



FACULTY SENATE  
Est. 1991

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Michael Noll  
President

James G. Archibald  
President-Elect/Vice President

linda pyscher jurczak  
Secretary

Peggy Moch  
Parliamentarian

**Faculty Senate Minutes**

November 20, 2014

University Center Magnolia Room

1. Call to order by Noll at 3:35. Digging for information, finding different stories, trying to reach out to as many people as possible, realizing that there are enormous tensions at VSU-discontent-aggression. Things come back to us and undermine us at VSU: large issues with communication, some issues with students, faculty or staff only become issues because we are failing to communicate, clarify policies, etc., or we simply “complain” without doing careful research. Constant presence of a rumor mill; although there is truth to rumors – it seems some are more interested in inflicting damage than understanding root causes and finding solutions. Lots of fragmented information in circulation-what is the whole picture? We have too much micro-management in some aspects, thereby achieving the opposite of what’s intended- It’s not ignorance that is dangerous, but the illusion of knowledge. If there is a problem at VSU -give Senate as much information as you have. If we want to make this an efficient institution, we have to work as a team, and we have lots of work to do.

Accomplishments: VSO symphony nationally recognized! Football and soccer and volleyball doing well. We have great academics programs which inspire our students and produce outstanding graduates, etc., but we seem not able to celebrate our successes. Why? Thanksgiving: Noll cancer survivor for one year. Give administration hell when they deserve it, and give the senate hell when we deserve it, but we can’t do our work based on rumor, and we can only become better when we are challenged.

Proxies: Craig Hawkins for Shannon Lowe, Jessica Graves for Sean Lennon, Diane Wright for Daniel Barackskay, Diane Holliman for Dawn Lambeth, Fleming Bell for Karen Acosta, Matt Grant for Stacey Walter, James Archibald for Matthew Carter, Theresa Grove for Jason Allard [Jason came a few minutes late], Bill Buchanan for Andy Ostapski, Marc Pfound for Babacar Mboup, Karin Murray for Kalina Winska, Jacob Jewusiak for Michael Sanger, Maren Clegg-Hyer for Kelly Davidson, Brett Willaims for Victoria Russell, Bonni Cohen for Mari Schlairet, David Kulmeier for Todd Royle.

2. Approval of the minutes of the October 16, 2014 meeting of the Faculty Senate. <http://ww2.valdosta.edu/facsen/meeting/minutes/index.shtml> (see link for minutes from October 16, 2014).

a. Moved by Grove, seconded by Rieger. One abstention.

3. Old and Unfinished Business

a. Statutory Committee Reports

Academic Committee Sherri Gravett's report on Academic Renewal Policy, which provided students a "second chance" who struggled academically but would like to return to VSU and complete their degree. Currently, a student has to wait five years before they can return. Academic Committee and Dean's Council are proposing to shorten this wait to three years. Classes remain, but the GPA start overs, As, Bs, Cs- stay-Ds and Fs retake. When would it start? Jan 1, 2015-people are in the cue who could be positively impacted. Updated forms. How many students effect? Could be a recruiting advantage. Faculty Senate is in favor of this change to the academic renewal policy.

Committee on Committees-Diane Holliman-on schedule. There is a gap on COSA.

Faculty Affairs-Karen Morris – created two subcommittees 1) academic freedom and 2) sick leave pool.

Faculty Grievance Committee-John Dunn-no report. Said Fares will take over in January 2015. Dunn shared importance of this committee as there were two cases during his tenure in which people benefitted.

Institutional Planning Committee-Diane Wright-no existing policy on length of time an interim can serve, if the senate wants a policy, convene group to write this. Should the executive committee talk to people in administration about how to proceed? Look into writing up a policy in case that is what we want. Executive committee to work with administration about how to proceed. IPC represented senate at Student Affairs task force-sent report to McKinney-a productive a group. Thieme representing university on Strategic Planning Steering Committee-report

b. Standing Committee Reports

Academic Scheduling & Procedures-Tommy Crane- further look at five year plan, contacting local schools. Look at how other universities handle practicums where university schedule does not fit with it. Question: Why do students truly want to have the spring break where it is located? Establishing #s of students adversely affected by placement of spring break. Also, see how VSU staff and faculty are affected by calendar.

Academic Honors & Scholarships-Maren Clegg-Hyer- discussed timeline-waiting to get deadlines and timelines.

Athletics-Stacy Walters- met early Oct, work on bylaws for better communication-faculty and athletes. If faculty have trouble (travel, absences, grades) with athletes contact Scott Grubbs. Communication responsibility lies on the student athlete, but communication needs to be broadened. Committee working on an award from faculty senate for a student athlete!

Educational Policies-Jacob Jewusiak- no report.

Environmental Issues-Theresa Grove- no hammocks or signs on pine trees. Does lots of damage. Library is getting rid of journals-have a list of available journals-we can go get the journals! This may reduce waste. Energy audit. Six buildings are solid. Change energy conservation committee to research conservation.

Faculty Scholarship and Research-Grazyna Walczak- discussed seed grants. Candidates will know results next week.

