

Eric Howington
President

Debbie Paine
**Vice President/
President Elect**

Crystal Randolph
Secretary

Dee Ott
Parliamentarian

Brian Ring
Past President

**2018-2019 Annual Report of the Faculty Senate
Eric Howington, President**

The Faculty Senate met eight times during the 2018-2019 academic year. Four meetings began with remarks from President Carvajal, three began with remarks from Provost Smith, and one began with the reading of written updates provided by President Carvajal. At each meeting, the statutory committees and standing committees of the Senate were encouraged to give reports. A number of meetings featured presentations by guests. The minutes of each meeting are available on the [Faculty Senate website](https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/minutes.php) at <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/minutes.php>.

Brief Summary of Faculty Senate Activity:

August 2018

- Dr. Tristen Denley, USG Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, briefed the Senate on the Momentum year initiative and Nexus degrees.
- University Tenure & Promotion Policies and Procedures revisions, left over from April 2018, were remanded to Faculty Affairs committee.
- Campus technology concerns memo remanded to the Technology Committee.

September 2018

- Several Initiatives related to the Strategic Plan are underway: Faculty/Staff Salary Study, Work Load Committee, and Summer Budget Model Committee.
- Dr. Jeanine Boddie-La Van, new Director of Human Resources, addressed the Senate and discussed recent changes in the Human Resources Department.

October 2018

- Provost Smith broaches the subject of revising VSU GPA determination procedures and discusses the upcoming move to SmartEvals for SOIs.
- Alan Rowe, Director of Public Safety, delivers annual Public Safety report to the Senate and answers questions.
- Rob Freidhoff, Executive Director of Advising, updated the Senate on VSU's new advising scheme and fielded questions.

November 2018

- Brian Haugabrook, Chief Information Officer, briefed the Senate on upcoming changes to campus printing and SOIs.
- The Senate discussed revision of GPA calculation procedures. The issue was then remanded the Educational Policies Committee.

January 2019

- Provost Smith shared that a new Summer Budget Model is almost complete. Provost Smith also discussed the Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Taskforce.
- Concerns about new guidelines issued by OSPRA were voiced.
- Alex Daman of the Carl Vinson Institute presented the current status of the Classification and Compensation Study.
- The Senate is working with COSA to organize a faculty/staff appreciation event in the spring. Brian Ring presented an event planning update.

February 2019

- President Carvajal announces the Governor recommended 2% merit pool for raises this year.
- The Technology Committee is working with the library to address copyright issues with files placed in BlazeView. The Technology committee is also preparing a campus survey.

March 2019

- Provost Smith briefs the Senate on the change from Digital Measures to APL nextEd.
- Keith Warburg, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing, shares plans for an internal faculty/staff newsletter.
- The Senate approved new Repeated Course GPA Calculation procedures developed and submitted by the Educational Policies committee.
- The Senate approved minor revisions to the Academic Leave Policy.

April 2019

- President Carvajal announced that the funding formula was fully funded and the proposed 2% merit pool was approved.
- Brian Ring delivered a briefing on the activities of the USG Faculty Council.
- The Senate approved proposed revisions to sections 3.2.2 C, 3.6, and 3.4 of the University Tenure and Promotion guidelines document.
- The Senate did not approve changes to the section 3.1.2 and Table 1 of the same document. These sections were remanded back to Faculty Affairs for further consideration.

The Annual Reports submitted by Committee Chairs are attached.

Statutory Committees and 2018-2019 Chairs:

Academic – Sheri Gravett: **Appendix A**

Committee on Committees – Catherine Bowers: **Appendix B**

Faculty Affairs – Ryan Smith: **Appendix C**

Faculty Grievance – Deborah Davis: No annual report submitted.

Institutional Planning – Mitch Lockhart: **Appendix D**

Standing Committees and 2018-2019 Chairs:

Academic Honors & Scholarship – Blaine Brown: **Appendix E**

Academic Scheduling & Procedures – Jennifer Branscome: No annual report submitted.

Athletics – Napoleon Bamfo: No annual report submitted.

Diversity & Equity – Anurag Dasgupta: **Appendix F**

Educational Policies – Kelly Davidson: **Appendix G**

Environmental Issues – Donald Thieme: **Appendix H**

Faculty Scholarship – Luis Gonzalez: No annual report submitted.

Internationalization and Globalization – Cindy Tori: No annual report submitted.

