

AS President Report 1.20.21

Welcome everyone. I am pleased to present the first President's report of the semester. I will begin with the name Alteria Woods. I will say their names and invite you to do the same.

The recent events which spotlighted the vast difference in law enforcement's treatment of and response to peaceful Black Lives Matter protestors and armed domestic terrorist who stormed the Capital are another example of the continued hate and racism present in our country. Therefore, we must continue our work.

Today we witnessed history occur with the first Black and Asian American woman sworn in as Vice President. The passing of the baton to President Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris is a sign of hope for many as we move into the future. Let us move forward with Hope, Unity and Love.

During the last BOT meeting, my update included recognition of the tremendous work our faculty are doing, specifically during Convocation Week. The continued efforts of faculty in leading in PD and training from an equity lens were also recognized. The efforts of Rania to coordinate with the EDCT in the upcoming online seminar series EDCT is sponsoring was also recognized. I also shared the presentation by Dr. Susan Bangasser during our Academic Senate Retreat on the topic of Growth Mindset. Finally, I shared that faculty are returning with some sense of respite but continue to be fatigued by the work and challenges they face in this current environment. The amount of growth noted in faculty upon return in terms of teaching online was also recognized. It is important for the BOT to understand the reality of our faculty.

During the BOT Meeting, Trustee Singer recognized the development of new curriculum as a sign of the campus growing and keeping up with changing times. He specifically recognized PolSci 150 and Mandarin 101 and I committed to share this out to the Senate body. Thank you to the faculty who have worked on new curriculum. Trustee Williams expressed concerns about the challenges students face in transferring between sister campuses, specifically the application process. The BOT agreed to further conversation and movement on making this process smoother.

There were several applause recognitions at the BOT meeting as well. [Applause Cards](#) are a way of recognizing good work being done by faculty and staff on campus and can be submitted by students, staff, or faculty. It is important to share the recognitions of our fellow faculty members. Faculty recognitions this month included: Allen Hope, Mary Lawler (x2), Elizabeth LeFay, Tony Luu, Joel Murphy, Daniel Rossel. When you cross paths with any of these faculty members, be sure to congratulate them on their applause card and hard work being done. Applause cards can be located on our district webpage.

It was announced that our district is in Phase 1b Priority 1 for the vaccine, but this was the extent of information shared. I am sure there is more to come, so keep your ear to the ground for updates.

[Spring Plenary](#) is April 15-17, 2021. Once again, we have a commitment from the VPI office to send several members of Senate to participate. The Fall Plenary was fantastic and so much was learned. I encourage others to consider attending. An email will be sent out to determine who might be interested in attending.