



## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, February 28, 2017.

Larrick Center, Court End Ballroom, MCV, 4-6pm.

<http://www.vcu.edu/maps/acmap/wm>

**Present:** Alcaine (EDU, Alt. for Mansfield), Alford (ARTS), An (NUR), Arachchige (HAS, Alt. for Gronert), Arrington (ARTS), Artello (WS), Baranoff (BUS), Bedell (StAff), Bodnar-Deren (HAS), Bosco (BUS), Brown (NUR), Carroll (MED), Cummins (HAS), Daugherty (HAS), Dawson-Cruz (HAS), DiazGranados (MED), Faris (ARTS), Freyer (ARTS), Goldberg (MED), Harrison (HAS), Hawkins (StAff), Hogan (MED), Hsu (MED), Jallo (NUR), Jamerson (AHP), Kidd (VCU-L, Alt. for Stout), Lee (BUS), Lockeman (MED), Lodge (UC), McVoy (MED), Nadpara (PHA), Nicholson (HAS), Ottens (MED), Pellegrini (DEN), Price (RetFac), Rivera (HAS), Robnolt (EDU), Russell (DEN), Samso (MED), Secret (SWK), Shriar (WS), Stevenson (HAS), Street (HAS), Sun (MED), Wajciechowski (EDU), Wayne (EGR), Wen (EGR), Westcot (UC), White (Webmaster), Wunsch (DEN, Alt. for Coe), Xu (EDU), Zhang (EGR)

**Absent:** Anthony (HAS), Coston (HAS), Crookendale (VCU-L), DeAngelis (ARTS), Dodson (MED), Frankenhoff (MED), Franzak (BUS), Fraser (SWK), Kidd (MED), Kornstein (MED), Le (MED), Ogbonna (PHA), Patton (ARTS), Puri (MED), Roberson-Nay (MED), Saladino (HAS), Seinfeld (MED), Wagner (AHP), Wike (SWK), York (MED), Zhou (MED)

**4:01pm--Call to order and welcome**

**(Holly Alford)**

**Minutes, February 7 meeting**

**(Brian Daugherty)**

### Guest

**4:05pm--Center of Teaching and Learning Excellence**

**(Enoch Hale)**

- Dr. Hale emphasized the changing nature of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence and how he is currently leading its redevelopment. He emphasized the impact of feedback from ~250 VCU faculty as well as a wide variety of VCU administrators on the reorganization of the center. Hale noted a number of potential foci including resources and pedagogical support, a culture focused on effective teaching, evidence-based teaching practices, and partnerships. Hale shared an executive summary with the CTLE's mission, principal goals, and contact mission, and sought feedback and assistance as he moves forward. Hale explained that the CTLE will go before the BOV for approval in May 2017, with a launch planned for fall 2017.

### Senate Business

**4:25pm—Provost's Report**

**(Gail Hackett)**

- Provost Hackett mentioned the new dean of the Wilder School, which was announced today. She noted that two other searches are nearing their conclusion: the director of online learning at VCU, and the dean of the School of the Arts. Dr. Hackett mentioned that Governor McAuliffe recently

announced, after meetings with the Trump Administration, that the DACA (Dreamer) program would be continued. Hackett also highlighted online resources at VCU that are available to provide assistance to those who are concerned with immigration status and related issues in response to the Trump Administration's executive orders. Hackett explained that we have 80 P&T cases, half of which are term promotions, which are currently being reviewed by the Provost's Office before going to the BOV in May 2017. Provost Hackett asked for feedback to the updated policy on faculty evaluations. In response to a question, Hackett confirmed that faculty will receive bonuses in March, and that raises are still on the table for August.

#### **Vote on Diversity and Inclusion Resolution Amendment (Holly Alford)**

- President Alford discussed the amendment to the original resolution, and asked for feedback. The amended resolution was adopted unanimously.

#### **4:45pm--Nominations Committee Report (June Nicholson)**

- Dr. Nicholson explained the nomination process, the acceptance of nominations from the floor, and presented the slate of candidates for the 2017-2018 academic year.

#### **President's Report (Holly Alford)**

- a. Building Inclusive Community Classes:** Alford announced that these classes have started and that they are filling up quickly. Alford encouraged faculty to sign up for these classes.
- b. Faculty grades or feedback:** Alford announced that the Student Government Association recently voted to ask faculty for feedback on their performance before mid-semester.
- c. Policy for Annual Assessment of Faculty Performance:** Alford noted that the updated policy is now available for review, and asked senators to provide feedback.
- d. Board of Visitors Presentations:** Alford noted that their presentations have recently focused on the role of faculty, and that they will continue to do so each fall, but that this focus may change in the future as the BOV updates its meeting schedule and focus.
- e. Meeting with Susan Carkeek and Professional Faculty:** Alford met with Carkeek and with several faculty members, as well as Dr. Aashir Nasim of the Provost's Office, to discuss the Human Resources redesign.
- f. Meeting with University Counsel Madelyn Wessel:** Alford reminded faculty of the discussion about academic freedom and social media at President Rao's presentation to Faculty Senate on February 7, and the responses of Madelyn Wessel (university counsel) to several questions. Though she is leaving VCU in late March, Wessel has agreed to meet with faculty senators to discuss these and related issues.

#### **5:05pm—Reapportionment Report (Joan Pellegrini)**

- Dr. Pellegrini announced reapportionment figures for Faculty Senate for next academic year, noting that there will be few changes. Related to this, Scott Street distributed a list of faculty senators whose terms of service end this academic year, and which units will be holding elections for senators.

## **Roundtable Discussion**

**5:05pm--Questions for Madelyn Wessel**

**(Scott Street)**

- Faculty senators, in small groups, were asked to develop questions for a meeting with the University Counsel.