



FACULTY SENATE

Est. 1991

Eric Howington
President

Debbie Paine
**Vice President/
President Elect**

Crystal Randolph
Secretary

Dee Ott
Parliamentarian

Brian Ring
Past President

Minutes March 28, 2019, 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 request. 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
Meeting was called to order at 3:37 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 February 21, 2019 meeting of the Faculty Senate. <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/minutes.php> (See link here for minutes for all faculty senate meetings).
Minutes were approved by the majority
4. Updates from President's Office: Dr. Smith

Digital measures has been bought by another company and has announced that the rate for the program will increase from \$30K to 55K. The university will discontinue the use of digital measures for this reason but will continue using the program until the end of this fiscal year. All information from Digital Measures will roll over to the new software that will be used. The new software is APL nextED (<https://aplnexted.com/>). The cost will be less than Digital Measures and workflow will be implemented.

The staff compensation study is nearing completion.

The provost's office has transferred money totaling \$60,000 to faculty scholarship for faculty travel. Dr. Smith notes that he puts a high value on faculty travel and scholarship.

Dr. Smith thanked the faculty for their input on the Academic Affairs Strategic Plan. There are grammatical errors that need to be corrected. The plan is currently in Dean's council. Once adjusted, the plan will be shared with all faculty.

5. Proposed Faculty/Staff Internal Newsletter: Keith Warburg, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing

As a part of the strategic plan for the Office of Communications, the office is developing a faculty/staff internal newsletter.

Comments can be sent to communications@valdosta.edu.

6. Old & Unfinished Business

a. Statutory Committee Reports

- i. Academic Committee (fs-stat-ac@valdosta.edu) – Sheri Gravett; Find agendas and minutes here:

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

At 3/11 meeting, committee approved more accelerated “4+1” programs, for example, MBA and Master of Accountancy programs. VSU is continually adding to the accelerated programs.

- ii. Committee on Committees (fs-stat-coco@valdosta.edu) – Catherine Bowers (absent); **report given by Debbie Paine. CoCo needs elections to fill vacant positions to be held as soon as possible for all colleges.**
- iii. Faculty Affairs (fs-stat-fa@valdosta.edu) – Ryan Smith
Faculty Affairs committee has reviewed and discussed proposed changes to the University Tenure & Promotion document remanded to them in April 2018. The committee has decided to recommend that the Senate not accept the remainder of the proposed changes.
- iv. Faculty Grievance Committee (fs-stat-fgc@valdosta.edu) – Deborah Davis
No update
- v. Institutional Planning Committee (fs-stat-ipc@valdosta.edu) – Mitch Lockhart
No update

- 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_08-28-2018

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

7. New Business

- a. Standing Committee Reports: Committee Chairs – Forward your revised bylaws to fsec@valdosta.edu.
- i. Academic Honors & Scholarships (fs-stand-ahs@valdosta.edu) – Blaine Brown
The committee is bringing in the top 5 nominees for the Annie Powell Hopper award. Roberta George, an alumnus, will be the keynote speaker.
 - ii. Academic Scheduling & Procedures (fs-stand-asp@valdosta.edu) – Jennifer Branscome
No update
 - iii. Athletic Committee (fs-stand-ac@valdosta.edu) – Napoleon Bamfo
Nominations are being accepted for student athletes who display exceptional achievement in sports and in the classroom. The student athlete award banquet will be April 24th.
 - iv. Diversity and Equity Committee (fs-stand-dec@valdosta.edu) – Anurag Dasgupta
No update
 - v. Educational Policies (fs-stand-ep@valdosta.edu) – Kelly Davidson
**Report: Repeated Course GPA Calculation. See Attachment A.
The majority voted to approve the updated grading policy; one opposed, no Abstentions.**
 - vi. Environmental Issues (fs-stand-ei@valdosta.edu) – Donald Thieme
No update
 - vii. Faculty Scholarship (fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu) – Luis Gonzalez
The FRSG meeting will be scheduled this month.
 - viii. Internationalization and Globalization Committee (fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu) – Cindy Tori
No update
 - ix. Library Affairs (fs-stand-la@valdosta.edu) – Mary Block
No update
 - x. Student Affairs (fs-stand-sa@valdosta.edu) – Jamie Workman
No update
 - xi. Technology Committee (fs-stand-tc@valdosta.edu) – Attila Cseh
No update

b. **Updates to the Academic Leave Policy. See Attachment B.**

The updates to the Academic Leave Policy was approved by the majority; no abstentions.

- c. Nominations for three Faculty Senate officer positions: 1) Vice President/President-Elect, 2) Secretary, and 3) Parliamentarian.

Dee Ott nominated for parliamentarian; Kelly Davidson for vice president/president-elect; Bobbie Ticknor for secretary

8. General Discussion

Saturday at 5:00 pm, the Red Hots and cheerleaders will be doing a demonstration to showcase their work and will soon defend their title at Daytona beach, FL.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:26 pm.

Attachment A: Repeated Course GPA Calculation

Educational Policies Committee

DRAFT

Repeated Course GPA Calculation

A student may repeat an undergraduate course taken at VSU in order to replace an earlier grade earned in the same course. This policy would go into effect with courses repeated Spring 2019 or later. The courses must be taken and repeated at VSU. When undergraduate courses taken at VSU are repeated at VSU with a higher grade, the *highest grade received* will be counted in the institutional (VSU) GPA calculations. If a student repeats a course at VSU but receives a lower grade, the higher grade from a previous attempt will be used in the calculation of the institutional (VSU) GPA. The repeated course must have the exact same title as the original course. This policy does not apply to courses that must be repeated or are allowed a defined number of repeats as part of the course of study for a major.

