



# FACULTY SENATE Est. 1991

Ed Walker  
President

Aubrey Fowler  
President Elect/Vice President

Diane Holliman  
Secretary

Michael Noll  
Parliamentarian

Tracy Woodard-Meyers  
Past President

## Faculty Senate Agenda October 17, 2013 University Cypress Room

For the benefit of record keeping, we ask that senators and visitors please identify themselves when speaking to an issue during the meeting. Please use the microphones to assist with accurate recording. All senators must sign the roster in order to be counted present. If you have a senator's proxy, please place their name tag beside your name tag on the table in front of you.

Items in **bold print** are items that require action by the Faculty Senate. Other items are for information only.

1. Call to Order by Ed Walker followed by a **10 minute Question and Answer session**: President McKinney *Questions have been submitted anonymously from the faculty. See Attachment A*

2. **Approval of the minutes of the September 19, 2013 meeting of the Faculty Senate.**  
<http://ww2.valdosta.edu/facsen/meeting/minutes/index.shtml> (See link for minutes from September 19, 2013)

3. New Business

a. **Resolution & Vote**: Making CUPA data available to faculty, requesting it, how calculations were made-  
Aubrey Fowler

b. Statutory Committee Reports

**Report from the Academic Committee –Approval of October 7, 2013 minutes**  
<http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/academic-committee.php> (See link for October 2013 minutes)

Committee on Committees-Laura Wright

Faculty Affairs Karen Morris

Faculty Grievance Committee John Dunn

Institutional Planning Committee Daniel Baracs kay

d. Standing Committee Reports

Academic Scheduling & Procedures Said Fares, Chair

Academic Honors & Scholarships Jimmy Bickerstaff

Athletics Matthew Grant

Educational Policies Michael Sanger

Environmental Issues Jason Allard

Faculty Scholarship & Research Todd Royle

Library Affairs Colette Drouillard

Minority & Diversity Issues Sean Lennon

Student Activities & Services Vivianne Foyou

Technology Jose' Velez-Marulanda

e. Special and Ad Hoc Committees reports

**Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee-Ed Walker Report, Vote on Bylaws changes from September 2013 (Bylaw changes will be posted at Faculty Senate meeting, October)**

Report from Ad Hoc Committee to Update and Improve VSU faculty handbook, Chair-?

Special Committee to explore two day per week teaching schedule-Aubrey Fowler

Special Committee For Faculty Rights and Safety-Michael Noll

Special Committee to look at the development of a standing committee to improve VSU internationalization efforts-Michael Noll & Victoria Russell

Adhoc committee to compose a response to University Strategic Plan-Ed Walker and Aubrey Fowler

4. Old Business

5. Discussion

6. Adjournment

Attachment A: **QUESTIONS SUBMITTED ANONYMOUSLY FOR PRESIDENT MCKINNEY.**

	What is your question for the President? (all responses are completely anonymous)
1	TESTING: just seeing how this thing works.
2	Test?
3	
4	Can more be done to assist with spousal hiring? We've lost two faculty members in our department due to this problem.
5	
6	
7	In last year's salary study only non-collective bargaining universities were chosen, and if these are plotted on a United States map it becomes apparent that it wasn't a truly national salary study, but a southeastern salary study. You have said that you plan on doing the a another salary study this year. Are you going to include all peer universities (ie large, public, masters universities)? What salary percentage will you be shooting to achieve this year? And, when will the new salary study get started?
8	
9	Can we PLEASE have fall break back? The students and faculty hit a burn out period mid October. We are almost here and the decline is evident. WELLNESS needs to be part of our scheduling considerations. I am really dissappointed that the Senate voted to nix that for next year as well. A very unhealthy choice. The FALL BREAK is absolutely needed. Let's think about the WHOLE community in regards to scheduling. Not just those who want to have off with their children for a week. You do realize that many faculty who pushed for this decision will now wrap up their classes the week before Thanksgiving break..... and perhaps that is also a motivation. aka , give their finals before Thanksgiving..... We give finals in our final time. and that leads me to DEAD DAY... DEAD DAY is crucial for those in the Arts - it isa huge art/music/theatere project presentation day. It is the only time in the schedule to present these capstone works. It is also an imporant study day that MY students need. Honestly, what is up with this "no break" approach to education at VSU? We are not robots and this is not a factory. Where is the condiseration for beign well in our educational institution ?
10	Why doesn't VSU (the NCAA Div II 2013 Football Champions) have its own football stadium? It's a bit embarrassing for a team touting such accolades to have to play in a High School stadium.
11	What was the source of the funding for the solar panels on the south side of the library? Was the faculty consulted in any way about this addition to the campus? Is there any truth to the rumor that the Oak Street Parking lot will be covered with solar panels? If so, have or will any environemetal assessments be conducted to assess the impact of all that construction on the animals and birds that use One Mile Branch as their safe corridor through that area?
12	When will the faculty and the campus community start hearing more about what projects are being planned and what infrastructure decisions are being made? The community was promised better communication from the President's Office but we haven't seen any new communication initiatives be launched just yet.
13	Is it possible for faculty (and non-hourly employees) to be paid bi-weekly, instead of monthly? Our current system is barbaric, especially for those faculty who don't get paid over the summer....even for the best "savers".
14	Can VSU do more to proactively serve the chronically underserved Hispanic/Latino

