

## Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate

October 21, 2020

Zoom

**Members Present:** Jess Beckett, Scott Bennett, Sandra Bond, Andy Borak, Chris Bridgers, Vanessa Conner, Liz Craft, Emily Ewoldt, Mel Fox, Alix Guynn, Lauren Hall, James Harman, Steve Harrison, Kay Johnson, Eric Lovik, Melissa Neal, Malinda Tasler, Mary Catherine Santoro, Susan Trageser (Cabinet Liaison), David Wheeler,

**Guests:** Tonia Andrews, Ismael Betancourt, Corey Cassidy, Connie Cook, Justin Martin, Stephanie Overton, Miranda Roberts, Andrea Sharpe, Cora Taylor, Matthew Thomas

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting called to order at 3:32 pm by Vice President Scott Bennett.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from September 16, 2020 were approved with one change for clarification purposes.
- 3. Guest Speaker:** Corey Cassidy, Executive Director for the Academic Success Center. Corey has been at Radford for 14 years, and part of the AP Faculty for 8 years. The priorities for our students are academic persistence, engagement and belonging to the Highlander family. The new Academic Success Center supports students as soon as they enroll at Radford University (pre-Quest) and continues through graduation. The Center offers centralized advising, and provides students with a welcoming environment to work with academic advisors who provide each student with holistic, developmental advising through a case management model. Students will be connected with faculty co-advisors and mentors, with services across campus, and will gather together for educational and social programming. The Academic Success Center will support students through Quest, UNIV 100, UNIV 150, Academic advising, student support and outreach, connections with academic support services, and high impact practice. The Center will have 32 staff when frozen positions are filled. Advisors have been pulled together across divisions. The center is currently working with about 900 freshmen.
  - Phase 1 – limited staff.
  - Phase 2 – move people over, but still work with departments. Will have advisors who are cross-trained to help in all areas so that a student’s advisor is retained across the student’s program changes. Will also be taking on transfers when full staff are on board.
  - RUC moves on board. Goal is to have two dedicated advisors supporting RUC.Feel free to contact Corey. She welcomes visitors. The Academic Success Center is located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors of Young Hall. For more information, see: <https://www.radford.edu/content/academic-success/home.html>.
- 4. By-Law Ad hoc Committee Update:** Information will be distributed in advance of a possible vote at the November meeting. See the September 16, 2020 meeting minutes on the AP Faculty Senate website for the bylaws discussion.

**5. Discussion:** Do we meet in December? Answer: No.

**6. Upcoming Events and Event Report:**

- “Leaves of the Tree” and “More Leaves of the Tree” art exhibitions continue through November 7.
- Scott Bennett – Athletic events are still up in the air, but they are coming.
- Sandra Bond -- Virtual Homecoming report: 65-70 events were held across campus. Everyone participated and made virtual homecoming a success, with participation from 32 states and multiple foreign countries, and zero Zoom bombers! Thanks to everyone. Hopefully Homecoming will be in person next year, but have a virtual element.
- Chris Bridgers – The MLK celebration will be on January 18. Affiliated participants will be grouped together as somewhat of a competition to create interest and participation: SGA for students, AP Senate, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, RUC categories. The AP Faculty Senate partnership is with New River Community Action’s Children’s Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP). We will also participate in a food bank. The goal is to collect items or raise money in different categories. Chris will share information with Ashlee Claud for approval and dissemination. Planning just started, and additional information will be forthcoming. Buffy Ruffin is the director.
- David Wheeler – *Almost Maine* livestreams November 11-15, 7:30 pm plus 2:00 matinee. Ticketing is through the Dept. of Theatre website starting November 2.

**7. Adjournment:** The meeting ended at 4:12 pm.

**Future Meeting Dates:**

- November 18
- January 20
- February 17