



FACULTY SENATE  
Est. 1991

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Michael Noll  
President

James G. Archibald  
President-Elect/Vice President

linda pyscher jurczak  
Secretary

Peggy Moch  
Parliamentarian

**Faculty Senate Minutes**

September 18, 2014

University Center Magnolia Room

1. Call to order by Noll at 3:34, after which he welcomed our guests—Sheri Gravett filling in for Dr. Rogers, Dr. McKinney, Tracy Woodward-Myers, Past-President, and Krishnendu Roy, Math and Computer Science. He next talked about why he ran for President of the Senate. Number of concerns: 1. Continued problems with communication-as faculty and administrators we need to be able to communicate to avoid rumor mills. 2. Freedom of speech and electronic communication. What if speaker is not supportive of our mission? Speaker that does not support evidence-based science like evolution? Speaker doubts the dynamics of domestic violence? Alienates LGBT? Electronic communications-would Dr. Mark George have lost his email access if he had not been involved in something controversial?

This was followed by a ten-minute session with President McKinney.

Dr. McKinney is looking forward to working with the Executive committee and Senate this year. There are policies in place that are seriously outdated, an example of this is our statutes being stuck somewhere between two different versions. Actions by Senate or President are the only two ways to amend statutes. President will not take action until he sits down with Executive committee to discuss this. We need to reconcile 2009 and 2012 statutes to replace 2007 statutes, and as Faculty Senate we have the authority and ability to do so.

**BOR -2016**

1. Budget-we will not be using performance-based formula, instead we will go by the old formula. This was a last-minute decision.

2. Start taking a serious look at need-based scholarships. The Constitution of Georgia dictates a restrictive use of public resources. BOR recognizes a dire need for need-based scholarships due to the precarious situation for many students who are just shy of keeping HOPE scholarships. The situation is precarious for many of our students; if they lose HOPE and something else happens, they have a problem. There are too many students who are a flat tire away from not coming back to school.

## Questions to President McKinney-

**Grove**-push to increase number of adjuncts? Dr. Gravett asked to address the question. Per Gravett, there has been discussion about terminal degree adjunct faculty but no decisions have been made. Grove noted that in South Georgia there are not a bunch of people with terminal degrees sitting around waiting. Next, Grove noted her continued concern about \$2500 per class salary for adjunct faculty as being pathetic. Gravett responded that adjunct pay is being looked at, but is at the conversation stage right now.

**Clegg-Hyer** shared that the balance between part-time faculty and full-time faculty is a marker of a strong faculty and strong university and recommended caution in shifting the balance. McKinney concurred and wants others to understand how committed he is to the centrality of a strong full-time faculty. He noted that full-time faculty outlive administration in the sense that we are in our jobs longer than administrators; he also wants to look at the way faculty are paid. It's all about the budget.

**Noll** asked for colleagues-do you have our backs? Do you have our backs when faculty are in politically challenging situations? Would you have acted differently in situations in June-July knowing what you know today? McKinney replied as believing in being open and honest and transparent with faculty; it is unusual for Presidents to take unscripted questions from faculty and he is happy to do so. He also noted he did not want to engage in hypotheticals.

**Woodward:** Is BOR planning on raising insurance? McKinney: BOR talked about a different model for insurance.

**Grove:** Rogers wants to come up with a new list of colleges/universities and salaries. This is a fabulous idea.

Proxies: Diane Holliman for Diane Wright, Bonni Cohen for Denise Atkinson, Kalina Winska for Dominick

3. Approval of the minutes of the August 28, 2014 meeting of the Faculty Senate. <http://ww2.valdosta.edu/facsen/meeting/minutes/index.shtml> (see link for minutes from August 28, 2014.

a. Addition of list of members and visitors to be added. Questions about Academic Freedom and next salary adjustment to be added as well.

b. Motion made by Dunn, seconded by Holliman; Noll called for vote; minutes approved unanimously with changes.

