



**Faculty Senate
Minutes
Monday, November 18, 2024
4:00 – 5:30 PM, Microsoft Teams**

The meeting was called to order by Faculty Senate President Thomas Borchert at 4:01 PM

Senators in Attendance: 68

Absent: 9 Senators: Anesthesiology Rep2 (Hart), English Rep1 (Gough), Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences (Kenny), Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation (vacant), Psychological Science Rep1 (vacant), Radiology Rep1 (vacant), RSCA Chair (Smith/Hurley), School of the Arts Rep1 (vacant), Surgery (vacant)

1. Faculty Senate President's Welcome Remarks – Thomas Borchert made the following remarks:

- a. Abby McGowan is the President-Elect of the Faculty Senate, and will assume the role of Faculty Senate President on July 1, 2025
- b. Faculty Recognition Dinner will be held this evening. Congratulations to Stephen Everse, who will be honored as the 2024 recipient of the President's Distinguished University Citizenship and Service Award. Stephen is the Co-Chair of the Curricular Affairs Committee and member of the Executive Council.
- c. At the request of the Executive Council, Chris Lehman, Chief Human Resources Officer, was extended a late invitation to this meeting to talk about Active Enrollment. Chris Lehman was unable to attend the meeting today due to negotiations.
- d. The Faculty Senate meeting scheduled for Monday, December 16th, will begin one-hour earlier than the normal pattern, from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM.
- e. The Faculty Senate meetings scheduled for February and March will change modality. The February 24th meeting will be held on Teams, and the March 24th meeting will be held in-person in Memorial Lounge.
- f. Food insecurity in the student population (both undergraduate and graduate) is of great concern. The President and Provost, and the Division of Student Affairs are working to address the problem. Tom Borchert asked senators to send him recommendations on how the Faculty Senate might be helpful.

2. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes of the October 2024 Senate meeting.
- B. Curricular Affairs

- 1) New Undergraduate Certificate in Teaching Artist in Music
- 2) Name Change for the BS in Economics
- 3) Deactivation of the Minor in International Politics
- 4) Deactivation of the Major in Asian Studies

C. Academic Calendar for 2027-2028

Motion: Thomas Borchert stated that the consent agenda came to the Senate moved and seconded by the Executive Council. No requests were made to pull items from the consent agenda.

Vote: 54 approve, 0 oppose, 0 abstain.

3. **Patricia Prelock, Interim President** presented “A Year in Transition: Opportunities and Challenges”. The presentation slides are attached to these minutes. President Prelock highlighted efforts and activities in each of the areas of Strategic Opportunity: Research/Knowledge Creation, Student Success/Teaching & Learning, and Land Grant Mission/Engagement and noted the addition of Relationships & Communication as a fourth Strategic Opportunity that she will be working on this year. President Prelock also addressed challenges and strategies, including budget, enrollment, healthcare costs, and the state of UVM’s research, residential & athletic facilities. Implications of the new US Presidential Administration were discussed at the meeting of the Association for Public Land Grant Institutions (APLU). UVM is advised to stay engaged, don’t overreact, and continue to use our societies and our associations to tell the story of why higher education is so important.
4. **Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws** – Evan Eyler provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the CBL, which include clarifying language regarding authority and scope of the Faculty Senate, updated committee structure and procedures. Evan highlighted the proposed addition of a Faculty Affairs Committee and opened the floor for discussion. Senators reported that their units expressed concerns about finding faculty to serve on an additional senate committee. Discussion also included questions regarding the intersection of the proposed Faculty Affairs Committee and the collective bargaining agreement, and questions regarding the Senate authority over the Catamount Core Curriculum. Senators are encouraged to review and share the recommended updates with their units and send questions and comments to Faculty.Senate@uvm.edu. The feedback will be used to update the draft, and discussion of the recommended revisions will take place at the December 16, 2024 Senate meeting. Amendments to the CBL are subject to a referendum ballot made available to every eligible faculty member.
5. **Update on University Finances** – Richard Cate, VP of Finance – This agenda item was moved to the December meeting.
6. **Reports that do not require a Senate vote:**
Curricular Affairs Committee (CAC) – Relocation of minor in Reporting and Documentary Storytelling; APR English, and APR Film & Television Studies; Revisions to

Curricular Guidance for Substantial Revision, Name Changes and Subject Code requests; new procedures for changing program modalities for graduate programs. Discussion included clarification from Co-Chair of the CAC, Colby Kervick, that the revised curricular guidance and forms will be available on the Faculty Senate Curricular Resources SharePoint Page in January. Units should use the old forms for items that will be approved this academic year (AY 2024-2025), and the new forms for items that will be approved in AY 2025-2026.

7. **Presidential Search Advisory Committee** - Faculty representatives, Chris Danforth (CEMS), Debra Leonard (LCOM), Abigail McGowan (CAS) and Eric von Wettenberg (CALS), provided an update on the presidential search process to date, and the schedule for candidate review. The presentation slides are attached to these minutes. The [Presidential Search webpage](#) includes a link to the community feedback survey, and the leadership profile. A [summary of responses](#) to the community survey is available on the UVM Presidential Search SharePoint site (UVM Login Required). The summary includes the main themes that emerged and have been used to compile the leadership profile. The representatives collected feedback from the Faculty Senate regarding questions to ask the candidates, and issues to address with the candidates. Faculty wishing to provide additional feedback may email any of the four members of the advisory committee directly.
8. **New Business** – none at this time.
9. **Adjourn** – Joan Rosebush moved to adjourn at 5:24 PM. The motion was seconded and carried.