



# FACULTY SENATE Est. 1991

Michael Noll  
President

James Archibald  
President Elect/Vice President

linda pysher jurczak  
Secretary

Peggy Moch  
Parliamentarian

## Faculty Senate Agenda January 22, 2015; 3:30 pm Magnolia 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 Michael Noll.
2. **Approval of the minutes of the November 20, 2014 meeting of the Faculty Senate.**  
<http://ww2.valdosta.edu/facsen/meeting/minutes/index.shtml> (See link for minutes from November 22, 2014).
3. **Parliamentarian election.**
4. Old & Unfinished Business
  - a. Statutory Committee Reports
    - Academic Committee – <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/academic-committee.php>
    - Committee on Committees-Diane Holliman
    - Faculty Affairs – Bill Buchanan
    - Faculty Grievance Committee- Said Fares
    - Institutional Planning Committee- Diane Wright
  - b. Standing Committee Reports
    - Academic Scheduling & Procedures-Tommy Crane
    - Academic Honors & Scholarships- Maren Clegg-Hyer

Athletics- Stacey Walters

Educational Policies- Jacob M. Jewusiak

Environmental Issues- Theresa J. Grove

Faculty Scholarship & Research- Grazyna H. Walczak

Internationalization and Globalization Committee - David Kuhlmeier

Library Affairs- Rudo Tsemunhu

Minority & Diversity Issues- linda pyscher jurczak

Student Activities & Services- James Archibald

Technology- Victoria Russell

c. Special and Ad Hoc Committees reports

Faculty Handbook-linda pyscher jurczak

d. Updates on travel policies, travel paperwork, and recurring issues with eReports, and the possibility of an updated and simplified VSU website in the making (refer to earlier email).

e. Time to finish the chapter on the VSU statutes and create a merged version (2009 and 2012) to replace the 2007 version currently on VSU's website.

f. Revised version of the Resolution on Sustaining Academic Integrity and Quality at VSU (Attachment A).

## 5. New Business

a. SGA's proposal for an "academic forgiveness policy"

b. Nicki Turley will report on VSU's progress in regard to safety and security on campus

c. Patterson Street Road Safety Audit (see [http://ww2.valdosta.edu/~mgnoll/VSU\\_RSA\\_Final.pdf](http://ww2.valdosta.edu/~mgnoll/VSU_RSA_Final.pdf))

d. Improving Senate website (see [http://www.armstrong.edu/Departments/faculty\\_senate/senate\\_welcome](http://www.armstrong.edu/Departments/faculty_senate/senate_welcome))

e. Deborah Van Petten and Mark Smith to discuss the resources available through Affordable Learning Georgia (see also <http://affordablelearninggeorgia.org/>)

f. Usefulness of SOIs

## 6. Discussion

## 7. Adjournment



## **Resolution on Maintaining Academic Integrity and Quality at VSU**

**Whereas**, continuing federal and state budget cuts in higher education pose enormous challenges to the academic integrity and quality of institutions like *Valdosta State University*, **and**

**Whereas**, the increasing reliance on tuition money for our university's budget translates to rising costs of higher education and makes it more difficult for students from low-income families to earn college degrees, **and**

**Whereas**, cuts to merit-based scholarships like *HOPE* and changes in eligibility for *Pell Grants* further exacerbate the challenges for high school students to enter college, **and**

**Whereas**, adjustments considered at *VSU* in regard to budget exercises or actual budget cuts must take into consideration already existing elevated costs of higher education, the long-term viability of academic programs, the importance of diverse course offerings at a comprehensive and regional university to provide a well-rounded education to our students, and the need for stability in our work force; **now, therefore be it**

**Resolved**, that the *Faculty Senate*

- 1) supports concerted efforts at *VSU* to maintain quality instruction, to ensure timely graduation, to aid student retention and enrollment, and to uphold the quality of our academic programs; and
- 2) supports concerted efforts to avoid lay-offs, strategically use vacant positions and retirements, consider offering early retirements, avoid an increase in adjunct positions; and promote the sustained growth of the university; and
- 3) supports the general notion that decisions made as a result of budget exercises or actual budget cuts are based on empirical data and not advocacy, and that all of our institution's branches must be sincere and transparent in their evaluation of possible adjustments; and
- 4) recommends that colleges, departments, and academic units potentially affected by budget cuts be integrally involved in working with the administration to ensure that aforementioned empirical data are complete, unbiased, and used appropriately.