## 4. Old and Unfinished Business

Bylaws from Statutory and Standing Committees for the Faculty Senate website to be sent to James Archibald ([jgarchibald@valdosta.edu](mailto:jgarchibald@valdosta.edu)) by October 1, 2014.

a. Statutory Committee Reports

Academic Committee minutes from last meeting e-mailed by Noll.

Committee on Committees-Diane Holliman-sent out rosters on COCO a few hours previously. All have been asked to check lists for holes and let Diane know. Chair for Faculty Affairs is Andy Ostapski. Said Farris will be chair of Faculty Grievance Committee while John Dunn is on leave.

Faculty Affairs-Karen Morris for Andy Ostapski- no meeting

Faculty Grievance Committee-John Dunn-substitutions done

b. Standing Committee Reports

Academic Scheduling & Procedures-Tommy Crane-no report

Academic Honors & Scholarships-Maren Clegg-Hyer-no report.

Athletics-Stacy Walters-no report.

Educational Policies-Jacob Jewusiak- no report.

Environmental Issues-Theresa Grove- finalized goals, supported president's sustainability meeting.

Faculty Scholarship and Research-Grazyna Walczak- no report.

Library Affairs-Rudo Tsenunhu- no report.

Internationalization and Globalization-Fred Ware for David Kuhlmeier- Internationalization-met and a report 100% attendance, subcommittees-people are volunteering already. Off to a fast start.

Minority and Diversity Issues-linda jurczak- no report.

Student Activities and Services-James Archibald-meeting scheduled 9/23/14.

Technology-Victoria Russell- scheduled first meeting 10/2/14. Meeting with Director of the Center for E-learning for help and advice. Wants to disseminate information on instructional technology and have more faculty-input on what technology they would like; would like to hear from all departments.

c. Report from Ad Hoc Committee to update and improve VSU Faculty Handbook- met with Gardner; need to train in Cascade; Peggy Moch joined the committee. Moch to look for digital copy of handbook.

d. Evaluations of Interim administrators-posting results/feedback  
If there is a low response rate is it meaningful?

Issue of Interims—how long can a person be an interim? Are there term limits for Interims? Move to remand to Institutional Planning. Adams-At what point is it permanent? If someone has been in a position for three years, why are we not hiring? Dunn-full-time problematic in some departments. Noll-what's the time frame? Holliman-time for a search puts interim in precarious position. Is there a time limit for interims? Archibald-at one time it was six months. Holliman-remand to Institutional Planning Committee. Motion passed to remand the issue of interims to Institutional Planning.

- e. Follow-up on centralized advising. Attachment 1. Some answers. Noll still has questions. What is the mechanism? Gravett-Degree Works. Arnett-clarification? Gravett-30 hours or 1 year. Gravett to speak with Roberson.
- f. Attachments 2 and 3. We need to carefully examine the status of academic freedom at VSU, due to events surrounding Ben Carson's visit and the treatment of Mark George. What is it? How do we protect it? Noll shared his involvement in different political-faculty groups. He noted per AAUP documents it is important to note that one is speaking only for self when using email. Woodward-Myers was invited to speak to this. Cannot find a policy on using resources on activism. The Executive Committee suggested this be remanded to Faculty Affairs Committee. Motion to remand made by Thieme, seconded by D. Wright. This was followed by a lengthy discussion about our roles as activist-scholars and our ability to do our jobs if stifled by fear. It was brought up that we are encouraged to be citizens. We need to look at the BOR policy. The language is stifling "we will not" "we shall not" are examples of this. AAUP encourages faculty to be involved, but to take a sabbatical to run for State office. We will have the Provost address this at the next meeting. What is the situation of academic freedom at VSU? Motion to remand to Faculty Affairs Committee passed.
- g. Electronic communication/email recommended to be remanded to Technology Committee. Motion made by Thieme, seconded by Sanger. Discussion followed about technological intersections —technological and philosophical. BOR policy supersedes university policy-faculty encouraged to be citizens. Faculty should not be in a fog; policies need to be available. BOR's policy encourages us to be active. Both committees will have to do a lot of hunting.—what's fair ground and what isn't? Motion to remand the issue about electronic communication/email to the Technology Committee passed.
- h. Foundation Accounts. What we can and cannot do needs to be clarified. How could it (MTP) have been resolved or avoided? There needs to be transparency. It was noted that royalty checks are difficult to deposit into accounts but reason is unclear. Can money be moved from one account to another? Policy not provided. If there are two-hundred dollars or more in an account the money cannot be moved.