The student's transcript and cumulative (Regents) GPA will retain all course attempts and grades. The institutional (VSU) GPA will be used for all purposes except for those mandated by financial aid regulations and other state and federal requirements. The VSU transcript will reflect both GPAs.

This policy applies only to courses that were taken and repeated at VSU. Transferred courses are not calculated in the institutional (VSU) GPA. If a student repeats an institutional course as a transfer/transient student and receives a higher grade in the transfer/transient course, the repeated grade will be excluded from the institutional (VSU) GPA.

Students seeking to repeat a course are encouraged to meet first with an academic advisor or mentor to review why they have not been previously successful in the course and to assess whether they are following the appropriate course of study or major.

Attachment B: Proposed Update to Academic Leave Policy After Split of COAS to COSM & COHSS

Faculty Senate Executive Committee
DRAFT
Academic Leave Policy

Rationale: *After the split of the College of Arts & Science (COAS) effective Fall 2018, the allocation of College Academic Leave numbers needs to be addressed. The link to the current Policy is found on the Academic Affairs page here (and below): <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/academic-leave.php>*

Currently the COAS is listed as having 4 Academic Leaves per calendar year. The FS executive committee proposes that we split these 4 leaves to 2 leaves each for COAS & COSM. The amended wording 1) is highlighted below to the existing policy under paragraph 2 of the “Eligibility” section and also includes 2) annual review rewording and 3) the date of our approval for the website at the end.

“BOR and VSU Policy

In accordance with policy of the Board of Regents, academic leave (referred to as Educational and Professional Leave in Board policy) of one year or less, with or without pay may be granted by the president and reported to the Chancellor.

The policy of the Board is that the leave is granted for only “the purposes of promoting scholarly work and encouraging professional development” (Board of Regents Policy Manual §8.2.7.4).

Academic leave at Valdosta State University will be awarded in accordance with board practice of awarding one semester of leave with full pay and two semesters of leave with half pay. An additional year without pay may be granted with justification endorsed by the department chair, dean, and provost with the approval of the President; additionally, academic leaves of more than one year require the approval of the Chancellor of the USG or her/his designee.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for the academic leave with pay for one semester, a faculty member must have completed at least 3 years as a full-time, tenure-track / tenured faculty member at VSU. However, preference for leaves will be given to full-time, tenured faculty members with six or more years of full-time service to the university. The faculty member will provide a minimum of two years of full-time service to the university upon completion of the academic leave. Additionally, the faculty member can hold no employment elsewhere during leaves with full pay. Failure to meet the agreed upon timeline for production of the approved tangible product means the applicant is ineligible for consideration of further approved leaves, reassigned time release for scholarly activity, and from summer teaching assignments for a period of two years, or until the product is submitted as agreed.

Each academic College may award academic leave each year in proportion to the ratio of full-time, tenured/tenure track faculty members, number of majors and hours. That ratio will currently result in **4 awards per year for the College of Arts and Sciences, 2 awards per year for the College of Science and Math, 2 awards per year for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, 1 for the College of Arts, 3 for the College of Education and Human Services, 1 for the College of Business Administration, 1 in alternate years for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Review of The enrollment basis for this distribution will be reviewed annual as necessary.** An additional 2 “at large”

leaves will be considered for exceptional proposals from any College and vetted through the Deans' Council. No more than one academic leave with pay per seven-year period may be awarded to any individual faculty member. Resources to accommodate the leave will be garnered at the Department/College level through existing avenues available. For example, lecture type classes may allow consolidation of two sections of a course as one; external funds may be applied to support part-time faculty members to instruct courses; funds for reassigned time for scholarship may also be used to support a part-time faculty member. However, the faculty member who is approved for the leave will continue to be paid in full for the semester of the approved academic leave.

Process

Application for academic leave must be completed and submitted to the faculty member's department head by the first day of classes, one academic year (fall, spring) before the requested period. For example, a faculty member requesting a leave for fall semester must have the application completed and to the department head for consideration at the beginning of the previous fall semester. This is necessary to account for course scheduling. Any application approved by the department head must be forwarded to the dean before the end of the semester in which approval by the department head occurred. Unit allocations of leaves will be sent forward from each dean to the Deans' Council. Final recommendations for leave will be sent forward from the Deans' Council to the Provost.

Primary criteria for approval will be the unique product that elevates the stature of Valdosta State University and of the faculty member. All leaves must result in a tangible professional product related to the professional discipline of the faculty member. A description of the product and a timeline for production will be required in the application for the educational leave.

(Approved by Faculty Senate on 4/21/2011)"

(Updated & Approved by Faculty Senate on 3/28/2019)

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

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

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**.

Retirees Association Representative	Initials
David Boyd	
Council on Staff Affairs (non-voting)	Initials
Sterlin Sanders	XX
Council on Staff Affairs (voting)	
Terrance Sullivan	XX
Student Senators (non-voting)	Initials
Jacob Bell	XX
Visitors (please print your name)	Initials
Heidi Cox	XX
Sheri Shaw	XX
Keith Warburg	XX
Amea Thompson	XX
Krishnendu Roy	XX
Joseph Newton	XX
Geoff Reynolds	XX
Vince Miller	XX