1. Welcome and adoption of the agenda
   Minutes from the last meeting have been approved electronically.

2. Consent Agenda- FYS course approval

3. Health Insurance Renewal and Benefits Presentation (Q&A)
   Dave Hale, Carl Sorensen, Laura Dietrick

4. Committee Reports

5. New Business

6. Executive Session
To: University Senate  
From: Sydney Watts, Chair FYS Committee  
Re: Motion to approve new FYS course  
Date: Friday, September 11, 2015  

The FYS Committee has reviewed and unanimously recommends that the Senate approve the course topic, “Telling Richmond’s Stories: A Community Documentary Project.” This course, proposed by Laura Browder (English) and Patricia Herrera (Theatre and Dance), will fulfill the common expectations for all First Year Seminars. Both Professors Browder and Herrera have taught their own courses in the FYS program, and are proposing to team-teach this course in Spring 2016. A description of “Telling Richmond’s Stories” is below:

In this course, we will be researching how to research and collaboratively create community-based documentary projects. While our readings and viewings will range broadly, we will focus on a specific, fast-growing community—Latinos in Richmond. We will attend readings and panel discussions at community forums, and ultimately conduct a “history harvest” at a Latino cultural center in Richmond, interviewing and collecting “evocative objects” from members of the Latino community. The stories and photographed objects we collect will become an important foundation of an exhibition to be staged at the Valentine, Richmond’s premier history museum.

This course will focus on living history. That is, we will understand a historic moment by gathering information from a wide variety of sources and perspectives such as newspaper articles, archival photographs, yearbooks, and scholarly monographs. Most importantly, we will conduct interviews with Latino residents who have been navigating a culture that has been traditionally seen as a binary—black and white. Because we want the work we do in this class to endure beyond the semester, we will be focusing our assignments on expanding the digital archive *The Fight for Knowledge: Civil Rights and Education* in Richmond.

MOTION FROM THE FYS COMMITTEE to the UNIVERSITY SENATE:

To approve the FYS course, Telling Richmond’s Stories: A Community Documentary Project.”