



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

est. 1991

Chairman

President H. C. Bailey

Vice Chairman

Vice President L. Levy

Executive Secretary

Dr. R. Hull

Parliamentarian

Dr J. Wheeler

Minutes of September 21, 2000

The Valdosta State University Faculty Senate meeting convened at 3:30 p.m. in the University Center Little Theater. Members present were: President and Chair – H.C. Bailey; Vice President, Academic Affairs – L. Levy; Executive Secretary – R. Hull; Parliamentarian – J. Wheeler; Ex-Officio Senators: J. Brignati, R. Mast, R. Devery (absent) L. Milbrandt, M. Corbitt, K. Stanley (absent), T. Reed (absent), M. Reichenbach, E. Clark, P. Allen, N. Argyle, G. Gaumond (proxy E. Clark), P. Cleveland (absent); College of the Arts: F. Barnas, J. Hornsby, M. Savoie, C. Coons, P. McNeill, T. Harding, D. Farwell; College of Arts and Sciences: B. Bergstrom, T. Manning, B. Derrick, J. Elza, C. Johnson, M. Laughlin, J. Petrella, D. Robinson, E. Sheeley, V. Soady, T. Thompson, T. Meyers, D. Bogyo, L. Hanes, A. Lazari (proxy S. Goel), D. Sewell, M. Smith, C. Walker (absent), B. Adler, S. Goel, H. Harper, J. Hiers, S. Seyfarth (proxy D. Sewell), J. Wilkinson (absent); College of Business Administration: C. Superville, M. Holland, P. Fadil, B. Caster, A. Reddy; College of Education: L. Carter, S. Harvill (absent), G. Langford, L. Moore, A. Recesso, F. Smith (proxy B. Bergstrom), R. McClung, M. Garber, J. Hummell, L. Wiley, C. Backes (proxy A. Gibbs), B. Gerber, A. Gibbs, A. Brovey, K. Wells, M. Venn; College of Nursing: L. Marinelli, D. Ebron, D. Roush; Division of Social Work: M. Meacham; Odum Library: K. Smith, S. Thomas (proxy K. Smith); Visitors: Registrar's Office - Bobbie O'Hara, Gerald Wright; Arts and Sciences – D. Boyd.

1. H. Bailey called the meeting to order.
2. **Approval of the April 20, 2000 meeting** – H. Bailey asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. B. Bergstrom requested that the transcript of the tree discussion be included as an addendum to the minutes. B. Derrick requested that “planed” on page two of the minutes be changed to “planted.” **The minutes were approved as amended.**
3. Unfinished Business – There was no unfinished business.
4. New Business
 - a. Reports from the Academic Committee – L. Levy stated that the Academic Committee made several course revisions, curriculum modifications and course additions, such as credit hour changes. There were also several qualitative changes in graduate program admission standards, creating qualitative and quantitative graduate admission requirements. The Committee tabled the Bachelor of Science degree in Educational Interpreting because it needed to be researched further and will be resubmitted to the Committee. The Nurse Practitioner track in the College of Nursing was deactivated because of lack of demand. Several Marriage and Family Therapy courses were also deactivated in the College of Arts and Sciences. A new track in Deaf and Hard of Hearing was approved in the Bachelor of Science degree in Education. They also added some courses in Areas F and B in the College of Education. The Committee revised the retention requirement for

the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. B. Derrick made a motion to separate the Miscellaneous information on Page 4 of Attachment #3 from the rest of the document. **This motion was approved.** H. Bailey asked for a motion to approve the Academic Committee minutes. **The minutes were approved.** B. Derrick made a motion to resubmit the Miscellaneous information regarding the E core course offerings included in the Academic Committee minutes to the Academic Committee so that an *ad hoc* committee can be formed to examine it. L. Levy stated that the Academic Committee intended to form an *ad hoc* committee to examine the E core curriculum, as a small number of students are taking core online courses. He stated that the Miscellaneous section was included in the Academic Committee minutes for information purposes. **This was approved.**

