



VCU

Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes — September 4, 2018 Richmond Salons, Student Commons, 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Present:

Alcaine (EDUCATION), Alcorn (ARTS), Alford (ARTS), An (NURSING), Arendt (LIBRARIES), Arrington (ARTS), Artello (WILDER), Bencharit (DENTISTRY), Bodnar-Deren (HUMS & SCI), Bosco (BUSINESS), Bostian (BUSINESS), Boyes (HONORS), Branch (LIBRARIES), Cales (UNIV. COLL.), Call (MEDICINE), Canfield (HUMS & SCI), Carpenter (HUMS & SCI), Coston (HUMS & SCI), Crookendale (LIBRARIES), Cumpston (MEDICINE), DeShazo (HEALTH PROF), Deshpande (MEDICINE, Alt. for Lockeman), DiazGranados (MEDICINE), Dixon (PHARMACY), Docef (ENGINEERING), Dzokoto (HUMS & SCI), Escalante (MEDICINE), Faris (ARTS), Franzak (BUSINESS), Freyer (ARTS), Fueglein (UNIV. COLL.), Ghosh (MEDICINE), Goldberg (MEDICINE), Gregory (NURSING), Jallo (NURSING), Jethwani (DENTISTRY), Jones (EDUCATION), Jones (HUMS & SCI), Kopryanski (ARTS), Kornstein (MEDICINE), Liebert (WILDER, Alt. for Brubaker), Manjili (MEDICINE), McDaniel (DENTISTRY), Mills (MEDICINE), Moslow-Benway (WILDER), Nadpara (PHARMACY), Oh (MEDICINE), Olson (HUMS & SCI), Parham (HEALTH PROF), Pellegrini (DENTISTRY), Price (Retired Faculty), Reichert (BUSINESS), Rivera (HUMS & SCI), Roberson-Nay (MEDICINE), Robnolt (EDUCATION), Rodriguez (HUMS & SCI), Salgado (PHARMACY), Schuman (MEDICINE, Alt. for Rafiq), Secret (SOCIAL WORK), Sharma (MEDICINE), Shockley (BUSINESS), Siegel (LIBRARIES), South (HUMS & SCI), Stary (Medicine, Alt. for Reavey-Cantwell), Street (HUMS & SCI), Sun (MEDICINE), Teves (MEDICINE), Ulmer (VCU-QATAR), Wang (MEDICINE), Wayne (ENGINEERING), Wike (SOCIAL WORK), Wilson (EDUCATION), Yadavalli (ENGINEERING), Ye (HUMS & SCI)

Absent:

Daughterity (HUMS & SCI), Frankenhoff (MEDICINE), Goldstein (HUMS & SCI), Hogan (MEDICINE), Klein (ARTS), Ramsey (MEDICINE), Scott (EDUCATION), Sherrod (ARTS), Stevenson (HUMS & SCI)

Procedural Items:

4:00pm Call to order & Introductions

Scott Street, President

Minutes from May meeting

Jose Alcaine, Recording Secretary

- Alcaine mentioned full meeting minutes are normally available on the Faculty Senate website, <http://www.facultysenate.vcu.edu/>
- Street stated that Senators are responsible for sharing minutes and information with their respective areas. This should be done in a coordinated fashion and may vary by Department or School. For convenience bullet point are provided and can be shared with constituents with reference to the Faculty Senate website.

Guests:

4:15pm - Provost Office Report — provost.vcu.edu

Gail Hackett, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

- Hackett confirmed the appointments of three Deans at VCU, including Interim Dean of the Wilder School, Susan Gooden, Dean of School of Social Work, Beth Angell, and Dean of University College, Constance Relihan. In addition, there is a new Senior Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Gypsy Denzine, and a Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Tim Davey, who is returning to the Provost Office after serving as Interim Dean of the School of Social Work. Monal Patel will be joining VCU as Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Research and Decision Support, as Kathleen Shaw retired recently from this post. A search continues for the Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE). The new director of the CTLE will report to Denzine. The previous CTLE Director, Enoch Hale, moved to the West Coast. An official announcement for the new Executive Director of the Institute for Contemporary Art (ICA) will be made shortly in the next several days. Under Davey, the monthly Faculty Club will return and will be held in the ICA space. The first Faculty Club will be held at the ICA on 7 September. Sign ups for the Faculty Club are available on the Provost website at <https://provost.vcu.edu/faculty-affairs/faculty-resources/facultyclub/>
- The new strategic plan, *Quest 2025: Together We Transform*, was supposed to be in effect now, however, the Board of Visitors created a task force to review the plan; implementation is pending on final review and approval by Board. The Board is also interested in student enrollment and how to grow enrollment without lowering quality. Given declining state support for universities the Board is also concerned about not raising undergraduate tuition and student debt.
- The focus on student success continues. VCU has made great strides and we should celebrate our diverse student body. To support student success VCU will also focus on looking at courses with high drop and withdrawal rates, especially gateway courses and high enrollment introductory courses. In late September a representative from the National Center for Academic Transformation (NCAT), Carolyn Jarmon, will be at VCU meeting with stakeholder groups to think about ways to raise outcomes and decrease costs. Jarmon is coming to serve as a resource; the Provost Office will provide more information on the visit. NCAT's website is <http://www.thencat.org>

4:30pm - *Auctus* Journal — auctus.vcu.edu

Michelle Nguyen, Editor-in-Chief

Mary Boyes introduced Nguyen and the great student work of *Auctus*, the journal for undergraduate research and creative expression. Boyes also fielded questions from the audience. Nguyen proceeded to share some of the work, activities, and statistics from the Journal. The journal is a high performing, student run journal. Editors work closely with the library and last year had over five thousand downloads of student work. About sixty undergraduates review, edit, and accept work submitted to the journal. There are faculty advisors that work with the student editors. There are five separate sections, Humanities, Social Sciences, STEM, Creative, and News+Noteworthy. The journal was founded in 2012. More information is available at <https://auctus.vcu.edu>.

