



FACULTY SENATE
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Chunlei Liu
President

Benjamin Harper
**Vice President/
President Elect**

Mallory Lane
Secretary

Melissa Pihos
Parliamentarian

Michele Blankenship
Past President

Faculty Senate
September 15, 2022, 3:30 pm
Microsoft Teams

Follow [this link](#) to join the meeting, or copy and paste the link below into your browser:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZmNmMjE0M2YtYjQwZi00MGU0LTk5ZjMtMzkyYTFjNjVhMTQz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2225a5d340-8abc-4053-b4bd-dc1213280353%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22737798bd-c63b-40ae-8dd3-e9e8c724a4da%22%7d

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

Special Request: At the request of the Senate's Executive Committee (fsec@valdosta.edu), any actions sent to the president (cliu@valdosta.edu) for possible inclusion in the Senate agenda should be accompanied by a written document with the rationale and purpose of the decision. The Executive Committee requests that these documents be submitted via email as a Word.doc attachment(s).

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.

1. Call to Order – Chunlei Liu 3:30
2. Reading of proxies obtained prior to the meeting; Request additional proxies for those not given from Senators in attendance – Mallory Lane

Note: Please send an email to Mallory Lane (bmbarmore@valdosta.edu) regarding proxies a minimum of one (1) week prior to the scheduled Faculty Senate meeting or as soon as possible if an unexpected absence needs to occur.

3. **Approval of the minutes of the August 18, 2022, meeting of the Faculty Senate.** <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/minutes.php> (See link here for minutes for all faculty senate meetings). – Melissa Pihos
 - a. Clell E Wright motioned, Xiaoi Ren seconded, all in favor for approval: 50

4. Updates from President's Office: Dr. Carvajal and/or Dr. Smith

Dr. Carvajal-

A couple of items. Last week I was in Atlanta for the investiture of our new Chancellor and Regent Salute Education Scholarship Gala. The student musicians from VSU were invited to provide the music in the House Chamber of the capital. They sounded great and received many compliments. Regent Salute Education Scholarship Gala gave awards to distinguished alumni. Major General Bobby Shannon was known in the past as Shannon. The Center for Diversity and Inclusion is named after him, our first African American President of very distinguished career in both the military and in law. And then Mary Elizabeth Terry. Many know her connection to her husband, the Terry College of Business. But she is very clear that she is a VSC alumnus and is very proud of that.

Now referring to the video address I released on Friday, enrollment and budget concerns are not just a VSU problem but a concern across higher education. The intent of the video is twofold. First to be as transparent as possible and the other I will call an initial framework for what our path forward may be. We have an initial framework for what our answer will be. How will we do this? Our hope is to collect everyone's input in how to move forward. I stress again that we need your input. Just as I said in the video, there are multiple opportunities and ways to provide it. The first of which was the survey that was sent out in the video in the e-mail that provided the link to the video. That accompanying survey is due on Friday, September 23rd. We also recently sent out a list of guided questions so that leadership teams across the institution can do what your Deans Council has already been doing. That is to get together and to discuss as a group what our options may be for reductions and investments going forward.

Bob and I will continue to meet with the Faculty Senate officers for input. We will host three forums. They will start next Friday and continue into the following week on Monday and Tuesday. No question that we have a big challenge. We also think we have a big opportunity. We think we are uniquely positioned to come out on the other side of this as a forward-thinking institution that deals with the challenges that are facing us.

Dr. Smith:

Post Tenure Review changes were submitted over the summer to USG office. I talked to the USG office Tuesday and was told we were one of eleven that submitted PTR changes and we are up next for comments. We should hear from them soon. As soon as that happens, I will share with the Senate leadership team.

I also asked about the status of our Statue revisions that were sent in the Spring. They will be looking at those, but I do not have an update on them yet.

Chancellor Perdue announced most USG institutions will be going test-optional until summer 2024, so we will be able to admit students with GPA student from high school with a 3.2 GPA in Spring '23 and Summer '24. Many students are not taking the SAT or ACT, so they are going out of state to test-optional schools.

