



Faculty Senate of Virginia Meeting
May 16, 2020 (9am-Noon) via Zoom
Minutes

I. Call to Order and Introductions – 9:00am

People in attendance:

Institution	First Name	Last Name	Faculty Governance Position (if any)
Christopher Newport University	Tatiana	Rizova	Senate President
George Mason University	Bethany	Letiecq	Faculty Senator, Chair of Faculty Matters
George Mason University	Shannon	Davis	Chair, Faculty Senate
Germanna Community College	Angela	Sheaffer	President of the Faculty Senate
Germanna Community College	Tracey	Williams	Faculty Senate Vice President
James Madison University	Val	Larsen	Speaker, James Madison University Faculty Senate
John Tyler Community College	Carol	Carr	Faculty Senator
Radford University	Katie	Katz	Faculty Senate Executive Council, At Large
Radford University	Matthew	Close	Faculty Senate Executive Council
Reynolds Community College	Dirk	Burruss	President
Southwest VA Community College	Russ	Wood	none
Thomas Nelson Community College	Patrick	Smith	President, Faculty Senate
University of Mary Washington	Nabil	Al-Tikriti	Univ Budget Affairs Committee (Faculty Senate) Chair
University of Mary Washington	Andrew	Dolby	Chair-elect University Faculty Council
University of Mary Washington	Marcel	Rotter	University Faculty Council Faculty, FSVA Treasurer
University of Mary Washington	Anand	Rao	Past President, FSVA
Virginia Commonwealth University	Patricia	Cummins	Co-Chair FS Committee on Legislative Relations
Virginia Commonwealth University	Carmen	Rodriguez	FSVA President
Virginia State University	Aurelia	Donald	Faculty Senator
VA-AAUP	Brian	Turner	Secretary of the Faculty
PONSHOP Studio & Gallery	Gabe	Pons	PONS Studio

II. Approval of Minutes

- [Minutes from Fall FSVA meeting \(October 19, 2019\)](#)

Minutes unanimously approved.

III. Guest - Updating FSVA Logo

- Gabe Pons, PONSHP Studio and Gallery (ponshopstudio.com/)

Gabe Pons of Fredericksburg attended and showed work he has done for other organizations to develop organizational logos. He has been invited to develop a new logo for FSVA. He discussed the logo development process. He was asked to develop a mark that is relatively simple and usable for letterhead and other official communications. He indicated that that had been his plan, given our intended use of the logo.

The Senate passed a motion approving the expenditure of up to \$1,000 on a new logo to be developed by Gabe Pons. The Senate Executive Committee is authorized to select a logo from among those proposed by Pons and disbursement of final payment.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Marcel Rotter, FSVA Treasurer - University of Mary Washington
 - Budget Report
 - Institutional dues (2020-2021)

We have \$29,670.95 available for disbursement. Other money is coming in which will probably increase the amount to over \$30,000.

V. National Council of Faculty Senates Meeting Report

- Anand Rao, FSVA Immediate Past President - University of Mary Washington
 - [NCFS Meeting Report](#)
 - [NCFS Meeting Press Release Oct 19, 2019](#)

Anand Rao attended the October 2019 National Council of Faculty Senates in Texas using funds the Senate authorized him to spend. He reported on what was done at the meeting. The main focus was organizational issues. NCFS had planned to hold a conference in the fall, but that plan was upset by COVID 19 pandemic. See attached press release on the conference.

VI. Guest Speaker - AAUP Report

- Brian Turner, VA AAUP - Randolph Macon College

AAUP has restructured to have a smaller national council. Organization is now more chapter focused. AAUP has elected Doe Polanz of JMU by acclamation as its regional leader. The national AAUP acts on issues mostly through amicus briefs in court cases.

VII. President's Report

- Faculty Development Awards - five \$200 awards
- Strengthening Communication efforts
 - Updating FSVA Contact Information - [form here](#)
- FSVA Fall Meeting – Saturday October 17, 2020 - Zoom

A total of 161 faculty submitted an application for the grant. Of the 161, 138 were from JMU, 20 from VCU, 2 from Mary Washington, and 1 from SouthWest Virginia Community College. Five winners were chosen using a random number generator. All 5 winners were from JMU. Discussion ensued about whether to continue with the grants. The Senate agreed to do so.

The Senate voted to again offer five \$200 grants for professional development. Both items and activities are eligible purchases. The professional development expenditure should occur between Sept 1, 2020 and May 15, 2021. The deadline for applications will be October 15th, 2020.

