



FACULTY SENATE

Est. 1991

Eric Howington
President

Debbie Paine
**Vice President/
President Elect**

Crystal Randolph
Secretary

Dee Ott
Parliamentarian

Brian Ring
Past President

Minutes

**October 25, 2018, 3:30 pm
University Center Magnolia Room**

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 (ebhowington@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 Word.doc attachments.

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 – Eric Howington
The meeting was called to order at 3:38 pm.
2. Reading of proxies obtained prior to the meeting; Request additional proxies for those not given from Senators in attendance – Crystal Randolph.

Note: Please send an email to Crystal Randolph (crandolph@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 September 20, 2018 meeting of the Faculty Senate.**
<http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/minutes.php> (See link here for minutes for all faculty senate meetings).
Meeting minutes were approved.
4. Updates from President's Office: Dr. Smith
The Dean of Science and Math search is wrapping up. The faculty salary study will be completed by the end of the fall semester and the staff salary study will begin in Spring 2019. A new system for evaluating student opinion of instruction, which will replace the

current SOI system is being analyzed. The system is Smart Evals and would allow students to use their smart phones to participate in evaluations and hopefully increase response rates. In concern for student retention, Dr. Smith would like to evaluate the current method of grade calculation (i.e., averaging of grades) and to possibly replace the system by replacing the old grade but still include the original grades on the transcript. Some of the issues with the current GPA calculation include students taking courses multiple times to increase GPA and the current method suppresses GPA and affects those receiving the HOPE scholarship. Dr. Smith emphasized this new proposal is not academic forgiveness.

5. Public Safety Report: Alan Rowe, Director of Public Safety.

Alan Rowe reported violent crimes are continuing to decrease with the exception of dating violence which has increased. He proposed this increase is more likely due to students awareness of reporting dating violence as opposed to an actual increase of cases. The semester lighting walk is occurring on November 2nd. If anyone has lighting issues that need to be identified, please send those to the chair of the Safety Committee, which is a subcommittee of Environmental Issues. A Crime Prevention program is available for students. If faculty decides to cancel a class, he/she could contact the police department and the chief or someone from his team will meet with students during that class time. If any faculty are willing to invite the PD to come in for a short presentation about crime prevention, please contact them. Currently 60% of officers are under the tuition assistance program and attending VSU. Chief Rowe thanked faculty for their support of the officers' schedules. A question was posed concerning active shooter training. Chief Rowe responded that the police is available to provide training to departments or colleges if requested. Currently, there is an active shooters drill workshop held each semester.

6. Advising: Rob Freidhoff, Executive Director of Advising.

Rob Friedhoff provided a summary of what he discussed in the meeting. These comments are the actual notes he provided.

Let's start by looking backwards a bit:

- NACADA Report (visit took place in Spring 2016, with recommendations for advising coming out shortly thereafter). Recommendation to look at how advising is structured and for a senior leadership position.
- 70/80 Task Force Recommendations submitted, Sept 2016. Confirmed many of the NACADA recommendations.
- Dr. Smith and Dr. Carr went on a listening tour to hear from faculty and staff. It became clear that the day-to-day tasks of advising were contributing to the heavy workload on faculty.

ARRIVAL

...I arrived in early January and started listening and chatting with folks from around campus

- Met with HR to determine the current structure of job descriptions and pay bands (this was a multi month process)
- Finalized the organizational structure in late March
- Hired the Directors in late April. New Directors began meeting with the Dean's and Department Heads. *We can't thank you enough for the feedback, ideas, and partnerships.*
- Ongoing conversations related to where to house the advising centers. COBA, COEHS, and CONHS stayed put in their current locations. COHSS moved into Ashley Hall (Thank you to Dean LaPlant for all your efforts, and to the History Dept. for the warm welcome).
- Hiring of new advisors took place over the summer, with our final new hire starting just before classes began.

- We made minimal changes to advising at ORN this past summer because of the state of flux we were in, but have already begun discussions on improvements for next summer.

