



FACULTY SENATE  
Est. 1991

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Peggy Moch  
**President**

Mike Holt  
**Vice President/  
President Elect**

Sudip Chakraborty  
**Secretary**

Sean Lennon  
**Parliamentarian**

Michael Noll  
**Past President**

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**Agenda**  
**November 19, 2015, 3:30 pm**  
**University Center Magnolia Room**

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, any actions sent to the President 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 Word.doc attachments.

For the benefit of record keeping, we ask that senators and visitors please identify themselves when speaking to an issue during the meeting. Please use the microphones to assist with accurate recording. All senators must sign the roster in order to be counted present. If you have a senator's proxy, please place their name tag beside your name tag on the table in front of you.

1. Call to Order – Peggy Moch.
2. **Approval of the minutes of the October 15, 2015 meeting of the Faculty Senate.**  
<http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/minutes.php> (See link here for minutes for all faculty senate meetings).
3. Reading of proxies obtained prior to the meeting; Request additional proxies for those not given from Senators in attendance – Sudip Chakraborty.

**Note:** Please send an email to Sudip Chakraborty ([schakraborty@valdosta.edu](mailto:schakraborty@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.

4. Interim VSU President, Dr. Cecil Staton: VSU Updates
5. Police Chief Ron Seacrist: Emergency management update from October remanded issue (See Attachments A and C)
6. Vice President for University Advancement, Mr. John Crawford: Update on Capital Campaign and VSU giving
7. Old & Unfinished Business
  - a. Statutory Committee Reports
    - i. **Academic Committee** – Sheri Gravett; Report located at <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/academic-committee.php> Bylaws pending
    - ii. Committee on Committees – Kalina Winska: Progress on assignments? Bylaws pending
    - iii. Faculty Affairs – Alicja Rieger: Progress on assignments? Received Bylaws

- iv. Faculty Grievance Committee – John Dunn: Any report?
- v. Institutional Planning Committee – Donald Thieme: Any report? Bylaws pending
- b. Meeting minutes from the various committees should be sent to FS Secretary (Sudip Chakraborty ([schakraborty@valdosta.edu](mailto:schakraborty@valdosta.edu))) to be uploaded to the Faculty Senate website **AND** to the library ([archives@valdosta.edu](mailto:archives@valdosta.edu)) with “Archives Faculty Senate Papers” in the subject line. Minutes from 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 meetings from the various committees should be sent so these documents can be archived properly. Please label minutes documents as shown in the following examples:
  - i. Technology\_Minutes\_04-29-2015
  - ii. Academic\_Honors\_and\_Scholarship\_Minutes\_08-28-2015Thank you for your assistance in getting our records keeping up to date. ☺
- c. Work is continuing on the updating of the VSU Statutes with representation from the Provost’s Office, Faculty Senate, and the Council on Staff Affairs.

8. New Business

- a. Standing Committee Reports: No reports received
  - i. Academic Scheduling & Procedures – Katharine Lamb
  - ii. Academic Honors & Scholarships – Michael Meacham
  - iii. Environmental Issues – Arsalan Wares
  - iv. Faculty Scholarship – Maura Schlairet – Received Bylaws
  - v. Library Affairs – Michael Forbes Ocasio
  - vi. Internationalization and Globalization Committee – Fleming Bell
  - vii. Diversity and Equity – Karen Acosta
  - viii. Student Affairs – Kelly Davidson Devall
  - ix. Technology – Mike Holt
- b. Standing Committee Report
  - i. Educational Policies – Jacob M. Jewusiak: SOI Redesign Draft Document please download at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/faculty-senate/agenda.php>
  - ii. **Athletic – Peggy L Moch: Student Athlete of the Semester Recognition Program (Attachment B)**
- c. Changes requested for increased campus security (Attachment C): Remanded to Chief Seacrist
- d. Academic calendar summer 2016 issues (Attachment D): Remanded to Academic Scheduling and Procedures Committee

9. General Discussion

10. Adjournment

Attachment A:

Hi Peggy,

Sorry to bug you again, but I have some concern about our campus notification system. There are many faculty members in my area who do not get campus notifications (particularly about crime) and they are signed up for it.

Recently a news story on WCTV about two suspects interviewed two students who had not gotten notifications. <http://www.wctv.tv/home/headlines/Two-Suspects-Remain-On-The-Loose-In-Valdosta-326104981.html>

Can we as faculty senate ask the VSU Chief of Police to do look into improving this? Can we as the Fac Sen do something to help make this a better notification system?

Stacey D. Walters



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## Student Athlete of the Semester Recognition Program

In an effort to encourage faculty to recognize Valdosta State University athletes who have displayed meritorious academic performance, the Athletic Committee proposes the establishment of a Student Athlete of the Semester Recognition Program. The program would operate under the following rules:

- When possible, there will be a male and a female Blazer Scholar-Athlete for each semester.
- The program would cover Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. Nominations should be submitted by the mid-point of the each semester or at the solicitation of Valdosta State Athletics.
- Recipients may come from any program sponsored and/or sanctioned by Valdosta State University Athletics. Students participating in club and intramural programs would not be eligible for participation in this program.
- Recipients must be currently eligible for athletic participation per NCAA, GSC, and institutional requirements.
- Recipients must be in good academic standing at the time of nomination. Student-Athletes must have a minimum GPA of 2.75. However, under circumstances to be determined by the nominating faculty, Valdosta State Athletics, and/or the Athletic Committee, student-athletes who may not meet the minimum GPA requirements may be nominated.
- Recipients must not have been found guilty of major violations of law, ethics, or institutional conduct standards.
- Nominees who have been selected as Student-Athlete of the Semester are not eligible for re-nomination for one academic year after selection.