Faculty Senate Items:

4:45pm - 2018–19 Faculty Senate Representatives to University Council

Scott Street, President

The University Council (UC) meets on the 1st Thursday of every month. The UC serves as an advisory board for President Rao. The Faculty Senate has four representatives and an alternate serving on the UC. The UC is the only representative body made up of faculty, student, and staff representatives. The UC includes representatives from all the colleges and schools. The following slate of Faculty Senate representatives to the UC was presented and put to a vote of the senate:

1. Nancy Jallo (Faculty Senate Vice-President)
 2. Holly Alford (Faculty Senate Past-President)
 3. Stephanie Goldberg
- * Alternate: Susan Kornstein

A motion and second motion was made to accept the slate. With no discussion, the motions were put to a vote and the slate was approved unanimously. More information at <https://council.vcu.edu/meeting-schedule/>

5:00pm - Faculty Senate President's Report

Scott Street, President

- Street discussed the accomplishments of the past year
- Faculty Senate Forum. The Forum on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech was a great success with more than one hundred attendees. Nanny Jallo thanked the organizing committee and all who attended. The forum included a keynote talk by the President of Georgetown University, Dr. John DeGioia, as well as a panel discussion that included former VCU Legal Counsel Madelyn Wessel, now at Syracuse. Feedback from the forum was extremely positive. A suggestion was to hold more events like the forum, not every year, but perhaps every other year. Perhaps a good time would be to hold on reading day in the fall of 2019. A committee will be organized when needed to organize the next forum.
- New budget model. The faculty Senate has been engaged in the planning and roll out of the new budget model, which is now in effect. Now it is up to the schools to roll it out to the department level. The Senate will be monitoring feedback on the new budget model as time under the model grows.
- Human Resources (HR) redesign. The Senate has been involved in the roll out of the HR redesign. The redesign eliminated Professional Faculty with many transitioning to the new AUP designation. VCU Libraries folks who were Professional Faculty transitioned to Term Faculty. Student Affairs Professional Faculty transitioned to the new AUP.
- The Senate was also involved in committees for the new strategic plan, the new Gen Ed 30 initiative, and through the Academic and Professional Status Committee produced a white paper on assessing faculty teaching, and student evaluations.
- In the coming year the Senate will keep track of changes in the Office of Inclusive Excellence, as an important office at the university
- Also, the Senate will continue its work on shared governance, as the university cannot thrive without shared governance across the board. Street commented that shared governance does not mean that everybody gets a vote, but it does mean a commitment to listen to everyone's input. Mary Secret added that the Senate was instrumental through a UC committee in drafting a statement on shared governance and a review of school bylaws to ensure appropriate shared governance
- In the coming year the Senate will monitor that the new budget model does not impact shared governance

- Senate meeting locations. Street next shared information on the location of Senate meetings for the coming year. There were scheduling challenges but we have secured space for the year. Street will meet with scheduling staff to make sure the Senate is given priority for space in the future.
- Board of Visitors (BOV) meeting. The BOV meeting is scheduled for 14 September. Senators are to send Street and Alford, who will be attending the meeting, any information to share with the BOV.
- House Bill 1 (HB1) came into effect 1 July. This bill may impact how faculty communicate with students and share student data. More information is found at go.vcu.edu/HB1 including quick tips and best practices
- There are significant changes to the 2019-2020 academic calendar, including starting the semester two days earlier. Exams will be held on six days instead of seven. Guidelines may need to be developed so that students can reschedule exams if the case they may have three or more exams in one day (given the shorter exam schedule).

5:30pm - Faculty Senate Committees

Nancy Jallo, Vice President

Jallo then asked each committee chair to introduce their committee and to ask for Senators to volunteer to serve on the committees of their choice. Jallo would collect the sign up sheets and create the committees listings.

- Academic and Professional Status — Kristine Artello & Masoud Manjili
- Academic Programs and Research — Susan Bodnar-Deren
- Academic Support Services — Valerie Robnolt
- Alumni and Community Relations — Jose Alcaine
- Credentials and Rules — Joan Pellegrini
- Diversity and Inclusive Excellence — Stephanie Goldberg & Mary Secret
- Economic Status, Budget, and Planning — Brian Daugherty (Street spoke)
- State Legislative & Statewide Relations — Pat Cummins & Carmen Rodriguez
- Student Affairs — Chris Saladino (Street spoke)
- VCU Health Systems Relations — (Scott Street)
- Website and Social Media — Ashley Brewer (Jallo spoke)

5:45 pm - Potential Roundtable Topics for 2018-19

Nancy Jallo, Vice President

Jallo asked Senators to discuss and record possible roundtable topics for the coming year. Jallo would collect the data and create a list of topics for the year.

6:00pm - Adjourn

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, October 2, 2018 — 4:00 PM in the Commonwealth Ballroom, University Student Commons

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

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jose Alcaine

Please email Jose Alcaine at jgalcaine@vcu.edu with questions or corrections.