Questions:

Yakov Woldman: Don't you think that will diminish the quality of our student population. If we try to keep the same academic standard, we will actually end up with the same result. The bigger quantity will disappear through the years and you will get the same thing. What do you think about this?

Dr. Smith-

I know that a lot of people subscribe to that school of thought. It is really not clear to me which students are not taking ACTs or SATs. You might be correct if we had students who have taken SATs or ACTs and who have atrocious scores that we would never accept, but what happened in the last is that a lot of students have simply avoided taking ACT and SAT. This was in part initially because of the pandemic, but later because an awful lot of schools nationally have gone test optional and students do not wish to incur the expense, the time, and so on. I do not know how to answer the question because I do not know the characteristics of that population of students. I will tell you that in my view this inability to do so last year did hurt us.

Dr. Carvajal- I want to be very clear in saying it and making sure it's very clear that the board's action last week is not a permanent decision as Dr. Smith said it takes us through Summer 24. The Chancellor was very clear in saying that they are studying it this year and their hope is to revisit it and make a more permanent decision by the end of the academic year. The Board right now is fairly split on this. There are deeply held views on both sides. They will study the full two years of the test-optional student performance. The SAT and ACT are predictors of freshman GPA, but they do not appear to be a predictor of their ability to complete the degree, unlike their high school GPA, which is a stronger predictor of completing their degree.

Jack M. Lockhart (chat)- We will have a before and after we are using a 3.2 GPA to enter them in but at least had a standardized test to back it up. 3.2 GPA does NOT equal college/university readiness.

Marilyn D Lovett (chat): A number of top tier universities are test optional and look at the overall student. The research suggests that SAT only accounts for 8% of the variance related to college success. I'm glad colleges are recognizing this.

Jack Mitchell Lockhart: This is more of a statement. I think we are putting an awful lot of faith in our secondary education systems and their 3.2 GPA number. I do see a lot of these students and have likely been penalized for it in the past. I have 25 years' worth of data to show you a trend in performance. It is going to be great to see the data on this. We will have before and after. Here we are not. We are going to have a 3.2 baseline to enter them in but at least we had a standardized test score to compare that against.

Dr. Carvajal: Understood.

Ivan Nikolov- I would like to inform you that the French National State System of Universities accepts all with a high school diploma and basically the students mature during this time and they of course have a different approach to retention and I would say to they are fairly merciless in that, but the process there has been for quite a number of years is a way to avoid the discussion about standardized testing and veracity of search. And it is a big political discussion.

Steven Downey- When should we expect to hear decisions regarding finalizing budgets and which faculty lines we might be allowed to refill? Because the earlier we can get those searches started, the better chance we have it getting the candidate we wish.

Dr. Carvajal - The decisions will take some time. We have just begun gathering input. We are conservative in budget, so we have time to get this input and make changes.

Dr. Smith- We have been working very hard and diligently on not just this year's budget, but where we think will be for next year's budget. Once we finalize those, we will be able to determine which faculty lines we will be able to rehire. I am absolutely in agreement with you that the sooner we can do that, the better.

Zachary Karazsia- UGA admitted extra 6,000 students this year. Are there discussions about how UGA's admission of extra students negatively impacts VSU and other similar comprehensive universities? Is there any decision that might limit the additional acceptance in larger schools to help us with our enrollment?

Dr. Carvajal- You are correct it will be felt among everyone the USG system. There is a ripple effect and yes there is a discussion at the board. The board is geared in the health of all 26 institutions. There is definitely conversation happening at a system level about what is the best approach.

5. Old & Unfinished Business

a. Statutory Committee Reports

- i. Academic Committee (fs-stat-ac@valdosta.edu) – Sheri Gravett; Find agendas and minutes here: 9/12 was first meeting, minutes are posted for your review.