Library Affairs – Mary Block: **Appendix I**

Student Affairs – Jamie Workman: **Appendix J**

Technology – Attila Cseh: **Appendix K**

Appendix A

Academic Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Sheri Gravett

VSU's Academic Committee met seven times during the course of 2018-2019 academic year. The agendas, the items for committee review, and the minutes are all available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/academic-committee.php>. As usual, the committee approved a number of revisions, additions, and deletions to VSU's curriculum. Some items were forwarded to either the University System of Georgia or to the University System of Georgia General Education Council.

The Academic Committee approved three new academic programs and forwarded materials to the system office for approval:

- AS in Engineering Studies (approved)
- BS in Engineering Technology (approved)
- DNP (Doctorate of Nursing Practice) (preparing submission)

The Academic Committee approved the reactivation of the BSED in Secondary Education which was subsequently approved by both the USG System Office and the Professional Standards Commission. The Academic Committee also approved two new pathways by which students could earn either a BA in English or a BA in History concurrently with a BSED in Secondary Education.

The Academic Committee approved the following new minors/certificates and notified the system office:

- Minor in Applied Statistics
- Certificate in Teaching College Communication and Media
- Basic Certificate in Data Science
- Minor in FinTech (Financial Technology) (notification pending)
- Certificate in FinTech (notification pending)

Several new accelerated programs (an undergraduate-to-graduate degree) were approved:

- BBA in Accounting, Economics, Finance, Healthcare Administration, International Business, Management, and Marketing to MBA or MACC

The Academic Committee approved the following changes to VSU's core curriculum and submitted them to the USG Council on General Education:

- To split the lecture and lab portions of BIOL 1107K and BIOL 1108K into two separate courses: BIOL 1107 and 1107L and BIOL 1108 and BIOL 1108K (approved).
- To add MATH 1001 (Quantitative Reasoning) to Area A2 (submitted)
- To change the course number and title for MATH 2620 Statistical Methods to MATH 1401 Introduction to Statistics (approved)

Appendix B

Committee on Committees Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Catherine Bowers

Committee: Committee on Committees

Academic Year: 2018-2019

Committee Members: Catherine Bowers **C**, Peggy Moch **CE**, Jesse Cook, Debbie Paine, Beatriz Potter, Andy Ostapski, Laura Carter

Issue/Topic^{1, 2}	Committee Recommendation³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
Assigned committee seats to new senators and faculty elected by their units.	Some discussion about timelines in each college, as well as procedures, and whether these need to be unified.	None	
Bylaws and statutes.	Reviewed bylaws, agreed CoCO membership needs to update bylaws to reflect revised colleges and units.	Clarification was needed when seeking chair for Grievance committee. Statutes were consulted. To be revisited in 2019-2020	
2019-2020 Committee vacancies	Colleges should fill their vacancies as their unit prescribes.	Many colleges have already filled their vacancies.	
Outlook lists. Currently, the lists are convenient to use but a lot of labor to maintain and edit as needed. There has been an ongoing discussion about how to maintain them most efficiently and equitably, with no clear answer.	This item needs further investigation.		

Appendix C

Faculty Affairs Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Ryan Smith

Committee: Faculty Affairs Committee

Academic Year: 2018-2019

Committee Members:

Ryan Smith, Corey Anderson, JT Cox, Peter Geldrich, Donna Gosnell, Lorna Alvarez-Rivera, Nancy Swanson, Laura Wright

Issue/Topic^{1, 2}	Committee Recommendation³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
Revision of By-Laws	Revisions Complete	Submitted to Exec. Committee	
Review of Changes to University Promotion and Tenure Documents (remanded by Senate, April 2018)	Reject 3.1.2 Table 1 Approve 3.2.2 Approve 3.4 Approve 3.6	Sent back to Senate for April '19 meeting	Awaiting vote from Senate, April '19

Appendix D

Institutional Planning Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by J. Mitchell Lockhart

Committee: Institutional Planning Committee

Academic Year: 2018-2019

Committee Members: J. Mitchell Lockhart (chair), Matt Roerhich, Jennifer Beal, Colin Walker, Sudip Chakraborty, Li-Mei Chen, William Buchanan, Deb Marcino, Sandie Delk, Amy Chow, Jacob Jones

Issue/Topic^{1, 2}	Committee Recommendation³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
None remanded to committee			

Appendix E

Academic Honors & Scholarship Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Blaine Brown

Committee: Academic Honors & Scholarship Committee

Academic Year: 2018-2019

Committee Members:

