Minutes of the Faculty Senate
November 7, 2006
Lyons Lab Cafeteria, MCV Campus
4 p.m.

Present: Alford Andrews, Beck, Betzhold, Black, Bostic Briceland, Brookman, Bukaveckas, Burch, Canfield, Churn, Cooper, Corey, Cotter, Cummins, Donnell, Dupree, Dukat, Ellington, Elmore, Elsea, Essah, Fang, Fauri, Grimes, Hope, Huband, Ingroff, Johnson J, Johnson R, Lafazani, Lewis, Lebman, Masho, McDonnough, Mills, Munro, Murphy-Judy, Phifer, Peberdy, Pitts (alt), Reardon, Robnolt, Quillan, Ream, Salyer, Secret, Simons, Sirica, Spindle, Sterling, Straus, Street, Szari, Taxman, Tepper, Wenger, Wooldridge

Absent: Bradner, Coggins (EXC), Deanda, Fernandez-Ward, Getty, Gordon, Gongora, Green, Grizzard, Kester, Klenke, Martin, Nichols, Ratz, Richardson, Schreffler, Selinger, Sherman, Smith, Spede

1. **Minutes:** September and October minutes were approved w/ minor changes
2. **Escort Service Committee and Recreational Sports Advisory Committee:** each need one faculty representative (Allan Mills will serve on the Recreational Sports Advisory Committee and Dianne Simons will serve on the Escort Service Committee)
3. **President’s reports:**
   11/5-11/11 is Allied Health Professions Week!! Thank you for all your hard work!
   a. **University Council report—Oct. 19**
      --VCU Alcohol and Drug Policy passed
      --Honor System Review
      --Proposal to Establish a B.A. Degree in Film passed
      --Proposal to Rename the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Promotion to the Department of Social Behavioral Health also passed
      Nov. 1
      --Proposal to Establish a Ph.D. Degree in Design Environments passed
      --Proposal to Establish a Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP)
      --Proposal to Rename the Department of Biochemistry to the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular
Biology
--Proposal to Create a Post-baccalaureate Graduate Certificate Program in Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

b. **Fall Fest:** thanks to Patricia Selinger, UL; Sandra Voll, SON; Daphne Rankin, UC; Christopher Brooks, Kristie Swenson, and Neal Storrs, SWS; Marilyn Miller, Bill Newmann, Judy Twigg, WS; Leila Christenbury and Paul Gerber, SOE.

c. **SOM Faculty Appointment and Compensation Policy** will have proposed changes impacting only medical school faculty who work under clinical contracts. The change will go to the BOV in February. Please see Richard Brookman if you would like to be part of a group meeting with Mr. Gleason and Ms. Sebring about this or if you have concerns.

d. **Update on VP Instruction and VP Academic and Faculty Affairs searches:** Joseph Marolla has filled the position of VP Instruction, and the VP for Academic and Faculty Affairs is pending.

e. **PLEASE FILL OUT THE CLIMATE SURVEY:** (additional information from AAUP on gender equity in US colleges and universities: http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/pubsres/research/geneq2006)

f. **December meeting in B42 Cabell Library and Thomson-McCaw Library teleconference room.** We just need a small coterie at the MCV location, please let Dianne Simons (dfsims@vcu.edu) know if you will be at MCV. Items: ICF, Dr. Macrina CP 1 & 2 forms for conflict of interest)

g. **BOV: Nov. 16-17.** All may attend but Dianne Simons will represent Faculty Senate with Judy Lewis, Bob Andrews and others in support.

h. Please submit information that you may wish to present at a full Faculty Senate meeting to the president if at all possible prior to the Executive Committee meeting two weeks before that Senate meeting, but if not, then at least one week prior to the full meeting.

4. **Honors Code final report:** Thanks to Dianne, Janet Johnson, Alan Briceland and Allan Mills. Thanks also to all who have given their help and input during this process. This has passed University Council and is now on its way to the BOV. We’ve had a significant impact on the changes to the document. Senator Simons detailed some of the highlights, pointing out how the new system will be more streamlined, have an Integrity Officer for consistency, and that students will take a more active role with education about the honor system. It is important that we become aware of the changes to the system and communicate these changes to our students.

5. **Dan Ream on Tech Classroom survey:** Thanks, Dan for doing this! (also: Academic Support Services Committee Members are Melissa Bradner (Medicine), Jim Cotter (Allied Health), Judy Lewis (Nursing), Valerie Robnolt (Education), Martin Reardon (Education), Allan Mills (Education), Patricia Selinger (VCU Libraries), and Dan Ream (VCU Libraries) (chair).).
See handout for details about the survey. If you don’t have the handout, visit the survey results at: [http://www.people.vcu.edu/~dream/fs2006surveysummary.html](http://www.people.vcu.edu/~dream/fs2006surveysummary.html). Dan Ream has also submitted a proposal for a faculty resolution about classroom environment. Senator Lewis suggested 24/7 help (especially at night and weekends). There was also an overall concern expressed about cleanliness.

6. AAUP: Maike Philipsen: No new reports to date.
7. Other business: Advocacy day planning will be announced soon. The Senate E/D committee also plans to meet soon.
8. Provost Gottfredson: Dr. Gottfredson outlined a number of issues during his talk with the Senate.

- **Textbook Issue:** Students and parents alike are concerned about the prices of textbooks. We’re asked to provide notification of adoptions to the bookstore, to centralize our book lists as much as possible, to consider new editions critically (to see if they’ve been significantly changed), and to watch out for “useless” bundling of books with software/other books we may not need. Although it’d be ideal to provide books for students who cannot afford them, we cannot afford it, nor do we have the space. Administration has considered the high prices of books when thinking about the financial aid package. Admin. will need input from teachers about this issue as it continues to be on the radar.

- **VCU’s Size:** We have experienced “explosive growth during a period when the Commonwealth wasn’t doing so well financially,” and we’ve become one of the largest, if not the largest University in the Commonwealth. Our general fund budget exceeds that of UVA and VA Tech. We grew despite shrinking budgets. Now we’re paying attention to facilities and infrastructure (two major areas of concern as outlined in the Strategic Plan). We will rebuild 36 centrally scheduled classrooms. Housekeeping was outsourced due to budget reasons, and no one is happy about that. Dr. Gottfredson assured us that though it won’t be the first thing to “come back,” administrators are certainly aware of this issue.

- **Infrastructure:** A question was raised about infrastructure and Dr. Gottfredson replied by discussing our need to “grow graduate and professional programs” in order to put the undergraduate/graduate priorities back into balance. IT has been restructured and is working well. Dr. Gottfredson also mentioned that as faculty and staff retires, that we are “rebuilding VCU” in order to “move beyond replicating ourselves” in order to move into new areas, increase diversity, and increase the number of tenure-eligible faculty. He also mentioned an increased priority on faculty development, to provide new faculty with support. Also, there was a position of Vice Provost of Instruction created to work on forging a common experience for students and to improve faculty development and student experience at VCU.
• **International Liaisons:** More and more, VCU is working to make relationships abroad (with 15 “sister” institutions that “look like” VCU).

• **Questions from the Senate:** Senator Donnell asked about the Music Center and Dr. Gottfredson replied that the University set aside 3M for the project and the bid that came back was for 5M, so they’re looking for the 2M difference, but he assured us that it would happen. Another question raised was what the target enrollment for VCU was and the answer was 34,000. The last question raised was about biomedical research and funding and alternatives. There was a concern about creating “indentured post docs” and Dr. Gottfredson suggested that we look at this issue from the “state side.”

**Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.**