



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 August 20, 2020, 3:30 pm Jennett Hall 1111 and Online through 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), any actions sent to the President (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. In order to follow guidelines from the CDC and other health organizations, please carefully note the following:

1. All senators must sign the roster in order to be counted present. We will be using an online roster which can be found by clicking [this link](#) on the day of the meeting. If you have a senator's proxy, please include this information using the online form, in addition to emailing Hoa Nguyen (hnnnguyen@valdosta.edu).
2. Social distancing and the use of masks will be required for those attending in person. JH 1111 can accommodate approximately 67 persons and all seating arrangements must remain in position for other groups and classes.
3. If you choose to attend the meeting in person, note that we will be using a standing microphone rather than passing multiple microphones. Please use the microphone to assist with accurate recording of the minutes and practice social distancing when waiting to pick up your name plate, use the microphone, etc. In addition, senators should keep a six-foot distance from others when entering and exiting the room.
4. Given that we will have an online option for attendance, the following points are very important for record-keeping and parliamentary rules:

- a. Please reserve the chat feature for voting only. If you would like to join the discussion while attending online, use the “raise hand” feature and the Executive Committee will work to ensure that everyone is able to participate in a timely and organized manner.
- b. We must use the chat feature for voting. This cannot be done using the “raise hand” function given that names for members and proxies may not always be shown.
- c. If you are not actively speaking, please mute your microphone in order to avoid feedback and/or background noise interruptions.

Thank you for your understanding as we determine how best to participate in the important work of shared governance during this exceptional time. We appreciate your collective efforts in creating a culture of safety and community.

1. Call to Order – Kelly Davidson

The meeting was called to order at 3:30PM.

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 (hnnnguyen@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.

Proxies:

Dr. Linda De La Garza served as a proxy for Dr. Ligia Foscan.

Dr. Meagan Arrastia-Chisholm served as a proxy for Dr. Diane Holliman.

Dr. Shaun Ault served as a proxy for Dr. Krishnendu Roy.

Attendees: Drs. Kelly Davidson, Debbie Paine, Peggy Moch, Michele Blankenship, Hoa Nguyen, Rudy Prine, Gopeekrishnan Sreenilayam, Taralynn Hartsell, Daesang Kim, Attila Cseh, Ian Andersen, Susan Blankenship, Jiyoong Jung, Fanhao Nie, Linda De La Garza, Mark McQuade, Sharon Gravett, Lenese Colson, Paul Leavy, Meagan Wood, Mark Errol, Melissa Wolfe, Fred Knowles, Joseph Mason, Nicole Alemanne, Kristy Litster, Katharine Adams, Steven Kohn, Luis Gonzalez, Theresa Grove, Kenneth Smith, Nandan Jha, Shaun Ault, Cynthia Tori, Mary Block, Matthew Roehrich, Jamie Workman, Melissa Pihos, Meagan Arrastia-Chisholm, Chunlei Liu, Robert Taylor, Eric Howington, Laura Carter, Michael Thomas, Barbara Lane, Ericka Parra, Jamie Landau, Evelyn Davis-Walker, Andrea Ramirez, Laurel Yu, Lee Grimes, Ashley Cooper, Brian Gerber, E-Ling Hsiao, Jack Lockhart, Sakhavat Mammadov, Vincent Miller, Bobbie Ticknor, Ryan Smith, Traycee Martin, Can Denizman, Anurag Dasgupta, David Boyd, Peggy Moch, Hanae Kanno, Jose Velez, Brian Ward, and President Carvajal and Provost Smith.

3. Approval of the minutes of the February, March, and April 2020 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
There were no changes to the February, March, and April meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

4. Updates from President’s Office: Dr. Carvajal and/or Dr. Smith
Dr. Carvajal:

Dr. Carvajal thanked all of the faculty for their response and hard work during this time. He noted that while everything is different and new, he recognized all of the work everyone has contributed. He also commented on the efforts of faculty to accommodate students and the SGA president, Melissa Wolfe's assistant in the student realm. Dr. Carvajal noted that the first week of class there has been positive feedback from students about their courses.