<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/academic-committee.php>

- ii. Committee on Committees (fs-stat-coco@valdosta.edu) – Emma Kostopolus- Thanks for your hard work filling the seats, lookout for those emails regarding an election run for Faculty Grievances Committee.
- iii. Faculty Affairs (fs-stat-fa@valdosta.edu) – Xiaoi Ren- met this past Tuesday, the previous chair, Mitch, brought everyone up speed on the major tasks accomplished last year. Everyone has a chance to understand the role of the committee and the expectations.
- iv. Faculty Grievance Committee (fs-stat-fgc@valdosta.edu) – Mary Block- no report

- b. Meeting minutes from the various committees should be sent to fsec@valdosta.edu **AND** to archives@valdosta.edu with “Archives Faculty Senate Papers” in the subject line. Please label minutes documents as shown in the following examples:

- i. Technology_Minutes_04-29-2022
- ii. Academic_Honors_and_Scholarship_Minutes_08-28-2021

Thank you for your assistance in getting and keeping our records up to date.

6. New Business

a. Standing Committee Reports:

- i. Academic Honors & Scholarships (fs-stand-ahs@valdosta.edu) – Lindsay Godin met 8/28

and approved changes to bylaws, will send out nomination on GLARDA, please share within your departments. I'm going to be giving out a memo sheet that just describes the nominations during the first week of October, and we're encouraging faculty to share this memo within your department when you see it and I will send reminders every couple of weeks.

- ii. Academic Scheduling & Procedures (fs-stand-asp@valdosta.edu) – Yakov Woldman no report, meeting next week.
 - iii. Athletic Committee (fs-stand-ac@valdosta.edu) – Kyoung-Im Park met 9/6, discussed deadline for SAAS awards 10/21 and voted on bylaws. Please be on the lookout for a survey.
 - iv. Diversity and Equity Committee (fs-stand-dec@valdosta.edu) – Donna Sewell- no report.
 - v. Educational Policies (fs-stand-ep@valdosta.edu) – Can Denizman- no report.
 - vi. Environmental Issues (fs-stand-ei@valdosta.edu) – Clell Wright- no report.
 - vii. Faculty Scholarship (fs-stand-fs@valdosta.edu) – Attila Cseh approved application for 22-23,000 dollars, still have money for Fall semester so please encourage your colleagues to submit for the presentation and course development, new process to submit application through DocuSign.
 - viii. Internationalization and Globalization (fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu) – Hanae Kanno met 9/14, The first agenda item is how we could work on supporting the Center for International Programs, CIP. The 2nd agenda item discussed is supporting international students and faculty and creating a network of faculty support for international students, both undergraduate and graduate international students. We discussed the VSU global expert website used to exist as a part of VSU ship web page and getting it functioning again.
 - ix. Library Affairs (fs-stand-la@valdosta.edu) – Brian Ring no report.
 - x. Student Affairs (fs-stand-sa@valdosta.edu) – Laurel Yu no report.
 - xi. Technology Committee (fs-stand-tc@valdosta.edu) – Lynn Bennett no report, we plan to meet next week, please reach to your department if there are any technological issues and feel free to email me directly lgcrump@valdosta.edu.
7. General Discussion
- a. No discussion.
8. Adjournment
- a. 4:09 pm motioned- Yakov Woldman, seconded- Mary R Block

Attachment A

Guidance for Online Meetings

During this exceptional time, all Faculty Senate meetings will be held online using Microsoft Teams. The information to connect will be sent over email. This is an open meeting.

To access the meeting easily, use the TEAMS link found in the email containing the agenda or through your calendar link (Outlook).

For the benefit of record keeping, we ask that senators and visitors please identify themselves when speaking to an issue during the meeting. Please note the following:

1. All senators must sign the roster in order to be counted present. We will be using an online roster which can be found by using [using this link](#) (also copied below) on the day of the meeting. If you have a senator's proxy, please include this information using the online form, in addition to emailing Mallory Lane (bmbarmore@valdosta.edu) at least one week in advance as per Senate By-Laws.

