

MINUTES
2013-2014 Faculty Senate Meeting
September 26, 2013
Heth Hall Room 014

Members present: Suzanne Ament, Ian Barland, Roann Barris, Jayne Bucy, James Collier, Jason Davis, Seife Dendir, Lori Elis, Mary Ferrari, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Kurt Gingrich, Nadine Hartig, Vince Hazleton, Rhett Herman, Christine Hermann, Rodrigo Hernandez, Bill Hrezo, Tommy Iafrate, Laura Jacobsen, Emmanuel John, Prahlad Kasturi, Abhay Kaushik, Jerry Kopf, Mary LaLone, Elizabeth Lanter, Laura LaRue, Stockton Maxwell, Douglas Mitchell, James Newman, Laura Newsome, Sandra Schneider, Susan Schoppelrey, Neil Sigmon, Kenneth Smith, Andrea Stanaland, Julie Temple, Paul Thomas, Skip Watts, Jennifer Whicker

Members absent: Kevin Ayers, Vickie Bierman, Eric Du Plessis, Monica Pazmino, Mashooq Salehin, Rob Sanderl,

Guests: Jackie McNabb, Sam Minner

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.
- II. The agenda was amended to allow Ms. McNabb to present earlier.
- III. The minutes of September 12, 2013, were approved as read.
- IV. Provost Minner gave his report.
 - a. Academic Affairs Metrics
 - Enrollment
 - Total fall headcount is a record 9928 (up from 9573).
 - Total FTE is 9447 (up from 9410).
 - Ethnic minorities make up 30% of enrollment (up from 27%).
 - First-generation students make up 30% of enrollment (up from 34%).
 - BOV has asked that we recruit more out-of-state students. The goal for 2014 is that 7.9% of new freshmen come from out of state.
 - Retention has improved to 78% (up from 74%), a development that is in part responsible for Radford's improved ranking by the *US News & World Report*.
 - Number of Faculty is 572 (up from 552).
 - Average Class Size
 - Lower division classes: 31.50 (up from 31.06).
 - Upper division classes: 20.76 (up from 20.10).
 - b. Personnel
 - A search for a dean for COBE is underway.
 - A search for a dean for CVPA is underway
 - Recent key hires:
 - Sarah Rogis, who will cultivate internships in NOVA.
 - Lisa Childress, who will direct International Education.

- c. Programmatic
 - Honors Reorganization
 - The new program will be a smaller one with higher expectations.
 - The provost is seeking money to provide a higher degree of support to students.
 - International Ed
 - The university is in contact with the Language and Culture Institute (LCI) at VT regarding the possibility of LCI offering language skills classes on Radford's campus to prospective Radford students.
 - d. Academic Affairs Retreat
 - Topics discussed included
 - Possible modification of the B.A./B.S. degrees
 - Foreign language program development
 - Expansion of the integrated semester concept
 - Academic Affairs visioning: the need for academic decisions to be principles-driven or for those principles to be both well-articulated and well-known.
 - Development of Career Services
 - An Audeamus ("let us dare") initiative.
 - e. At the conclusion of his remarks, the provost answered questions.
 - In response to a question about the composition of the faculty, Dr. Minner reported that Radford employs 124 professors, 122 associate professors, 112 assistant professors, 53 instructors, and the FTE of 161 adjuncts.
 - In response to a question about the LCI, Dr. Minner reported that classes would be taught at Radford, which will provide the space (renovated as necessary). Students will pay LCI for English instruction, but the intention is that students will be recruited for Radford.
- V. Ms. Jackie McNabb, director of Enterprise Systems, demonstrated the revamped MyRU portal that is being rolled out progressively.
- a. User feedback has been solicited in the course of revamping the portal.
 - b. Goals include reducing clutter and making the portal more visually appealing, customizable, easier to use, and better suited to serve as an entry point as opposed to a place for content.
 - c. Changes will also make MyRU more compatible with mobile devices.
 - d. Both the old and new portals have been running since September 16, but in roughly mid-October the old portal will be withdrawn.
- VI. Dr. Jacobsen gave her report.
- a. The Interdisciplinary Studies Task Force has begun meeting. Members are:
 - Tamara Wallace, CEHD
 - Susan Kwilecki, CHBS

- Alice King Ingham, CHHS
 - Lynn Saubert, COBE
 - Jake Fox, CSAT
 - Holly Cline, CVPA
 - Deborah Kitts, ex officio
 - Randy Taylor, ex officio
 - Jeanne Mekolichick, ex officio
- b. Dr. Jacobsen's reports to the BOV on September 12 and 13 focused on the COACHE report.
 - She described salary, workload, and trust and relationships as central concerns.
 - c. Dr. Jacobsen met with President Kyle on September 23. Topics discussed included
 - The COACHE report
 - Measures for community building (including possibly reviving the fall Faculty Dinner and moving the Faculty Club to a centralized location)
 - The importance of involving faculty in any process to create a Radford "brand"
 - The importance of involving faculty in the process of defining the principles that drive RU.
 - d. Jerry Kopf and Connie Phillips will attend the North American Association of Summer Sessions conference in Denver from November 10-13.
 - e. Major announcements about the Child Care Initiative may be made soon.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment: Dr. Newman reported that two motions were being referred by the CEC: a Motion *re* Faculty Morale Survey and a Motion *re* Response to COACHE Survey.
- b. Curriculum: Dr. Gingrich announced that the committee had met with Dr. Kolajo and was looking into CORE learning outcomes, as well as the methods of delivering those outcomes.
- c. Faculty Issues: Dr. Barris reported that the committee was preparing two motions, one on grade appeal procedures and one on online courses and their evaluation.
- d. Governance: no report
- e. Resource Allocation: Dr. Kasturi reported that the committee is discussing faculty load issues, including how to integrate scholarship and teaching; is considering a survey to measure time spent on administrivia; and is discussing the problem of compression and inversion.

VIII. Old business

None

IX. New business

- a. A Motion *re* Faculty Morale Survey, referred by the CEC, was introduced and tabled.
- b. A Motion *re* Response to COACHE Survey, referred by the CEC, was introduced and tabled.

X. Announcements

- a. Dr. Jacobsen thanked Dr. Kasturi and the provost and his wife, Joan, for providing refreshments for the meet-and-greet prior to the formal senate meeting.
- b. Dr. Jacobsen announced that a graduate assistant, Will Mirone, is available to assist the FSEC and other senate committees.

XI. The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.