Neena Banerjee (Past Chair), Blaine L Browne (Chair), Mark A McQuade (Chair Elect), Jacob R Bell, Catherine Bowers, Byron LaGary Carter, John Gordon Crowley, Donnell S Davis, Linda De La Garza, Zulal Sogutlu Denaux, Mark S Groszos, Abigail W. Heuss, E-Ling Hsiao, Marko Horn, Howard P Hsu, Babacar Mboup, Arthur Blake Pearce, Xiaoi Ren, Michelle Ritter, Leah P Robinson, Emily Cofield Rogers, Kwanza M Thomas, Melissa E Wolfe

Issue/Topic ^{1,2}	Committee Recommendation ³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
Bylaws were reviewed and amended.	The committee voted to approve a change in the bylaws to add the Deans office ex officio member be a full voting committee member. We also removed from the bylaws a few Awards and Scholarships that were outdated or no longer given.	Approved. Bylaw's amended and submitted to Senate	Approved
In November Chair sent out emails requesting nominations for the GLARDA award.	---	Email sent to VSU listserv	NA
During the fall semester, nominations were solicited from VSU for the Georgia Legislative Academic Recognition Day representative for 2015.	From those nominated, the committee selected Caylor Rae Mark as this year's representative.	GLARDA winner name sent to USG office	NA

Members of the committee researched, nominated, and discussed possible key note speakers for the annual Honors Dinner on February 25 th . Annual University and Departmental Level Academic Honors were solicited by the committee for presentation at the annual Honors Dinner.	By vote of the committee, Roberta George, an alumnus of VSU, was selected.	Roberta George was invited to be the Honors Day Dinner Keynote speaker and she gladly accepted.	
Chair sent out follow up emails on Feb 21 st to all Faculty and Departments requesting Honors award recipient information forms be sent to Event Services by March 29 th	---	Email sent to VSU listserv	NA
During the spring semester, the committee solicited nominations from departments and faculty at large for the annual Annie Powe Hopper Award. Six nominations were received, and the committee voted to select the top five finalists. This was done using Qualtrics online and completed on March 14 th	The top 5 nominees were then sent to committee for face to face interviews later in the month.	Invited the 5 students to the face to face interview session with the committee.	NA
The five finalists were selected, contacted, and interviewed by the committee on March 29 th .	Following the committee face to face interviews, the graduating student selected for the APH 2018 Award was Ianmichael Brooks.	APH Nominee contacted by chair and asked to attend Honors Dinner to receive award.	NA

<p>Planning and coordination for the Honors Dinner, to be held on Thursday, April 25 was worked on. Leah Robinson Pickle, Event Services was integral in helping us organize this. I was in constant contact with her throughout the spring semester.</p>	<p>----</p>	<p>Honors Diner invites sent and script completed</p>	<p>--</p>
<p>Following the annual dinner, current chair, Dr. Blaine Browne, and chair elect, Dr. Mike McQuade, will begin coordination of the 2019-2020 membership for the Academic Honors and Scholarships Committee with the Committee on Committees.</p>		<p>We plan on meeting over the summer to work on the details for the 2019-2020 year!</p>	<p>NA</p>

Appendix F

Diversity and Equity Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Anurag Dasgupta

Committee: Diversity and Equity

Academic Year: 2018-19

Committee Members: Anurag Dasgupta (Chair), Charles Talor (Chair-Elect), Tamara Hardesty, Richard Schmertzing, Yvonne LeRoy-Landers, Maggie Viverette, Kalina Winska, Linda Jurczak, Kynthia James, Jose Velez, Chang WooYang, Guy Frost, Catherine Bowers, Rebecca Smith, Gerald Williams, Julene Smith, Obediah Hall, Kelly Gamble, Vicki Wetter, Amiya Miles, Regina Scruggs, Jeanine Boddie-LaVan, Faith McFadden

Issue/Topic^{1, 2}	Committee Recommendation³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
Revised Diversity and Equity Committee Bylaws.	The committee met on October 19, 2018 and some changes and additions were suggested.	The committee members voted in November to approve the changes and additions.	

Appendix G

Educational Policies Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Anurag Dasgupta

Committee: Educational Policies

Academic Year: 2018-2019

Committee Members:

Kelly Davidson (Chair), Kendric Coleman (Past Chair), Chunlei Liu (Chair Elect), Lucia Lu, Brian Sowa, Joseph Mason, Brian Ward, Tolulope Salami, Jie Fowler, Nicole Alemanne, Katherine Lamb, Laura Carter, Samantha Paul, Ken Smith, Kirklyn Johnson

Ex Officio

Ryan Hogan, Jarrod Murray, Stanley Jones, Catherine Oglesby, Bob Greenbaum, Krupesh Patel