Any academic faculty member may nominate an athlete currently enrolled in his/her courses to be a Blazer Scholar-Athlete of the Semester. Faculty may nominate eligible student athletes through the form to be provided on the VSU Athletics Website. (NOTE: The form will be created and posted subsequent to all approvals being obtained).

In order to be selected as Blazer Scholar-Athlete of the Semester, the successful candidate must demonstrate at least one of the following characteristics:

- Successfully demonstrate strong academic skills.
- Demonstrate and evidence a positive measured outcome that they have achieved through coursework. This criterion may include evidence of significant improvement as well as initial outstanding performance.
- Demonstrate leadership dispositions within an academic context.

(The criteria *supra* were modified from the Jonathan and Judy Hoff Scholar Athlete of the Week awards, University of California at Berkeley. The site may be accessed at <https://asc.berkeley.edu/achievement/saw/>).

In the event of multiple nominations for a given semester, the Athletic Committee (which includes the Faculty Athletics Representative and Athletic Director) will make the selection.

Athletes who are recognized as Blazer Scholar Athletes of the Semester could receive:

- Letters of recognition from the Athletic Director, Faculty Athletic Director, and appropriate VSU administration.
- Recognition on the electronic sign located outside of the Complex on Baytree Road.

- Recognition on the VSU Athletics website.
- Recognition at the Athletic Banquet at the end of the year.
- Recognition in campus and local media outlets.

It should be noted here that the aforementioned means of recognizing recipients can be achieved at minimal to no cost, since the resources to recognize recipients already exists.

If adopted, the Blazer Scholar-Athlete of the Semester Awards can be an effective and efficient way to recognize the academic prowess of our athletes while sending a signal to the VSU and larger communities that VSU Athletics does take the academic success of its athletes seriously. Finally, if this program is successful, it can serve as a launching point for other programs that honor the “Scholar” in the term VSU Scholar-Athletes.

Attachment C:

To: Peggy Moch, President of Faculty Senate  
From: Donna Sewell, Professor of English  
Topic: Campus Security  
Date: Oct. 9, 2015

I am writing to request the Faculty Senate to investigate two issues related to campus security: 1) classroom doors that lock, and 2) active shooter information/training.

Rationale and Purpose: Shootings on college campuses continue to rise. While *Time* is not the most reputable source, it does contain an article that lists every shooting in 2015 (<http://time.com/4058669/oregon-shooting-school-shootings-2015/>), including some unknown to me.

VSU has created this guide (<http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/documents/emergency-quick-reference-guide-2-14-13.pdf>), so it's clear that VSU's Behavioral Intervention Team (<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/b.i.t.-behavioral-intervention-team.php>) is hard at work. In fact, that same team (particularly Dr. Sheri Gravett, Major Ann Farmer, and a counselor from our Counseling Center) helped me tremendously when I received an inappropriate email from a former student. However, until I went looking for information, I didn't know it existed. I wonder how many faculty, staff, and students know about this existence of this guide.

One of the first recommendations in the guide is to look doors if possible. It is NOT possible to lock my classroom door (West Hall 254) or the classrooms of many colleagues. Once doors with swipe locks (aside from computer classrooms) are unlocked in the morning, they stay unlocked all day. Faculty members and students cannot change that lock should something happen. Apparently, the administration can lock down the classrooms from a central location, but that may happen too late in an emergency. We need doors that stay locked, or we need deadbolts installed on all classroom doors.

The Board of Regents has produced an active shooter video that is currently on VSU's webpage (<http://www.valdosta.edu/student/emergency/test.php>). VSU needs to sponsor frank discussions about what to do in an emergency. We probably need to have these conversations with our students in classrooms, but I don't want to start those conversations if I can't even lock the classroom door.

Attachment D:

## Academic Calendar Summer 2016 Issues

Hi Peggy,

I would like to bring it to your attention an issue that relates to Summer 2016.

I looked at the Academic Calendar for 2015-16. Summer I, Summer III and Summer IV (meeting 5 days, Mon-Fri) each has 15 class meetings. To get 2250 minutes of teaching time (for a 3 credit hour class) during the semester, classes need to meet for 150 minutes each day + any breaks that the Registrar's office decides. Summer II 2016 (meeting four times a week, Mon-Thu) has 25 class meetings.

To get 2250 minutes of teaching time during the semester, classes need to meet for 90 minutes (not 85 minutes as was suggested by Patrick in the Registrar's office) each day. So the meeting times for Summer II should be

8:00 - 9:30

9:40-11:10

11:20-12:50

1:00-2:30

2:40-4:10

4:20-5:50

There is another issue that affects colleges that offer MW or TR classes in Summer II. There are only 12 meeting days for MW classes and 13 meeting days for TR classes. The Registrar's office is suggesting meeting times based on 14 teaching days for each of those formats. I did send e-mails to both Patrick and Stanley in the Registrar' office. I heard back from Patrick and he suggested that this is an issue that needs to be taken up by the Academic Scheduling Committee since that committee created the academic calendars for the years 2015-2019. I request that we address this issue now so that we don't have to change things at the last minute. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Ashok Kumar, Professor  
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