



## FACULTY SENATE

Est. 1991

Kelly Davidson  
**President**

Michele Blankenship  
**Vice President/  
President Elect**

Hoa Nguyen  
**Secretary**

Peggy Moch  
**Parliamentarian**

Debbie Paine  
**Past President**

### Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes April 22, 2021, 3:30 pm Online: MS Teams

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](mailto:fsec@valdosta.edu)), any actions sent to the President ([kfdavidson@valdosta.edu](mailto:kfdavidson@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 a Word.doc attachment(s).

For the benefit of record keeping, we ask that senators and visitors please identify themselves when speaking to an issue during the meeting. Please see the online participation guide below. All senators must sign the online attendance roster order to be counted as present. If you are serving as a senator's proxy or are attending as a guest, please place a note in the chat feature if it has not already been sent to Dr. Hoa Nguyen ([hnguyen@valdosta.edu](mailto:hnguyen@valdosta.edu)), as specified below.

**Attendance link here:**

<https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2FPages%2FResponsePage.aspx%3Fid%3DQNOIJbyKU0C0vdwSEyqDU4DGNC7nE4IBIELqpw2zy6BUQUVDSUdBR1JLN0xCOEUxRVMYRTVBTThWRS4u&data=02%7C01%7Ckfdavidson%40valdosta.edu%7C915f9f91bedb42b54c3c08d8504853db%7C25a5d3408abc4053b4bddc1213280353%7C0%7C0%7C637347618859330617&sdata=9sBRCiJJxSVI9VdpNEBuf4xoW5RbYI2mC1UU9d1cNg0%3D&reserved=0>

1. Call to Order – Kelly Davidson
  - a. Guidance for online meetings (Attachment A)
2. Reading of proxies obtained prior to the meeting or through online attendance form; Request additional proxies for those not given from Senators in attendance – Hoa Nguyen

**Note:** Please send an email to Hoa Nguyen ([hnguyen@valdosta.edu](mailto:hnguyen@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 March 2021 meeting of the Faculty Senate.**  
<http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/minutes.php> (See link here for minutes for all faculty senate meetings). – Peggy Moch

**4. Resolution to honor Dr. Maggie Viverette (Attachment B)**

**Dr. Kelly Davidson:**

**Dr. Davidson discussed the attachment B resolution to honor Dr. Maggie Viverette for her position as Director of the Office of Social Equity and her substantial contributions to upholding the mission of Valdosta State University to create and support inclusive learning experiences in the classroom and community. The resolution acknowledged how Dr. Viverette exceeded all expectations to create positive and sustainable change for students, faculty, staff, and community members during her years of service at VSU. Further, her dedication to the work of equity, diversity, and inclusion for all stake holders lead to enduring connections and collaboration between varied offices and organizations across the campus and in the surrounding community. Therefore let it be resolved that Valdosta State University faculty recognizes and honors the work and lasting impact of Dr. Maggie Viverette for all members of the campus community by providing recognition in her name to be determined by the Valdosta State University President.**

**Faculty thanked Dr. Davidson for drafting this resolution to honor the wonderful work of Dr. Viverette and voted to pass the resolution.**

**5. Updates from President's Office: Dr. Carvajal and/or Dr. Smith**

**Dr. Smith:**

**Dr. Smith stated Dr. Carvajal's regrets for missing this meeting. This is the first meeting Dr. Carvajal is unable to attend this year, as he was called out of town, but wishes he was able to attend. Dr. Smith then gave the following updates:**

- 1. Dr. Smith acknowledged the faculty and staff contributions to finishing the academic year without any closure or disruptions from COVID-19. He also highlighted the students' efforts to be responsible and abide by the COVID safety policies.**
- 2. Spring Commencement is two weeks away. Dr. Smith encouraged faculty to attend in their regalia and inform their dean's office to ensure there are enough seats on the field. There will be no processional, and the ceremony will be socially-distanced with masks.**
- 3. Dr. Smith noted \$57,000 in faculty research seed grants this next fiscal year, which is a high priority. The upcoming year, budgets are still lean and even though the university system legislature passed a bill that is helpful, the funds did not make up for the 10% cut from last spring semester.**
- 4. In the fall semester, the chancellor stated 3-feet social distancing in classrooms will replace the 6-feet guide. Thus, Dr. Smith noted the possibility of returning to a much more normal fall than last year and most classes will be back to a face-to-face capacity. VSU classrooms will rely less on the hyflex structure and the plan is to assess classrooms for the 3-feet physical capacity. Currently, summer enrollment numbers are high, trending from 16-20% up from last summer. Fall enrollment numbers are encouraging.**

**In response to questions:**

- 1. Dr. Smith stated wearing masks indoors in all campus buildings will continue in fall. At this time, students are not required to be vaccinated before returning to campus. Some campuses, almost all of which are private universities, have been requiring students to be**

