



FACULTY SENATE  
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

**Faculty Senate**  
November 20, 2025, 3:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

[Faculty Senate Meeting November 20, 2025.mp4](#)

[November 20 Proxy and Senators.pdf](#)

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

- 1) Call to Order – Susan Boddie
- 2) Declaration of proxies and Sign-in Reminder – Susan Boddie
- 3) **Approval of the minutes of the October 16, 2025, meeting of the Faculty Senate.**

Motion to Approve – Joe Mason; Second – Donna Gosnell. Vote: 33 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.  
Motion passed.

- a) See link here for minutes for all Faculty Senate meetings:  
<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/>

- 4) President's Report – Susan Boddie

Susan wishes everyone doing well during the busiest part of the term and encourages we all pull together, support each other, support our students, and be flexible.

Susan acknowledges one of our senators, a representee from the retirees' community Dr. David Boyd who passed way just this week. He is a friend and colleague to many in the music department; member of the choir assembles. Susan mentions the faculty senate will honor him in the resolution later in the meeting and asks the senators to take a moment of silence and send good wishes to David and his family. The memorial service for Dr. Boyd will take place this Saturday, November 22 at Faith Baptist Church at 11am.

Search process is underway for new VSU President. Time is set aside at the end of the meeting to have a little bit of town hall. The discussion will not be recorded. Susan is on the search committee and would like to be the voice for faculty and members of the VSU community and encourages people to feel free to share their wishes so she can pass on to the search committee. Susan will also send out survey to faculty and staff, just to get Wishlist and characteristics and vision and ideas. Susan will be advocating for us.

The committee is made up of a few folks from out of town, a few members of the VSU community. Ultimately it will be handled by the professional recruiting firm.

Dr. Carvajal as well as the incoming interim President are not present in today's meeting so people can speak freely. Dr. Noviello will also step out so we can have open and transparent conversation.

Fundraiser from Theatre and Dance – **Christmas Carol** supporting scholarship funding for students. It will be open on December 5<sup>th</sup> and run for that weekend and the following weekend, the graduation weekend.

Lastly, Susan acknowledges Raymond Sable, Alan Sanderson, Tracy Martin and the plant operations team. Open house coming up on Saturday. Great to see a lot of activities on campus. Everything back and up since Hurricane Helene and Idalia. We are so grateful for everything the Plant Operations team does, and they are very much appreciated.

Susan wishes everyone a great Thanksgiving!

## 5) Updates from the Office of the President and Academic Affairs- Dr. Sheri Noviello

### **Provost Dr. Noviello Updates:**

Wishes everyone a good Thanksgiving! Can't believe this is the end of the November already. Hopefully you don't eat too much and if you do, then exercise little bit to make up for that. I will keep this short and sweet hopefully. I want to remind and invite you to the lighting of the Palms for Tuesday night at 6pm on the front lawn. It's always a nice festival occasion. It would be nice if it's colder than 85 degrees.

Tomorrow, we have the last Pop in with the provost at 2:30pm in Converse Hall 1103.

I have been asked a couple of times about our upcoming interim President. I want to share my experience with the upcoming interim President. Dr. Crowe has been at VSU as a part-time person for about 1.5 years now working with the Center for South Georgia Regional Impact. I forgot how much academic, higher education experience he had, and honestly didn't know he has been President for 15 years, I believe it was what his CV says. I had several interactions with Dr. Crowe. He is very positive and motivated to help make the transition from Dr, Carvajal to the new permanent President a very smooth one. He is committed to that. He has said a lot of things to let me know that he is very pro faculty. He said things that why didn't we want to celebrate faculty; they are the ones who do the work. I thought you might want to know that he values faculty, the role you have in this institution, and knows that instruction is really what we do and that's the primary reason that our students are here. Our staff is also very important. When I say faculty, I also mean our staff. He has a listening ear and open-door policy. If people request meeting of him, he has been very amenable to meet. He is pretty busy these days. He is trying to do as much between now and 1/1/2026, so he can hit the road running when he is officially the interim President. I think we are in good hands for spring semester. He is not applying for the permanent position. He and his wife already purchased a home in Texas. He already put his notice in he was no longer gonna be working here in his part-time job when the Chancellor reached out and ask if he would be interested. He is truly an interim but he is committed to make a difference and pave a smooth way.

