



VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY CONGRESS

Academic Year 2023-2024

February 2, 2024

12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

via Zoom: <https://villanova.zoom.us/j/94432808002>

Present: Jennifer Altamuro, Theodore Arapis, Farshid Baghai, Aronte Bennett, Joe Betz, Gerald Beyer, Sherry Burrell, Cheryl Carleton, Col. Vincent Ciuccoli, Joseph Drury, Jacob Elmer, Kathryn Haymaker, Gregory Hoskins, Kamran Javadizadeh, Ann Juliano, Stephanie Katz Linkmeyer, Amanda Knecht, Rachel Skrlac Lo, Michelle McKay, Sue Metzger, Jennifer Ross, Qi Schlupp, John Sedunov, Lisa Sewell, David Shaffer, Raka Shome, , Bridget Wadzuk, Mark Wilson

Absent: Tina Agustiady, Paul Bernhard, Samantha Chapman,, Kerry San Chirico, Eric Hamberger, Jeremy Kees, Michelle Kelly, Sergei Nersesov, Jared Paul, Frank Pryor, Troy Shirangi, John-Paul Spiro, William Wagner

AGENDA

Housekeeping

- Welcome
- Approval of minutes from November, 2023 meeting

Minutes approved

- Vote for Faculty Award Nominations

Will be voted on at the next faculty meeting

Announcements

- The all-faculty vote for Faculty Congress constitution changes passed. Thank you to all who worked on this for the past few years.
- Reminder that [Facultas Award nominations](#) are now being accepted, until February 9.
- The University-wide Mission and Social Justice Committee is hosting The Case for a Living Wage Panel Discussion with Q&A on **Friday, Feb. 9, from 1–2:30 p.m. in the Court Theatre of the Mullen Center for the Performing Arts**. Panelists are: Cal Watson, JD, associate vice president for Public Affairs and Business Policy, Georgetown University; C. Ken Weidner II, PhD, assistant professor of Management, St. Joseph's University; and the Rev. Nic O'Rourke, councilmember, City of Philadelphia and former POWER organizer. (Jerry Beyer)

Amanda Knecht, Ann Juliano, Aronte Bennet, Bridget Wadzuk, Cheryl Carleton, Col. Vincent Ciuccoli, David Shaffer, Eric Hamberger, Farshid Baghai, Frank Pryor, Gerald Beyer, Gregory Hoskins, Jacob Elmer, Jared Paul, Jennifer Altamuro, Jennifer Ross, Jeremy Kees, Joe Betz, John Sedunov, John-Paul Spiro, Joseph Drury (Vice Chair), Kamran Javadizadeh, Kathryn Haymaker (Chair), Kerry San Chirico, Lisa Sewell, Mark Wilson, Michelle Kelly, Michelle McKay, Paul Bernhardt, Qi Schlupp, Rachel Skrlac Lo, Raka Shome, Samantha Chapman, Sergey Nersesov, Sherry Burrell, Stephanie Katz Linkmeyer, Sue Metzger, Theodore Arapis, Tina Agustiady, Troy Shirangi, William Wagner

Standing Committee Reports (*reports submitted in advance; please see appendix; this time set aside for elevated issues and/or questions*)

1. Awards Committee (Joe Schick (chair), Sherry Burrell)
2. Adjunct Faculty Representatives (Tina Agustiady, Eric Hamberger)
3. CNT/FTNTT Faculty Representatives (Sue Metzger, John-Paul Spiro)
4. Election and Credentials Committee (Q Chung, Jen Palenchar, Tania Romero, Qi Schlupp, Bob Styer [emeritus])
5. Research Policy Committee (RPC; Jared Paul, chair)
6. Faculty Rights & Responsibilities Committee (FRRC; Amanda Knecht, chair)
7. Retired faculty members (Joe Betz)

Committees with Faculty Representation (*reports submitted in advance; please see appendix; this time set aside for elevated issues and/or questions*)

1. Academic Policy Committee (Bridget Wadzuk, chair)

One faculty member presented further concerns about the Follette book adoption program. It was clarified that the program is in a pilot phase. There are pertinent federal regulations under consideration that may modify the program going forward.

Old Business

1. FC Bylaws changes – initial discussion, with follow up and vote during the March FC meeting (Bob Styer) – see attachments

RPC is now a committee of Faculty Congress. Membership is now 8 members total with 5 seated on FC. There was a suggestion to Include the RPC chair on the Executive Committee, consistent with the other committee chairs.

Details of the changes to the by-laws were discussed. FC will vote on the changes at the meeting on 3/21/24

New Business

1. VU Snow Day process, policies, and communication (Jerry Beyer)

FC discussed the need for better communication and greater transparency regarding university closure for inclement weather. It was noted that the policy allows for faculty to use discretion for personal safety and to move to virtual learning with a two-hour notice to students. Per the policy:

“Because faculty also come from various locations and distances, some of which may be more seriously affected by adverse weather than others, faculty must, as always, exercise their judgment on whether it is safe to drive to the University. If they believe it unsafe or untenable, they may convert class to an online structure, but must contact students at least two hours prior to the class start time if they choose to do so and must inform their Department Chair/Program Director”

<https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/provost/resources/policies/snow-policy.html>

2. Commendation for Dr. Terry Nance – request for volunteers to draft a statement (Katie Haymaker)

A working group was formed to create a commendation statement for Dr. Terry Nance

3. Topic suggestions for a joint meeting of SGA and FC (Katie Haymaker)

FC discussed the desire to have greater communication with SGA, with the possibility of a joint meeting with relevant leadership from both groups in order to best serve the ambition of mutual respect and cooperation.

- ~~4. Advising townhall (tentative: March 1). Suggested topics, speakers?~~
5. Other business

Reminders

Upcoming Congress events:

FC leadership meetings with Provost & Vice Provost

(Katie, Joe, Bridget, Amanda)

- Tuesday, February 6
- Wednesday, April 17

Fall 2023 Faculty Congress general meetings

- Friday, Feb 2, 12pm – 1:00pm (Zoom)
- Thursday, March 21, 2:00pm - 3:30pm (Zoom)
- Friday, May 10, 12:00pm - 1:30pm (Zoom)

2023-24 Faculty Fridays, 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (*The Refectory*)

- February 2
- March 1
- April 5

Appendix A: Standing Committee Reports

1. Faculty Awards Committee

- The Awards Committee has been reading the materials submitted by the nominees for the awards. We will meet this afternoon (January 31) to finalize recommendations for eight of the awards. The Gallen Award recommendations will be finalized in mid-February. The committee will also be taking up the nominations for Facultas in February.

2. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee

- FRRC met on Wednesday, Jan 31st. We learned that there is no news yet on the Rank and Tenure college committee changes in the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. We also discussed whether directors of programs who work in evaluative roles should be allowed to be members of the college and university CNT promotion committees. We are also in the process of finalizing our suggestions for language added to the handbook regarding Classroom Lecture Capture and researching how FRRC would go about appointing faculty to a dismissal hearing if we ever have to as detailed on page 56 of the handbook.