- b. Report from the Committee on Committees – D. Roush stated that there was no report.
- c. Report from the Institutional Planning Committee (IPC)– M. Smith stated that the IPC had met twice since the April Senate meeting to discuss the Program Review Document. They approved the document included with the agenda as Attachment #4 and recommended the Senate’s approval. They also met on September 18, 2000 for an organizational meeting. The committee plans to conduct the annual review of the VSU mission statement and will review the budget amendment process. L. Milbrandt stated that it would be difficult for department heads to report on the viability and productivity data as it appears on Attachment #4, Page 4 of the agenda and asked that it be made more specific. B. Derrick referred to the references about a review team on Page 2 of Attachment #4 and asked what the make up of that team should be. She also asked how the review teams would be scheduled, if they are made up of off campus individuals. D. Bogyo referred to John Oliver’s previous report to the Senate, during which he suggested, on behalf of the task force, that the review team be composed of individuals outside the university. L. Levy stated that it had been suggested that this review process be done on a case by case basis with various departments. B. Derrick made a motion to remit the program review document back to the IPC until they can compose a final version of it. J. Hiers stated that a program review document had to be passed by the Senate in order to report to SACS on VSU’s progress on their recommendations and to avoid a follow up visit. J. Elza stated that department heads could begin gathering the program review information and could ask questions of the committee as they arise. L. Levy suggested that the Senate pass the program review in a formative way in order to report to SACS that the program review process is being piloted in the university. B. Derrick amended her motion to indicate the policy be remanded to the committee for further study but that the Senate give the Vice President for Academic Affairs’ office permission to use the program document for a piloting study in the interim. **This was approved.**
- d. Report from the Faculty Affairs Committee – B. Caster stated that the committee had an organizational meeting on September 13, 2000 and divided the tasks that had been remanded to them and have begun working on them.
- e. Report from the Faculty Grievance Committee – D. Bogyo stated that there was no report.
- f. Report from the Senate Executive Secretary
 - 1. **Proposed 2000-2001 Faculty Senate Calendar** – R. Hull referred to Attachment #5 included with the agenda and asked for the Senate’s approval. **The calendar was approved.**
 - 2. **Proposed Calendars for Spring Semester 2002 and Summer Semester 2002 from the Academic Scheduling and Procedures Committee** – M. Corbitt asked when Spring Break is scheduled in relation to midterm of Spring Semester 2002. M. Garber stated the committee scheduled the break to better conform with the public school systems for the benefit of students who are student teaching. **The calendars were approved.**

3. **Proposed revision of process of posting midterm grades from the Educational Policies Committee** – G. Wright stated that this revision would go into effect Spring Semester 2001. **The proposed revision was approved.**
4. R. Hull stated that the Environmental Issues Committee recommended that the Proposal for the One Mile Branch Outdoor Classroom and Greenway be brought from the table. The Executive Committee recommended that this be remanded back to the Environmental Issues Committee so that the President can be consulted regarding incorporating the outdoor classroom and greenway into the Master Plan.
5. R. Hull stated that the Educational Policies Committee recommended that there be no university-wide dress code, but the Executive Committee remanded this item back to the Committee, because the issue of a professor's authority to set dress standards and expectations for that professor's classes had not been addressed.
6. R. Hull stated that a request from Richard Lee, Assistant to the Dean of Students for Judicial Affairs, to consider revising the Academic Dishonesty/Disciplinary Policy and Procedure in the 1999-2000 VSU Student Handbook was remanded to the Educational Policies Committee.
7. R. Hull stated that the proposal to add the category "sexual orientation" to the list of bases upon which VSU will not discriminate, requesting that the proposal be stated in the form of an additional paragraph, was remanded back to the Minority and Diversity Issues Committee. It was recommended that the committee check with the university attorney regarding the implications of having a policy different from the one approved by the Board of Regents.
8. R. Hull stated that the Executive Committee proposes that the fee for reapplication for graduation be waived for students graduating within one year of the anticipated date of graduation. This proposal was brought up previously and will require a change in the Undergraduate Bulletin. J. Brignati asked if the change will be made in an appropriate time frame to be included in the Undergraduate Bulletin. L. Levy stated that time would allow for its inclusion into the 2001-2001 Undergraduate Bulletin. J. Brignati made a motion that the proposal be passed, effective with the inclusion in the Undergraduate Bulletin. L. Milbrandt asked if students graduating before the publication of the new Bulletin would still be responsible for paying two graduation fees if they graduated prior to the anticipated date. D. Roush asked if this proposal would only affect the Undergraduate Bulletin and not the Graduate Bulletin. G. Wright stated that the proposal could be effective immediately by making the graduation fee valid for one year after payment. The motion was amended to state that the proposal would become effective immediately by making application fee for graduation valid for one year after payment and that the proposal for waiving the fee for students graduating within one year of the anticipated date would be printed in the Undergraduate and Graduate 2001-2002 Bulletins. **This was approved.**
9. R. Hull stated that several concerns regarding the Administrative Evaluations, summer employment, and merit evaluation were remanded to the Faculty Affairs Committee. They included: a request for a more user-friendly evaluation form; a request to include Program Directors in the list of administrators to be evaluated, a request to allow teaching assistants who function as faculty the opportunity to participate in the Administrative Evaluations; a request that consideration be given to a uniform merit evaluation policy; and, a request that we reconsider the Senior faculty summer employment policy. He made a correction to the agenda and stated that a request to review the Thanksgiving Break and how we could start earlier to handle it differently was remanded to the Academic Scheduling and Procedures Committee.