He has the following updates:

- 1. Enrollment numbers are going well and we are well ahead of last year's anticipated numbers, especially given the challenges of COVID.**
- 2. VSU is on track for the request in designing a new Performing Arts Center which will replace the current Ashley Cinemas location. The \$180,000 project will house programming from the theater department.**
- 3. There is a need for online adult learning, and we plan to feature programs that tackle these needs. About two thirds or 65,000 Georgians attend colleges outside of the state, and this is a potential untapped population that we can service. A consistent look and feel of the online curriculum plays a role in assisting the students who choose these programs. The expertise of those in eLearning will provide support in the creation of this program.**

In response to questions for Dr. Carvajal:

- 1. Dr. Carvajal acknowledged they will look into how the deadline of the drop/add period affects students who take Friday classes.**
- 2. The business plan for the online adult learning programs will include additional resources and support for faculty. The focus is more on undergraduate programs at this time, as there is already quality online graduate education at VSU.**
- 3. The online programs are open to other areas, though currently focus on organizational leadership, interdisciplinary, psychology, and management.**

Dr. Smith:

Dr. Smith commented that faculty and students have been adjusting well in a short period of time. Students have been following the social distancing guidelines and exercised flexibility. Dr. Smith also noted the importance of being flexible with the attendance policy.

In response to questions for Dr. Smith:

- 1. Dr. Smith noted that we are waiting to see where our budget is in September, as we are still dealing with the reduction of 12.1 million dollars from the 10% decrease in state allocations.**
- 2. There is currently no funding for seed grants, and it will take a few weeks to discuss how much funding will be available this upcoming year.**
- 3. USG system is doing everything they can to avoid furloughs.**
- 4. Contact tracing of students will be done by a local source. VSU is assisting only in the preliminary stage of contact tracing for students.**

5. Updates from Human Resources: Jeanine Boddie-La Van

Ms. Jeanine Boddie-La Van reminded everyone to complete the COVID training available in BlazeVIEW. The COVID Taskforce will help monitor the impact of the pandemic and look at the data on a regular basis. They will be as transparent as possible. Ms. Boddie-La Van encouraged people to report traces of COVID through the reporting system available in MyVSU. Students are not required to disclose their health status, but can isolate and quarantine appropriately and use the COVID reporting system.

6. Updates from eLearning & CELT: Jaime Landau

Dr. Jamie Landau encouraged everyone to view the recorded trainings on BlazeVIEW from eLearning. BlazeVIEW 101 also has a place where resources are shared for teaching online and strategies for HyFlex courses, use of mobile technology, and care ethics training when teaching with masks.

7. 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>

Meeting minutes have been posted.

- ii. Committee on Committees (fs-stat-coco@valdosta.edu) – Nicole Alemanne

Dr. Nicole Alemanne will contact college Committee on Committee representatives regarding missing senators.

- iii. Faculty Affairs (fs-stat-fa@valdosta.edu) – Daesang Kim

The committee is finished with the Faculty Evaluation Model and the draft will be proposed to Senate at the next meeting.

- iv. Faculty Grievance Committee (fs-stat-fgc@valdosta.edu) – Mary Block

No report.

- v. Institutional Planning Committee (fs-stat-ipc@valdosta.edu) – Taralyn Hartsell

No report.

- 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_04-29-2020 ii. Academic_Honors_and_Scholarship_Minutes_08-28-2020 Thank you for your assistance in getting and keeping our records up to date.



8. New Business

a. Standing Committee Reports:

- i. Academic Honors & Scholarships (fs-stand-ahs@valdosta.edu) – Juliana Edmonds
- ii. Academic Scheduling & Procedures (fs-stand-asp@valdosta.edu) – Ian Anderson

The outgoing chair reported on the moving of Homecoming Weekend for Fall 2021 as proposed by the Athletic Director. This decision was made and reported to the Senate at our February 2020 meeting. The other item for discussion is the Homecoming Weekend move. During this meeting, the notion of the "dead day" prior to finals was reintroduced. The committee agreed to explore the potentials of creating a "dead day" on the Monday of Finals week, allowing the students a full and unencumbered day for study and exam prep. To make up for this lost academic day, the idea of removing a day from either Fall Break or Thanksgiving break was discussed. At the end of the meeting, it was determined that a follow-up meeting would be necessary.

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

No report.

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

No report. The next meeting is scheduled in two weeks.

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

No report. The next meeting has been scheduled.

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

The committee will be meeting next week.

- vii. Faculty Scholarship (fs-stand-fs@valdosta.edu) – Rudy Prine

No report.

- viii. Internationalization and Globalization (fs-stand-igc@valdosta.edu) – TBD

Does not currently have a chair.

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

No report.

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

No report.

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

No report.

9. General Discussion

None

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31PM.