**vaccinated.**

- 2. The funding for the chief officer position in the President's office is from Melinda Cutchins line, which is not a new position. In addition, departmental budgets are not being trimmed to fund the eDegree program. Budgets were trimmed to balance the budget ledger, based on the departmental operating budgets and budget reductions. The funds for the eDegree are an investment to keep enrollment solid through the anticipated dip in student enrollment to come.**

**1. Old & Unfinished Business**

**a. Statutory Committee Reports**

- i. Academic Committee ([fs-stat-ac@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-ac@valdosta.edu)) – Sheri Gravett; Find agendas and minutes here: <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/academic-committee.php>**

**The Academic Committee met April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The meeting minutes are posted on their website. Dr. Gravett discussed a new degree in criminal justice that is changing to an M.S. in criminal justice administration. Coursework have been changed to reflect this new exciting degree for that program. Dr. Gravett noted the new catalogue should be coming out aroundt mid May, so they are working hard to publish the new online catalogue for 2021-2022. She encouraged everyone to review the new catalogue for corrections.**

- ii. Committee on Committees ([fs-stat-coco@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-coco@valdosta.edu)) – Nicole Alemanne**

**Dr. Alemanne stated seats are being filled for the committees and they are making good progress.**

- iii. Faculty Affairs ([fs-stat-fa@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-fa@valdosta.edu)) – Daesang Kim**

**No report.**

- iv. Faculty Grievance Committee ([fs-stat-fgc@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-fgc@valdosta.edu)) – Mary Block**

**No report.**

- v. Institutional Planning Committee ([fs-stat-ipc@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stat-ipc@valdosta.edu)) – Taralyn Hartsell**

**The IPC met early in the semester to discuss the role of IPC in the university and the majority voted the committee is no longer needed on this campus. Thus, the committee recommended disbanding to apply resources to other needed areas. Dr. Davidson will give further information on the process of disbanding a standing statutory committee. Dr. Smith noted previous work from this committee have been taken care of by other committees, and thus this committee is no longer needed on campus. However, given its status as a statutory committee, two-thirds vote of the entire VSU faculty is required to disband the committee. One option is to keep the seats vacant in fall, and the committee may remain in existence without any members, until the statutes change or if the committee is needed in the future. Another option is to move**

towards a vote. Dr. Smith noted the current movement and potential opportunity to streamline the statutes. The committee was thanked for the hard work they have contributed.

- b. Meeting minutes from the various committees should be sent to [fsec@valdosta.edu](mailto:fsec@valdosta.edu) AND to [archives@valdosta.edu](mailto: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\_04-29-2020 ii. Academic\_Honors\_and\_Scholarship\_Minutes\_08-28-2020 Thank you for your assistance in getting and keeping our records up to date.



## 2. New Business

### a. Standing Committee Reports:

- i. Academic Honors & Scholarships ([fs-stand-ahs@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-ahs@valdosta.edu)) – Fan Hao Nie

**The committee met on March 29<sup>th</sup>. They have interviewed the finalists and selected the winner for the Annie Hopper Award.**

- ii. Academic Scheduling & Procedures ([fs-stand-asp@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-asp@valdosta.edu)) – Ian Anderson

**The committee presented the Final Exam Scheduling (Attachment C) and Academic Calendar 2021-2026 (Attachment D). The 5-year rotation is a replicate of the template from the last 5-year academic calendar. The previous final exam schedule and the current scheduling grid have evolved, but not together, resulting in four classes in the scheduling grid that have no dedicated final exam time and two final exam slots that were not utilized. The committee was able to shift the final exam schedule to follow the template set forth by the university.**

**Minor revisions included:**

- 1. Flipped the asterick in the singular exam section to improve readability.**
- 2. Readjusted the three summer 2024 sessions back by one week.**
- 3. One of the short sessions contain 16 classs periods. Summer 4 in 2023 was shortened by one day due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.**
- 4. In 5-year rotation, the only modifications were to summer 2021 where everything was pushed back by one week.**

**In response to questions:**

- 1. Summer 2, 3, and 4 originally start on June 5<sup>th</sup>, but they now start on June 12<sup>th</sup> running through August 1<sup>st</sup>.**
- 2. For 2024, there will be time to plan for the budgetment impact and the committee will follow up with Dr. Smith.**
- 3. A final copy of the schedule with other important semester dates such as drop/add dates will be sent out in coordination with the registrar's office.**

**The faculty senate voted to approve the corrections to the schedule.**

- iii. Athletic Committee ([fs-stand-ac@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-ac@valdosta.edu)) – Mallory Lane