Issue/Topic^{1, 2}	Committee Recommendation³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
Revision of bylaws	A review by the committee indicated that no revision was needed for the bylaws given that they have been revised within the last two years.	No revision was needed.	N/A
Revision of institutional GPA calculations for repeated courses	This issue was introduced to the Faculty Senate in October by the Provost and remanded to the Educational Policies	2 university-wide open meetings were held. During these meetings Dr. Smith explained the proposed change. A compilation of policies from comparative and/or peer institutions, prepared by Dr. Gravett, was available for reference by email before all meetings and in print at all	Approval of proposed grade change policy in April Faculty Senate meeting.

	committee for consideration.	meetings. 3 committee meetings were held to discuss the response from the university committee as well as proposed language for the change in policy. This policy change would only affect the institutional (VSU) GPA calculation for courses repeated in Fall 2019 or later. This would not affect financial aid decisions or most program acceptance decisions. In reviewing the policies of other institutions, the committee agreed to a draft that accepted the highest grade received for repeated courses, a practice that has been adopted for most of the comparative/peer institutions. A draft was written and presented to the Faculty Senate as an attachment to the agenda for the May meeting.	
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Appendix H

Environmental Issues Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Donald Thieme

Committee: Environmental Issues

Academic Year: 2018-2019

Committee Members: Jason Allard (ex officio), Brad Bergstrom (CSM), Emily Cantonwine (CSM), Evelyn Davis-Walker (COA), Abigail Easton (SGA), Phil Foster (COSA), Samira Garcia (COEHS), Deborah Hall (CHSS), Carl Hand (ex officio), Kynthia James (CONHS), Cristobal Serran-Pagan (CHSS), Luke Jones (COBA), Samantha Paul (LIB), Donald Thieme (CSM), Jeffrey Vasseur (CHSS), Dennis Conway (COA), Martha Onate (CONHS), Traycee Martin (ex officio), Chloe Mills (SGA), Karen Noll (COEHS), Alan Rowe (ex officio), Jill Ferrell Rountree (ex officio), Ray Sable, (ex officio), Meredith Lancaster (ex officio), Bob Greenbaum (SGA)

Issue/Topic ^{1,2}	Committee Recommendation ³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
Balloon Releases (generated by E.I.C.)	Ban release of balloons on campus and by VSU organizations (qualified in policy)	Wrote policy and brought to Faculty Senate, University Council, SGA	Passed Faculty Senate on March 22, 2018 but not final until October 30, 2018
Outdoor Lighting (generated by E.I.C.)	Revise VSU's Outdoor Lighting Policy to limit light pollution and energy use consistent with campus safety needs	Wrote policy revisions and brought to Faculty Senate	Passed Faculty Senate on March 22, 2018. Implemented through annual after-dark, walk-through of existing lighting fixtures on November 15, 2018
Shade Awnings (remanded by Faculty Senate)	Dr. Jennifer Beal has been requested to meet with Physical Plant (Ray Sable)	Postponed action until Ray Sable returns to work and	NA

	regarding scope of work and feasibility	can attend E.I.C. meetings	
Sustainability Council/Center (generated by E.I.C.)	Resources Conservation subcommittee has developed a White Paper outlining a university council or center to address sustainability at VSU and in south Georgia region.	Presentations to Dean James LaPlant and Provost Robert Smith were productive but current plan is to develop a scope which dovetails with VSU Center for Regional Impact	NA

Appendix I

Minutes from Mary Block, Chair
Library Affairs Committee
Faculty Senate
Valdosta State University

In Attendance:

Alexandria Ligia Focsan, Meagan Arrista-Chisholm, Ruth Brandvik, Taralynn Hartsell, Matthew McIntyre, Guy Frost, Dominick Gheesling, Ken Smith, Amy Chew, Hanae Kanno, Shantanu Charkraborty, Sandy Trowell, Frances McDowell Youmans

Minutes:

Members of the Library Affairs Committee met in Odum Library on Friday, January 25th. We first discussed the Library Contingency Fund, which this academic year amounted to \$3,000. We had requests for more than \$4,300 worth of books and had to decide how to fairly allocate the money. We decided to fully fund all requests except for the Music Department, which asked for over \$2,700, for sheet music and books. The Music Department got all monies left over after all other requests were funded. The Music Department still received over \$1,400 in funds; substantially more than any other department, but their request was much larger than any other department. In sum, everyone who requested funding got some money. Most requests were fully funded and only one, the largest request, was partially funded. The committee approved the allocation unanimously.