Dr. Crowe reached out to Susan Boddie and came to her office. This shows his consideration for faculty members. He spoke very much about being student-focus and faculty doing well and being happy and content. We will be in very good hands.

**Q. When does the search for the President begin?**

**A.** The search committee will have the official charge from the Chancellor and have a meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The intent is for the new President to be hired here in the mid-summer, hopefully 7/1.

**Q. Is it customary to have one faculty on the entire search committee?**

**A.** Susan Boddie answered that she was contacted by the Chancellor's office and asked to put together a comprehensive list of faculty, staff, board of trustees, members of community stakeholders, students. She sent a comprehensive list.

**A.** Robbyn W. DeSpain, the Director of Strategic Communications and Special Events and COSA At Large Representative has been at VSU for almost 5.5 years. There were several presidents coming in in various universities in the USG in the 5.5 years. Robbyn found that no COSA representatives on any of the search committees, she did find faculty senate heads on all of them, SGA heads on all of them. Maybe for Augusta, one of the bigger institutions, maybe have a second faculty representative, most just the presidents.

**A.** Susan Boddie adds the President of the Alumni Association was just added to the search committee today.

**Q. There was a member of Chamber of Commerce from Savannah, what is a purpose of having a person not so directly associated with the community?**

**A.** The provost answered that she thinks the person might be on the Foundation Board. The open forums they will have for faculty and staff will be more important for you to be involved in those so you can provide your feedback. They will do anonymous survey during searches.

**Q. When was the last hire in the state system?**

**A.** West Georgia

**Q. The BOR has to approve? Was there anything delayed?**

**A.** Yes. Susan answers she was at the USG Faculty Councils meetings. Representatives from many of the USG institutions were there. They were speaking about new presidents; some interim provosts being appointed provosts. And some of the recent president searches. Susan doesn't think there is anything unusual about the timing in any of them.

6) Permanent Committee Reports

a) Academic Committee ([fs-stat-ac@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-ac@valdosta.edu)) – Sheri Gravett;

Academic Committee had its November meeting. You can see the full agenda on our website. We may have sent one item onto the system level. We have a few new language classes. They are adding four

including the basic Korean classes. We need to apply to the University system to add in the options to the core impact area. But the courses will be offered in the coming spring so students can take them.

b) Committee on Committees ([fs-stat-coco@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-coco@valdosta.edu)) – Kristin Kirchner

Samantha Paul serving as proxy for Kristin Kirchner:

- Colleges will be receiving communications from their COCO representatives regarding vacancies coming fall 2026.
- Please email Kristin if you are interested in serving additional terms or would like to check your status of terms.
- Please email COCO if you need to withdraw from your charge early or shuffle to another committee.

c) Faculty Affairs ([fs-stat-fa@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-fa@valdosta.edu)) – Joe Mason

We were optimistic last time thinking we will have the administrative evaluation survey completed, but we are taking it into the committee as a whole on Monday to discuss and vote on the administrative evaluation tool and hopefully to bring it to the January meeting.

d) Faculty Grievance Committee ([fs-stat-fgc@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-fgc@valdosta.edu)) – John Dunn

Susan Boddie gave a little update on the updates to the Faculty Grievance policy. From John a few days ago, they are continuing to work on the policy and hope to have a proposal for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to review before the Christmas Break and hope to have it on the January meeting agenda.

7) Standing Committee Reports

a) Academic Honors & Scholarships ([fs-stand-ahs@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-ahs@valdosta.edu)) – Chalise Ludlow

Joe Mason serving as proxy for Chalise Ludlow.

Chalise wants to remind everyone that the GLARDA award nominations are due tomorrow. Just to make sure to get them in.

b) Academic Scheduling & Procedures ([fs-stand-asp@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-asp@valdosta.edu)) – Kelly Davidson

Christine James serving as proxy for Kelly Davidson.