IN THE FALL

- We began fall with a 2-Day Advisor Training and Development Workshop to get us all on the same page philosophically and to introduce our teams to many of our campus partners (Financial Aid, Registrar, IT, Office of Social Equity and Campus Police, etc).
- One of the first tasks was to ensure that all students have an assigned academic advisor. That task has been completed and we will monitor to make certain students have an assigned advisor.
- Monitoring of students in academic probation and those coming back from suspensions, reviewing schedules, responding to Success Portal flags/alerts and direct emails (thanks so much for sending these over to us), pulling retention reports, etc.
- The last several weeks we've been in the thick of registration season.
- Selfish plug here, we've been emailing, calling, texting, and using the MyVSU portal to urge students to get in for advising. If you have a moment in class, if you could give them all a friendly reminder to go see their advisor, we would very much appreciate it.

MOVING FORWARD

- Visual Schedule Builder just announced to full campus. Tutorials and Videos now available (thanks for our friends in IT).
- Space. Our goal is to eventually move the remaining Centers out of the UC and get them closer to their Colleges.
- Partnering with Financial Aid to get more students to complete the FAFSA earlier, to apply for the VSU General Scholarship, and to take action on verification, if selected.
- As part of the USG Momentum Year, we are continuing to work towards ensuring that all students complete 30 credits in the first year, complete their first MATH and ENGL by end of semester two, and take nine credits towards their interest area.
- As part of the Momentum Year, we have also partnered with Career Opportunities to work with our students who are part of one of the 8 Academic Focus Areas.
- We continue to work with IT to enhance the Student Success Portal and are working with them as well to develop Advising Dashboards.
- The Advising and First-Year Programs was soft-launched last week. We appreciate the work done by Communications and Marketing to make this happen. This site will continue to evolve over time.
- As I mentioned earlier, we are also beginning to plan for some updates to how we advise before, and at orientation, for this upcoming summer.
- Later this year, we plan to launch a university wide Advising Council where we can flush out Mission/Vision/Values of Advising, along with the development of a university wide assessment plan for advising.
- We are working hard and will continue to do so as we work towards our goals of retention, persistence, and graduation.

7. Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Task Force: Sheri Noviello, Dean of CONHS and Chair of task force.

Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Task Force has been meeting weekly for 2 hours since September to add goals to VSU's strategic plan. The committee has also proposed two

goal related to diversity and inclusion and communication are added. The committee has also developed specific outcomes for each goal in the strategic plan and are currently disseminating surveys to receive feedback on the committee's proposals. The surveys will be sent to the Dean's council, Department Heads' Council. After analyzing the survey, the committee will make necessary changes and will host faculty forums to receive feedback from faculty. She is proposing this entire process will be completed by February 15, 2019.

8. Updates and Comments: David Kuhlmeier, Faculty Athletic Representative.
David provided an update on student athletes and stated he would like faculty to become more involved with student athletes especially for their well-being. David would like to implement a program in which faculty are paired with student athletes as mentors. David is available on Thursdays from 12:00-2:00 pm at the Field House or his office is located at the Health Sciences and Business Administration building.

9. Old & Unfinished Business
 - a. Statutory Committee Reports
 - i. Academic Committee (fs-stat-ac@valdosta.edu) – Sheri Gravett; Find agendas and minutes of the Academic committee here:
<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/academic-committee.php>
For departments that need to make curriculum changes, requests must be made by February in order to be applied to the next school year catalog. A brief update from the Workload committee was given and more detailed updates will be given in November. Faculty work-load surveys will be administered through departments beginning in February.
 - ii. Committee on Committees (fs-stat-coco@valdosta.edu) – Catherine Bowers
 - iii. Faculty Affairs (fs-stat-fa@valdosta.edu) – James Archibald
The proposed UTPC document link has now been reloaded to the webpage.
 - iv. Faculty Grievance Committee (fs-stat-fgc@valdosta.edu) – Deborah Davis
 - v. Institutional Planning Committee (fs-stat-ipc@valdosta.edu) – Mitch Lockhart
 - 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_04-29-2018
 - ii. Academic_Honors_and_Scholarship_Minutes_08-28-2018Thank you for your assistance in getting and keeping our records up to date. 😊