10. R. Hull stated that the revised Tree Preservation and Maintenance Policy had been remanded back to the Environmental Issues Committee requesting that the revisions be presented in a format that clearly shows the additions, deletions, and modifications.
 11. R. Hull stated that the Executive Committee asked the Student Services Committee to submit a response to the February 9, 2000 remanded items.
 12. R. Hull stated that the Executive Committee remanded to the Educational Policies Committee a request to establish a general policy regarding student absence where such absence is due to student participation in an approved extracurricular event.
 13. R. Hull stated that a request to look into retaining or replacing Peggy Cleveland on Committee on Committees has been remanded to that committee, as her term has expired.
5. General Discussion - B. Bergstrom asked that the following questions be researched and reported to the Senate at the next meeting. These questions were originally raised during the general discussion at the April 20, 2000 Faculty Senate meeting: 1.) Exactly how many trees of what species were removed from campus on that day? 2.) What were the sizes in diameter at breast height of the pine trees? 3.) Who cut the trees, who bought the trees, what revenue, if any, was generated by their sale and, where did those monies go? 4.) What was the fate of the lumber and/or pulp from the pines? Dr. Bailey pledged at that time to find answers to these and other questions pertaining to the current of trees on the Biology-Chemistry building construction site on March 30, 2000.. J. Brignati stated that the administration would attempt to find the answers to the questions, however, VSU was not a party to any of the contracts. They do not know who cut the trees, what they did with them, or who received revenue and do not know if that information is attainable. J. Brignati indicated that he did not know if those answers could be found.
- D. Robinson asked the Senate for volunteers to moderate for the VSUFAC listserve. She stated that she is currently the only moderator for the listserve and needs some help. Moderators for VSUFAC have to be approved by the Senate and she requested volunteers. L. Levy stated that he and Tom Archibald would serve as moderators for urgent administrative emails on a case by case basis. David Boyd volunteered to serve as a moderator. **David Boyd was approved as a moderator.**
- R. Hull asked that all attachments for the Senate agenda be sent to Judy Griffin, secretary, via email. He also added that no late submission would be taken for the October agenda. Because Judy Griffin will be out of the office during the week before the October Senate meeting, he cannot have the agenda put together on time if he takes late submissions. J. Brignati stated that significant changes in the health insurance premiums are going into effect. Insurance seminars are scheduled during October and he encouraged everyone to attend. He stated that if employees did not respond to the PPO option during the open enrollment period, they would be automatically placed in the PPO. He added that a prescription plan is being formed and he will continue to keep employees informed as information becomes available.
6. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