No report.

c) Athletic Committee ([fs-stand-ac@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-ac@valdosta.edu)) – Meagan

Athletic Committee will be hosting a student athlete award ceremony this December, awards will be given out at half-time for the women's basketball game on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. The game starts at 6pm. So, the half-time will be 6:30pm. Please show up if you are able to.

- d) Human Capital Committee ([fs-stand-hcc@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-hcc@valdosta.edu)) – Selena Nawrocki

The Human Capital Committee met this week. We discussed a draft/proposal that is currently being reviewed. This policy is designed to promote equity, accessibility and belonging throughout our university community.

Susan Boddie – Yes, this is currently under review, we are hoping with some of the revisions that we will have it on our agenda for January.

- e) Educational Policies ([fs-stand-ep@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-ep@valdosta.edu)) – Chris Dillon

No report.

- f) Environmental Issues ([fs-stand-ei@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-ei@valdosta.edu)) – Mike Bochenko

Jiyeon Jung serving as proxy for Mike and there is no report.

- g) Faculty Scholarship ([fs-stand-fs@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-fs@valdosta.edu)) – Mary Beth Rousseau

Faculty Scholarship committee continues to meet as usual to consider faculty applications for funding in the 3 categories. The process is going smoothly. Thanks to COCO!

The Faculty Scholarship Committee can't operate without our wonderful staff. Thank you very much, Monica!

- h) Internationalization and Globalization ([fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu)) – Byeonghwa Park

Megan Mitchell resigned from the committee, and we are looking to hearing from COCO for replacement.

- i) Library Affairs ([fs-stand-la@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-la@valdosta.edu)) – Jodi Cronin

There was a delay in sending out the email of the library contingency funds. Everybody should receive the email today.

- j) Student Affairs ([fs-stand-sa@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-sa@valdosta.edu)) – Jieun You

The committee met on 10/22 at 11am-12. We had very meaningful conversation about how to support our students especially with increasing face-to-face instructions campuswide with the USG prioritizing the in-person classes. We also had discussions on how we can support online students better by frequent check-ins.

- k) Technology Committee ([fs-stand-tc@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-tc@valdosta.edu)) – David Cole

No report. But David has been communicating with Kristin Kirchner, she suggests that I reach out to Kevin Overlaur and see if there is any information he wants to relay to us or anything he wants to be

on our radar. Susan Boddie will also reach out to David with something that came up in the Faculty Council meeting.

8) Unfinished Business

a) The Faculty Grievance policy document is in process.

9) New Business

We, as a group, have a resolution honoring Dr. David Boyd and take a motion on that.

Valdosta State University Senate honors the memory of Dr. Boyd. Dr. Boyd joined our Blazer Nation Family on 9/19/1985 and retired in 2006 as a professor of Math and Computer Science. He returned as a rehired retiree in Math and Computer Science from 8/2006 to 2018 and worked for the VSU Athletics 9/2016 - 1/2025. He enjoyed performing with the VSU Concert Choir, the Musical Union, the Valdosta Choral Guild and the Harmony Grits Barbershop Quartet so real fan of singing. He devoted four decades to operate the score board for VSU basketball and football games, and he will be missed by the community.

Motion to Approve – Nathan Moates; Second – Mitch Lockhart.

Motion Passes.

10) General discussion

The open discussion and forum regarding USG Presidential Search.

11) Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn – ; Second – . Meeting adjourned.

Reports and agenda items due to president: ([sboddie@valdosta.edu](mailto:sboddie@valdosta.edu)) by December 18<sup>th</sup>.

At the request of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee ([fsec@valdosta.edu](mailto:fsec@valdosta.edu)) any actions sent to the president : ([sboddie@valdosta.edu](mailto:sboddie@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 attached as Word documents.

Proxies sent to secretary ([xren@valdosta.edu](mailto:xren@valdosta.edu)) by November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Next Faculty Senate meeting: January 15, 2026 at 3:30 p.m.

## **Attachments**

- A. Agenda for the November 20 meeting
- B. Attachment A – Faculty Senate Calendar 2025-2026
- C. Attachment B – Faculty Senate Minutes 10-16-2025