After allocating the money, I asked the committee members for assistance with drafting a resolution statement of support of full funding for VSU's Odum Library. I want to keep the resolution brief and to the point, which is to ask the administration to increase the Odum Library budget so the library's administrators will not have to make cuts to books or journals or other resources. The committee's response was supportive of the resolution and helpful as to the contents.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Block,
Chair
Faculty Senate
Library Affairs Committee

Appendix J

Student Affairs Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Jamie Workman

Committee: Student Affairs Committee

Academic Year: 2018-2019

Committee Members:

Student	Affairs	Committee	
COA	Sarah	Arnett	Chair Elect
COA	Tommy	Crane	
CHSS	Gabrielle	Stellmacher	Past Chair
COEHS	Jamie	Workman	Chair
COA	Colin	Walker	
COA	David	Nelson	
CHSS	Pat	Miller	
CSM	R. Paul	Mihail	
CHSS	Robert	Harding	
COBA	Matthew	Kolakowski	
COEHS	Yunseng	Choi	
COEHS	Deb	Marciano	
COEHS	Eugene	Asola	
CONHS	Donna	Corbitt	
CONHS	Paige	Krispin	
LIB	Steve	Scheuler	
COSA	Selenseia	Holmes	

Ex	Officio	
	Vincent	Miller
	Sherolyn	Hopkins

	Robin	Vickery	
	Seth	Sterlin	
	Shawn	Phippen	
COSA	Selenseia	Holmes	
COSA	Paul	Leavy	
SGA			N/A

Financial Aid Sub-Committee

Financial Aid		Subcommittee
COEHS	Jamie	Workman
CONHS	N/A	
COA	Sarah	Arnett
COBA	Diane	Guess
CSM	Mark	Blackmore
COEHS	N/A	
CHSS	Kelly	Davidson Devall
LIB	Emily	Rogers
Core Administrative Members		(voting)
Shawn	Phippen	
Debra	McCrary	
Ex Officio		(non-voting)
Douglas	Tanner	
Wanda	Stracener	

Issue/Topic^{1,2}	Committee Recommendation³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
Outdated Bylaws	Update the bylaws and submit to Executive Committee	Committee updated bylaws at meeting on 9/17/18. Workman submitted bylaws to Executive Committee	N/A
Career Preparedness Pilot Courses – Career Opportunities	Committee was supportive of pilot courses and encouraged	Committee discussed pilot program and provided feedback to Gerald Williams from Career	N/A

	Career Opportunities to move forward with program	Opportunities	
Wild Adventures Student Pass (Fall Discussion)	Based on feedback provided by students, the committee did not feel the Wild Adventures Student Pass was being used by many students.	Feedback was provided to Dr. Vince Miller, Vice President of Student Affairs.	N/A
Wild Adventures Student Pass (Spring Follow-up)	N/A	Committee Chair Jamie Workman was asked by a faculty member if the Wild Adventures Student Pass would continue for 2019/2020. Workman followed up with Dr. Vince Miller, and was informed that SGA was discussing the initiative and, to date, a final decision has not been made.	N/A
Black History Month Initiatives	N/A	Via the February e-meeting, Workman shared the Black History Month Calendar with the committee and ask that they promote events to students.	N/A
Committee Roster Updates	Continue to work with Chair of Committee on Committees to maintain and updated committee roster	Workman worked with Catherine Bowers, Chair of Committee on Committees, periodically throughout the academic year to update and maintain the committee roster.	N/A
Financial Aid Sub-Committee	Continue with sub-committee	The sub-committee met 4 times during the academic year (as well as 2 times during the Summer term). Each time, they reviewed, discussed and voted on student financial aid appeals.	N/A

Appendix K

Technology Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted by Attila Cseh

Committee: Technology Committee

Academic Year: 2018/19

Committee Members: Nicole Alemanne, Laura Byers, Amy Chew, Attila Cseh, Evelyn Davis-Walker, Gary Hackbarth, E-Ling Hsiao, Daesang Kim, Jessica Lee, Gary Miller, Joe Newton, Kyoung-Im Park, Rachel Tessin, Bobbie Ticknor, Sonja Wright-Smith, Sterlin Sanders.

Issue/Topic^{1, 2}	Committee Recommendation³	Action Taken	Senate Decision (if applicable)
Review of committee bylaws	Minor changes recommended	Changes were approved	N/A
Accessibility of online classes	Information should be shared with others teaching online classes	College representatives were asked to share information with their colleges	N/A
Copyright and using licensed materials in the classroom	Information should be shared with others teaching online classes	College representatives were asked to share information with their colleges	N/A
Faculty needs	Questionnaire should be prepared	Questionnaire is in progress, still waiting for comments from IT. Questionnaire will be released in Fall 2019	N/A