**The committee highlighted ideas for spring nominations of students for the athletic banquet.**

- iv. Diversity and Equity Committee ([fs-stand-dec@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-dec@valdosta.edu)) – Jiyeon Jung & Hoa Nguyen

**No report.**

- v. Educational Policies ([fs-stand-ep@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-ep@valdosta.edu)) – Meagan Arrastia-Chisholm

**No report.**

- vi. Environmental Issues ([fs-stand-ei@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-ei@valdosta.edu)) – Fred Knowles

**No report.**

- vii. Faculty Scholarship ([fs-stand-fs@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-fs@valdosta.edu)) – Rudy Prine

**No report.**

- viii. Internationalization and Globalization ([fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu)) – Benjamin Harper

**No report.**

- ix. Library Affairs ([fs-stand-la@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-la@valdosta.edu)) – Diane Holliman

**No report.**

- x. Student Affairs ([fs-stand-sa@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-sa@valdosta.edu)) – Brian Ward

**The committee met April 20<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are sought for the upcoming commencement.**

- xi. Technology Committee ([fs-stand-tc@valdosta.edu](mailto:fs-stand-tc@valdosta.edu)) – Sakhavat Mammadov

**An email was sent to solicit technology training needs and teaching online. A reminder will be sent to faculty.**

### 3. General Discussion

**Nominations for the Executive Committee Elections were called in the last meeting and via email. Chunlei Liu was nominated for the Vice President/President-Elect position. Melissa Pihos was nominated for Parliamentarian. Taralynn Hartsell was nominated for Secretary. The nominations were voted into their positions.**

### 4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM.

### Attendance and Proxy

NAME OF ATTENDEE	AFFILIATION	VISITOR?	PROXY IF APPLICABLE
Peggy Moch	Science and Mathematics	No	
Kameron Zimmer	Education & Human Services	Yes	
Nicole Alemanne	Education & Human Services	No	
Lenese Colson	Education & Human Services	No	
Krishnendu Roy	Science and Mathematics	Yes	
Michele Blankenship	Nursing and Health Sciences	No	
Kelly Gamble Mathis	Business Administration	No	
Robert Taylor	Odum Library	No	
Deborah Paine	Education & Human Services	No	
Meagan Wood	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Melissa Wolfe	Student Senators	No	
Laurel Yu	Arts	No	
Kristy Litster	Education & Human Services	No	Brian Gerber
Ian Andersen	Arts	No	
F. E. Knowles, Jr.	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Linda de la Garza	Science and Mathematics	No	
Selena Nawrocki	Arts	No	
Steven Kohn	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Melissa Pihos	Arts	No	
Chialing Lynn Ho	Arts	No	
Bobbie Ticknor	Humanities and Social Sciences	Yes	
Charles R. Talor	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Chunlei Liu	Science and Mathematics	No	
Brian Ward	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Taralynn Hartsell	Education & Human Services	No	
J. Mitchell Lockhart	Science and Mathematics	No	
Evelyn Davis-Walker	Arts	No	Mark Errol
Daesang Kim	Education & Human Services	No	
Mallory Lane	Nursing and Health Sciences	No	
A.J. Ramirez	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Blair Thomas	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Nandan Jha	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
Sharon Gravett	Humanities and Social Sciences	Yes	
Lee Grimes	Education & Human Services	No	n.a.
Chialing Lynn Ho	Arts	No	
Gopeekrishnan Sreenilayam	Science and Mathematics	No	
Attila Cseh	Business Administration	No	Cindy Tori
Meagan Arrastia-Chisholm	Education & Human Services	No	
E-Ling Hsiao	Education & Human Services	No	

<b>Mary Block</b>	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
<b>Rudy K Prine</b>	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
<b>Eric Howington</b>	Business Administration	No	
<b>Xiaoai Ren</b>	Education & Human Services	Yes	Fanhao Nie
<b>Becky da Cruz</b>	Humanities and Social Sciences	Yes	
<b>Hanae Kanno</b>	Education & Human Services	No	Dr. Diane Holliman in Education & Human Services
<b>Katharine Adams</b>	Education & Human Services	No	
<b>Matthew Roehrich</b>	Arts	No	
<b>Joseph Mason</b>	Arts	No	
<b>Anurag Dasgupta</b>	Science and Mathematics	No	
<b>Matt McGuier</b>	Education & Human Services	Yes	
<b>Sakhavat Mammadov</b>	Education & Human Services	No	
<b>Ashley Cooper</b>	Council on Staff Affairs	No	
<b>Mark McQuade</b>	Arts	No	Benjamin Harper
<b>M. Denise Lovett</b>	Humanities and Social Sciences	No	
<b>Huzeyfe Cakmakci</b>	Education & Human Services	No	
<b>Luis Gonzalez</b>	Business Administration	No	