## 5. New Business

- a. Attachment 4-modified study abroad resolution. Ware-minor changes based on discussion with Dr. Rogers. Friendly amendment, modified version, passed unanimously.
- b. Moch-Robert's Rules will be disseminated after review.

## 6. Discussion

- a. Aiello moved to convene a special investigative committee to keep administration honest in regard to the Mark George controversy. The purpose is two-fold 1) record of events that occurred and 2) history of actions. Grove seconded. It was suggested that we have a grievance committee to handle it; however, the question arose if someone other than the faculty member impacted (and gone) can bring it to the committee. We need to check the By-Laws. The question was raised about the authority of the committee to examine documents. Possible with an Open-Records request. This Ad Hoc committee would investigate and bring it back to enter it into the record. The notion of stretching out action until everyone can agree was raised. This would provide individual synopses of occurrences. We could focus on things that can be accomplished and memorialize the others and learn from them. 17-yay, 10 nay, 12 abstentions plurality not a majority. Motion did not pass to convene a special investigative committee to keep administration honest; may be revisited in the future.
- b. Agenda items need to be sent two weeks in advance to linda jurczak.

7. Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn, recognized. Adjourned at 5:24.

## **Members and Visitors Present**

\*indicates proxy

### **Executive Board**

Noll, M. President

Archibald, J. Vice President/President Elect

jurczak, I Secretary

Moch, P. Parliamentarian

### **College of the Arts**

Arnett, S.

Crane, T.

Hawkins, C,

jurczak, I.

Murray, K.

Winska, K.

### **College of Arts and Sciences**

\*Acosta, K.

Aiello, T.

Baracskay, D.

Bell, F.

Chakraborty, S.

Clegg-Hyer, M.

Devall, K

Dunn, J.

Fares, S.

Fike, D.

Grove, T.

Jewusiak, J.

Lazari, A.

Mboup, B.

Meacham, M.

Moch, P.

Noll, M.

Ocasio, M.

Pufong, M.

Russell, V.

Thieme, D.

\*Velez-Marulanda, J.

Walczak, G.

Wares, A.

### **College of Business Administration**

Futrell, G.

\*Kuhlmeier, D.

Royle, T.  
Ostapski, A.

### **College of Education and Human Services**

Adams, K.  
Adams, L.  
Archibald, J.  
Atkinson, D.  
Carter, M.  
Cohen, B.  
Grant, M.  
Holliman, D.  
Lamb, K.  
Lambeth, D.  
Lennon, S.

Rieger, A.  
Sanger, M.  
Tsemunhu, R.  
Wright, D.

### **College of Nursing and Health Services**

Schlairet, M.  
Walters, S.

### **Odum Library**

Drouillard, C.  
Holt, M.  
Williams, B.

### **VSU Retirees Association**

Ware, F.

### **Visitors**

Tyler Barker – Student Government Association  
Michael Black – Institutional Effectiveness  
Christopher Hellams – SGA  
Krishneudo Roy – Math/CS  
Angela Uyeno – Internal Audit  
Tracy Woodard – WGST

#### Proxies

Todd Royle for David Kuhlmeier  
Grazyna Walczak for Karen Acosta  
Peggy Moch for José Velez-Marulanda