Attendance link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QNOIJbyKU0C0vdwSEygDU-yyAAwre_dFm9GqXKQ-WVxURENPS0RZS0UxTVVHSzJYS1qwUTQ1QVcxVy4u

2. Given the new online format, the following points are very important for record-keeping and parliamentary rules:

- a. If you would like to join the online discussion, use the "raise hand" feature. The Executive Committee will work to ensure that everyone is able to participate in a timely and organized manner. **Please do not use the chat function to pose questions unless otherwise directed due to technical difficulties by the meeting coordinator or IT.** Doing so can create confusion and timing for responses.
- b. If you are not actively speaking, please mute your microphone in order to avoid feedback and/or background noise interruptions.
- c. When a vote is called use the "raise hand" feature to vote. If you have a proxy, you will need to type the name and vote using the chat feature. Please keep in mind that the online function takes time. We will call for votes in one category and count "raised hands," then ask for proxies through the chat feature. After the votes have been officially counted, you will need to "lower your hand" so that we can call for votes in subsequent categories. Please only use the chat feature for proxy voting. We thank you for your patience as we accurately count all votes.

It is encouraged that all senators and possible attendees contact VSU IT to address any connection concerns before the meeting.

Please enter your name.	College/Affiliation	Are you a visitor?	If you are proxy for someone, enter their name below.
Honey Copping	Administration/Academic Affairs	Yes	
Sheri Gravett	Administration/Academic Affairs	Yes	
Chalise Ludlow	Arts	No	
Clell E. Wright	Arts	No	
Duke Guthrie	Arts	No	
Ian Andersen	Arts	No	
Javian Brabham	Arts	No	
Joseph Culverhouse	Arts	No	
Kenneth Kirk	Arts	No	
Laurel Yu	Arts	No	
Lindsay Godin	Arts	No	
Melissa Pihos	Arts	No	
Benjamin Harper	Arts	No	
Nicole Cox	Arts	Yes	
Attila Cseh	Business Administration	No	
Kelly Mathis	Business Administration	No	
Kelly Davidson	CoHSS, AAUP	Yes	
Megan Hancock	Council on Staff Affairs	No	
Brian Gerber	Education & Human Services	No	
Changwoo Yang	Education & Human Services	No	
Deborah Paine	Education & Human Services	Yes	
Denise Hill	Education & Human Services	No	
Gwen Scott Ruttencutter	Education & Human Services	No	
Hanae Kanno	Education & Human Services	No	
Jiyoon Jung	Education & Human Services	No	
Kathy Nobles	Education & Human Services	No	
Kristy Litster	Education & Human Services	No	
Lenese Colson	Education & Human Services	No	
Xiaoai Ren	Education & Human Services	No	
Yunseon Choi	Education & Human Services	No	
A.J. Ramirez	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Brandon Atkins	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Carol M. Glen	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Donna N. Sewell	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Emma Kostopolus	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Ericka Parra	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Kristin Kirchner	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Lizbeth Heath	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
M.D. Lovett	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Mary Block	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Meagan Wood Hopkins	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	

Michael Baun	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Nandan Kumar Jha	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Sebastian Bartos	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Shelly Yankovskyy	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
	Humanities and Social Sciences	Yes	
Zachary Karazsia	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
James Pace	Nursing and Health Sciences	Yes	
Kelly Lowery	Nursing and Health Sciences	No	
Lois A. Bellflowers	Nursing and Health Sciences	No	
Mallory Lane	Nursing and Health Sciences	No	
Michele Blankenship	Nursing and Health Sciences	No	
Jessica Lee	Odum Library	No	
Ken Smith	Odum Library	No	
Anurag Dasgupta	Science and Mathematics	No	
Brian C Ring	Science and Mathematics	No	
Can Denizman	Science and Mathematics	No	
Chunlei Liu	Science and Mathematics	No	
J. Mitchell Lockhart	Science and Mathematics	No	
Shantanu Chakraborty	Science and Mathematics	No	
Yakov Woldman	Science and Mathematics	No	Gopeekrishnan Sreenilayam