Kristine Artello (Wilder School, Honorary)
  - b. Academic Programs and Research — Susan Bodnar-Deren (H&S, 2018)
  - c. Academic Support Services — Valerie Robnolt (Education, Honorary)
  - d. Affirmative Action — Stephanie Goldberg (Medicine, 2019)
  - e. Alumni and Community Relations — José Alcaine (Education, 2020)
  - f. Communication, Publicity, and Publications — Ashley Brewer (VCU-Lib., Hon.)
  - g. Credentials and Rules — Joan Pellegrini (Dentistry, Honorary)
  - h. Economic Status, Budget, and Planning — Brian Daugherty (H&S, 2019)
  - i. State Legislative & Statewide Relations — Carmen Rodriguez (H&S, 2020)
  - j. Student Affairs — Chris Saladino (H&S, Honorary)

**Roundtable Discussion:**

**Potential Roundtable Topics for 2017–2018**

**(Nancy Jallo)**

- Jallo explained the roundtable discussion process and what our discussions last year accomplished. Jallo then asked senators to write and submit potential topics for our roundtable discussions this academic year.

**New Business:**

**Revisions to the Intellectual Property Policy**

**(Hillary Miller)**

- Miller mentioned proposed changes to the IP policy and indicated how some of the changes might impact faculty. She also reminded faculty that they can submit feedback on the proposed changes until the end of the month.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Brian Daugherty.