10. New Business
 - a. Standing Committee Reports:
 - i. Academic Honors & Scholarships (fs-stand-ahs@valdosta.edu) – Blaine Brown
Student award nominations for will be taken until the end of November.
 - ii. Academic Scheduling & Procedures (fs-stand-asp@valdosta.edu) – Jennifer Branscome
 - iii. Athletic Committee (fs-stand-ac@valdosta.edu) – Napoleon Bamfo
 - iv. Diversity and Equity Committee (fs-stand-dec@valdosta.edu) – Anurag Dasgupta
Committee members met to review by-laws.
 - v. Educational Policies (fs-stand-ep@valdosta.edu) – Kelly Davidson Devall
 - vi. Environmental Issues (fs-stand-ei@valdosta.edu) – Donald Thieme
The balloon release policy was reviewed and approved by the Student Government Association. SGA president thanked the faculty for allowing the SGA to provide input on the policy.
 - vii. Faculty Scholarship (fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu) – Luis Gonzalez

- viii. Internationalization and Globalization Committee (fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu) – Cindy Tori
- ix. Library Affairs (fs-stand-la@valdosta.edu) – Mary Block
- x. Student Affairs (fs-stand-sa@valdosta.edu) – Jamie Workman
- By-laws have been amended and voted on by the members.**
- xi. Technology Committee (fs-stand-tc@valdosta.edu) – Attila Cseh

11. General Discussion

A concern was made about not monitoring time-keeping for speakers within the allotted 15 minutes to talk to the full senate. The concern was given that going over time impedes time needed to discuss faculty concerns and issues.

12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Date: 10-25-18

Faculty Senate Attendance: Please **initial** to the **right** of **your name**. If you are a proxy for someone, write **proxy** to the **right** of **his or her name**.

College of the Arts	Initials
Tommy Crane	XX
Jacque Wheeler	XX
Tamara Hardesty	XX
Jesse Cook	XX
Evelyn Davis-Walker	XX
Joe Mason	XX
Mark McQuade	XX
Matt Roehrich	XX
Ryan Smith	XX
Sarah Arnett	XX
College of Business Administration	Initials
Luis Gonzalez	XX
Eric Howington	XX
Cindi Tori	proxy
S. Andrew "Andy" Ostapski	XX
Gary Futrell	
Attila Cseh	XX
College of Education & Human Services	Initials
Lucia Lu	XX
Jennifer Beal	XX
Crystal Randolph	XX
Debbie Paine	proxy
Blaine Browne	XX
Diane Wright	xx
Jennifer Branscome	XX
Alicja Rieger	
Jamie Workman	XX
James Archibald	XX
E-Ling Hsiao	proxy
Steven Kohn	proxy
Hanae Kanno	XX
Charles Talor	XX
Nicole Alemane	xx

Date: 10-25-18

Faculty Senate Attendance: Please **initial** to the **right** of **your name**. If you are a proxy for someone, write **proxy** to the **right** of **his or her name**.

College of the Humanities and Social Sciences	Initials
Babacar Mboup	
Kelly Davidson Devall	xx
Deborah Hall	proxy
Roger McIntyre	proxy
Gabrielle Stellmacher	XX
Kendric Coleman	
Neena Banerjee	XX
Bobbie Ticknor	XX
Daniel BaracsKay	
Marc G. Pufong	
Beatriz Potter	proxy
Mary Block	XX
Brian K. R. Nelson	
Napolean Bamfo	
College of Nursing and Health Sciences	Initials
Kwanza Thomas	proxy
Dee Ott	XX
Heidi Gonzalez	XX
Laura Carter	proxy
College of Science and Mathematics	Initials
Mitch Lockhart	XX
Donald Thieme	XX
Anurag Dasgupta	XX
Ligia Focsan	XX
Linda de la Garza	XX
Peggy Moch	
Jose Velez	xx-
Can Denizman	XX
Chunlei Liu	XX
Corey Anderson	XX
Odum Library	Initials
Catherine Bowers	XX
Deborah Davis	proxy