VIII. FSVA Constitutions and Bylaws

- Bylaws Committee
 - Marcel Rotter, Chair - University of Mary Washington
 - Val Larsen - James Madison University
- [Constitution & Bylaws \(last revision 2004\)](#)
- and [Proposed Amendment \(2007\)](#)
- For discussion: expanding representation to include Senators who serve longer terms alongside representatives who serve annually.
 - see: [proposed amendments](#)

The following Bylaws amendment proposed by Val Larsen, slightly amended, was passed:

BYLAWS OF THE FACULTY SENATE OF VIRGINIA

1. REPRESENTATION

Each institution shall be represented by at least one Representative and by a Senator. The Representative should be a current member of the Faculty Senate or Council, typically the President, Chair, or a similar elected faculty leader or designee. The Senator should be appointed by the Faculty Senate or Council but need not be a member of that body. Senators serve for a term of three years. There are no limits on the number of terms Representatives or Senators may serve.

The number of additional Senate representatives shall be based on the number of full time faculty in each college or university. In addition to its Representative and Senator, institutions may send additional representatives as designated below:

Under 250 faculty - no additional representative
251-500 faculty - 1 additional representative
501-1000 faculty - 2 additional representatives

Over 1000 faculty - 3 additional representatives.

Officer Elections

- 2020-2021 Slate of Officers:
 - President: Carmen Rodríguez, Virginia Commonwealth University
 - Vice President: Sarah Gilliam, Mountain Empire Community College
 - Treasurer: Marcel Rotter, University of Mary Washington
 - Secretary: Val Larsen, James Madison University

Slate of officers approved unanimously.

IX. Items from Attendees

- In-State Tuition to all VA students regardless of status - Implementation July 1st
 - assistance needed to spread the word on campuses; may create new opportunities for undocumented students to matriculate at IHEs that currently do not allow (e.g., UVA, VCU)

We discussed the importance of each institution having advocates to help students get this money because the process can be complicated. A resolution was drafted by Bethany Letiecq on this topic.

[RESOLUTION: Recommendations for Implementation of In-State Tuition Expansion to All Students, regardless of immigration status](#)

We passed this resolution advising procedures for each university to use to support these students. It was suggested that individual senates may want to endorse this resolution by passing it in the local senate.

X. Impact of Pandemic on Higher Education

- Discussion

We discussed how schools will open in the fall, whether face to face or online. Various issues related to this were discussed. Germanna Community College will hold all classes not having a lab component online in the fall. There was some discussion of making sure faculty have control over whether they return to the classroom in the fall or not.

President Rodriguez will aggregate survey questions for faculty assessing reopening attitudes on a Google sheet and make them available to FSVA members to use in local faculty senates to collecting data on faculty attitudes on face to face teaching in the fall.

Anand Rao suggested that data be collected by individual senates, not by FSVA, to get better response rates. Results could be aggregated after data collection.

The situation is very complex. There was a consensus that faculty should be involved in discussion and that there should be shared governance as decisions are

made. This can help get faculty buy in for the actions taken. But it was also acknowledged that if students do not return for face to face instruction, revenues and salaries may be severely cut and programs might close.

XI. Virginia Higher Education Advocacy Day (VHEAD)

- VHEAD 2020 assessment
- VHEAD 2021 (January 14, 2021)
 - Detailed plans arranged in fall
 - Plans for advocacy efforts
 - Possible topics for position papers

It was proposed that we hold future FSVA meetings online as we did this time to minimize time required to attend and increase participation. All or most seemed to agree with this proposal. We decided to hold the next FSVA meeting on Saturday, September 26, 2020.

We discussed VHEAD 2020 and announced the date for 2021. We talked about the desirability of setting an agenda for VHEAD 2021 at the September 26, 2020 FSVA meeting. Members could then advocate for that agenda with legislators in their home districts to prepare the ground for VHEAD advocacy in 2021. VHEAD is slated to be January 14, 2021.

XII. Member Reports

- Note: we will not have time during our meeting to discuss individual member reports but links to written member reports are being provided
 - Please [submit a written FSVA member report](#) for your institution
 - Please find [Member Reports](#) here
 - [UMW Report with links to motions passed](#)

These were not reviewed due to lack of time. Members were invited to submit reports using the form linked above.

XIII. Adjourn – Noon