	population of the state by reaching out to encourage, recruit, & retain their children?
15	During the summer four administrative positions were created in the Office of the President. What was the process for creating these new administrative offices? What funding sources are used to pay these new salaries? I believe that these positions were filled by presidential appointment. In the future will openings in these positions follow open and public search procedures?
16	When performing "salary adjustments," why is it common practice to omit unionized universities?
17	I have been told that when a staff person is reclassified within their department, that the funding for the reclass must come from the Supply budget. Is this true and if so, why would I want to be reclassified if the students would suffer from a loss in our ability to supply them. (with paper, toner, etc.)
18	What is the possibility of 10-month faculty salaries being paid out over 12 months? I have zero opportunities for summer teaching and it is a real struggle to put away so much money every month to cover the mortgage, etc. This would also allow for the various deductions and insurance to be spread out more evenly.
19	
20	Is there any way that you could put more top level financial support and emphasis into study abroad programs? There have been plenty of "attaboys" and "attagirls" but many of us who gladly carry out these programs are never sure if we will break even. Faculty have often gladly sacrificed their time and energy with very little encouragement from department heads and deans who seem to think it's only our way of getting to travel overseas. Our students need global education and VSU should be leading the way among the USG comprehensive universities. Thank you!
21	You've publicly mentioned at the College of Arts and Sciences start of the semester faculty meeting that it is reasonable for new faculty to receive startup packages and that the amounts of these startup packages would meet the needs of the individual faculty, recognizing that certain fields of research are more expensive than others. Currently, new faculty get a couple of thousand dollars, which in many science fields is not enough to get a research program started. This low startup amount makes it seem like the administration is out of touch with the reality of the costs of starting up a research program as a beginning assistant professor. What are your plans to increase startup packages for new faculty who are hired this year and what are your plans, if any, to create a pool of funds that are not tied to the University's fiscal year that can be used for startup packages?
22	Was just wondering what the plans are for the empty lot (formerly Barnes Drug Store) at the corner of Brookwood and Patterson, across the street from the Communication Disorders building. It has been sitting empty for several years now. Could it be used for additional parking, if nothing else?
23	
24	It's wonderful that we are celebrating 50 years of integration this week. However, what are we doing as a university to ensure that our current administration (department heads and above) is more integrated?
25	So, now that we have been told that your statement that "across the U.S. CUPA numbers were used" when determining pay raises are absolutely false, would you care to explain how and by whom these numbers were derived? I know you have seen the map displaying the institutions that these CUPA data came from and the fact that almost all are southeastern and NONE are from union states. If Andy Clark was responsible for determining these numbers, is he the one we should direct our IRE against? We deserve, as a faculty, to know who is purposely, albeit badly, misleading us.
26	There seems to be some confusion about doing outside consulting work. Could you clarify

	whether faculty can do consulting or presenting/trainings during the work week?
27	Why does VSU not allow overload teaching for faculty during the semester? This seems to be a common practice at many other universities.
28	Why are faculty only allowed to teach 2 Summer courses?

\* Blacks indicate that no questions were submitted.

Attachment B: AttachmentBSenate&Committees