

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Louis Levy, Interim President

From: Tracy Woodard-Meyers, Faculty Senate Executive Secretary

Date: May 29, 2012

### **Subject: 2011-2012 Annual Report of the Faculty Senate**

The Faculty Senate convened seven times during the 2011-2012 academic year. Six of the seven Senate meetings began with opening remarks by Interim President Levy. After his remarks, the meeting was turned over to the Executive Secretary. During each meeting, the statutory committees updated the Senate on their activities since the previous meeting. At each meeting, the minutes of the previous Senate meeting and the minutes of the Academic Committee were presented and approved, with no more than minor corrections. Several issues were remanded to committees for consideration. The following is a brief summary of the major activities during 2011-2012. For more detail, please see the official minutes of each Senate meeting, <http://www.valdosta.edu/facsen/meeting/minutes/index.shtml>.

### **MAJOR ISSUES:**

1. At the October 20, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting the Faculty Senate voted to revise the Faculty Evaluation Model's Appendix C by renaming the Annual Faculty Activity Report and Action Plan (AFARAP) Section B which is now "Professional Growth and Productivity" to include the word "Scholarship." The Faculty Senate voted to change the title to "Scholarship, Professional Growth, and Productivity."
2. At the October 20, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting the Faculty Senate voted to change the admission standards to require a total SAT score of 900 (reading and mathematics).
3. At February 16, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting the Faculty Senate voted to establish an award for Excellence in Teaching for part-time faculty.
4. At the March 22, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting the Faculty Senate voted to implement Digital Measures as a university-wide faculty data system.
5. At the April 19, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting the Faculty Senate voted to change the structure and membership of the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
6. At the May 17, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting, the Faculty Senate voted to adopt a Resolution declaring their Opposition to the Concealed Carry of Firearms on Campus.
7. At the May 17, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting, the Faculty Senate voted to adopt guidelines for the promotion of Lecturer to Senior Lecturer in the Tenure and Promotion Policies and Procedures.

8. At the May 17, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting, the Faculty Senate voted the following members as their 2012-2013 officers:

- a. President: Tracy Woodard-Meyers
- b. Vice President/President Elect: Ed Walker
- c. Secretary: Diane Holliman
- d. Parliamentarian: Aubrey Fowler

**MAJOR ISSUES THAT WILL CARRY INTO THE 2012-2013 ACADEMIC YEAR:**

- 1. A proposal to update and improve the current VSU Faculty Handbook (remanded to Faculty Affairs Committee September 16, 2010).
- 2. Possibility of providing a 12 month payout for 10 month faculty (remanded to Faculty Affairs committee September 15, 2011).
- 3. Possibility of establishing a campus wide early alert program (remanded to Faculty Affairs committee September 15, 2011).
- 4. Possibility of establishing a faculty emergency notification policy (remanded to Faculty Affairs committee October 20, 2011/ remanded to Sue Mitchell on November 17, 2011).
- 5. Request from Dean's Council regarding an evaluation of the current final exam policy to determine if changes need to be made to be congruent with current practices. Evaluate policy to also determine if changes need to be made in order to accommodate online courses (remanded to Education Policy committee February 16, 2012—remanded back to EPC on April 19, 2012).
- 6. Review and update Faculty Senate Statutory and Standing Committee responsibilities (remanded to Committee on Committees February 16, 2012).