Internationalization and Globalization- David Kuhlmeier- second meeting-revisited updating International Programs link. We want an international programs link on main VSU web page. Subcommittees are taking shape. Next meeting in Jan.

Library Affairs-Rudo Tsenunhu-need to revise bylaws.

Minority and Diversity Issues-linda jurczak- absent

Student Activities and Services-James Archibald- met when Dr. McClellan was here. What ideas and concerns with div of student affairs-put suggestions in his report.

Technology-Victoria Russell- met Thursday-subcommittee looking at email-policies which are outdated and vague. It would be good to get notice that your email will be terminated on a certain day! Will meet again before the end of the month. Brian Haugabrook did presentation-data warehouse-looking for suggestions how to utilize the data. More specific data to help students, concern how students are flagged as being at risk. Discussion Replacement of office computers.

#### 4. New Business

- a. Resolution on sustaining academic integrity (see agenda)-see attachment report-last four points- Said-clarify #4-deans, department heads? It is vague because we don't know what will unfold. Can we include faculty in #4? Recommendation to include "faculty and administrators from colleges, departments." Bill B-if you are trying to value something-and we need to look at potential growth-internal and external-we need to not just sustain, but to grow! Growth shouldn't just mean more students, growth to support research. #2-say something about growth-show that we have hope in #2. Growth as an institution- Reflect on this today and bring it back-the #2 is about shrinking-DK-this is a good start:

academic sustainability-purposeful growth. Say we are advancing academic integrity and quality. Send NOLL comments and reflections to bring this back at January senate meeting.

- b. Dr. Rogers-need to keep up with IRS rules and to correctly deal with foundation funds and departmental accounts. Attempts to improve process of dealing with travel requests and refunds for travel. We changed the form that we had. 99.99% what comes through gets moved on; very few get negative feedback. Can we have a webpage to better explain and avoid issues with travel? Dr. Rogers states that he has not instructed Deans to keep an offenders list of people not doing travel right. Gravett-come up with a procedures list of what needs to be done, communicate problems with Noll. Big problem with travel we only do it once or twice a year. Travel process discourages travel. Dr. Rogers and Dr. Gravett will work on this to simplify it.
  - c. Dr. Luse (Chief of Staff) introduced herself and talked briefly about safety. She has been at VSU since July. Impressed by efforts of shared governance. Held different roles in universities-but never originated this role, is quickly learning what is needed. First generation college student. Nicki Turley will come in January to do the in-depth update on work of safety committee and introduce herself to the senate.
  - d. Sanger-set up email for faculty discussions. –let's postpone to January
  - e. Request by Theresa Grove-contradicting statements in regard to Mark George. Need to establish a factual sequence of events. Handouts-Theresa would like to ask the faculty senate to take a look at this and reflect on this. This is about the need to clarify policies and protect academic freedom.
  - f. Diversity Plan (Maggie Viverette)-Attachment E.
  - g. Update on VSU Statutes Odessey. 2007, 2009, and 2012 versions have been located and shared with the Executive Committee. Merged version will possibly be shared at the January 22 meeting.
  - h. Sigma Nu-postpone discussion-no one from Sigma Nu here. Inappropriate action at a football game. Something else may be added on with another fraternity (Kappa Alpha). Topic will be picked up again at January meeting.
  - i. Faculty social-December 5- 5 pm to 7 pm IDEA center. Bring to eat and drink. Don't bring desserts-go to the desserts social!
7. Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn-adjourn.

## **Members and Visitors Present**

\*indicates proxy

### **Executive Board**

Noll, M. President

Archibald, J. Vice President/President-Elect

Moch, P. Parliamentarian

### **College of the Arts**

Arnett, S.

\*Crane, T.

Hawkins, C.

Lowe, Shannon\*

Murray, K.

Winska, K.\*

### **College of Arts and Sciences**

Acosta, K.\*

Aiello, T.

**Allard, J.**

Barackskay, D.\*

Bell, F.

Chakraborty, S.

Clegg-Hyer, M.

Davidson, K.\*

Fares, S.

Fike, D.

Grove, T.

Jewusiak, J.

Lazari, A.

Mboup, B.\*

Moch, P.

Noll, M.

Ocasio, M.

Pufong, M.

Russell, V.\*

Sanger, M.\*

Thieme, D.

Velez-Marulanda, J.

Walczak, G.

Wares, A.

### **College of Business Administration**

Buchanan, B.  
Futrell, G.  
Kuhlmeier, D.  
Ostapski, A.\*  
Royle, T.\*

### **College of Education and Human Services**

Archibald, J.  
Carter, M.\*  
Cohen, B.  
Grant, M.  
Graves, J.  
Holliman, D.  
Lamb, K.  
Lambeth, D.\*  
Lennon, S.\*  
Rieger, A.  
Sanger, M.  
Wright, D.

### **College of Nursing and Health Services**

Cohen, B.\*  
Schlaret, M.  
Walters, S.\*

### **Odum Library**

Holt, M.  
Williams, B.

### **VSU Retirees Association**

Ware, F.

### **Visitors**

Tyler Barker – Student Government Association  
Matthew Cowan – Student Government Association  
Tamelia Hall – Student Government Association  
Kimberly Luse – COS  
Tracy Woodard – WGST