

MINUTES
2013-2014 Faculty Senate Meeting
January 23, 2014
Heth Hall Room 014

Members present: Suzanne Ament, Kevin Ayers, Ian Barland, Roann Barris, Jayne Bucy, James Collier, Jason Davis, Seife Dendir, Eric Du Plessis, Lori Elis, Mary Ferrari, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Kurt Gingrich, Nadine Hartig, Vince Hazleton, Rhett Herman, Christine Hermann, Rodrigo Hernandez, Bill Hrezo, Margaret Hrezo, Tommy Iafrate, Prahlad Kasturi, Abhay Kaushik, Jerry Kopf, Mary LaLone, Charles Manyara, Douglas Mitchell, James Newman, Laura Newsome, Sandra Schneider, Susan Schoppelrey, Neil Sigmon, Kevin Smith, Andrea Stanaland, Julie Temple, Carter Turner, Skip Watts, Jennifer Whicker

Members absent: Vickie Bierman, Kimberly Cole, Emmanuel John, Elizabeth Lanter, Laura LaRue, Monica Pazmino, Rob Sanderl, Mashooq Salehin, Paul Thomas

Guests and ex officio: Laura Jacobsen, past president; Sam Minner, provost; Joe Wirgau, interim Director of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.
- II. The minutes of the November 21, 2013, meeting were approved as read.
- III. Dr. Joe Wirgau, interim Director of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship, spoke briefly about the Undergraduate Research Forum, which will be held April 22-23, 2014, and announced that he is available to speak to departments about the forum. He also made an announcement about the availability of Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships.
- IV. Dr. Kopf gave his report.
 - a. He reported that he is preparing his presentation for the February meeting of the Board of Visitors.
 - b. He reminded senators that FSEC meetings are open. Meetings are held on Tuesdays, 11-12:15 a.m., in Peters A 103.
 - c. He announced that the process has been set in motion for creating subcommittees to examine Core Curriculum Goals 5-11.
- V. Dr. Minner gave his report.
 - a. Forums
 - The first open meeting with the provost has been held, and the provost plans to hold open forums with new professors and full professors and other groups.
 - b. Personnel
 - Dr. George Lowe will begin serving as the dean of the COBE on July 1, 2014.
 - Twenty-five to thirty applications have already been received for the dean of the CVPA.

- Dr. Laura Jacobsen will serve as the interim Associate Dean of the College of Professional and Graduate Studies. A national search will take place for a permanent associate dean.
 - Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick is serving as Interim Director of International Education. A national search will take place for a permanent director.
 - Notices have gone out soliciting applications for the next Executive Leadership Intern.
- c. Facilities
- Renovation of Buchanan House, to which the College of Graduate and Professional Studies will locate, will begin soon. Lucas Hall, where the College is currently located, will be pulled down and replaced by the CHBS building.
 - Peters Hall will undergo a major renovation and new equipment will be purchased for a faculty/staff workout room.
 - A shared anatomy and physiology lab will be constructed in Roanoke as part of an agreement with Jefferson College of Health Science. This lab will be on same floor as the physical therapy facilities.
- d. Faculty compensation
- Last year the university addressed inversion and depression, as well as gender/ethnic inequities. There was also a bonus not tied to base salary and a pay raise that was tied to base salary. The provost will alert the faculty as soon as he knows anything about pay raises for this year.
- e. Career Services recommendations
- Career services are currently under-resourced. The provost is considering recommendations for providing career services, including the possibility of moving from centralized to distributive (college) services.
- f. Language Culture Institute
- An agreement with the Language Culture Institute in place. The LCI will be located in Young Hall and will recruit international students on our behalf. The provost reports that this is a very inexpensive option for RU.
- g. First Amendment
- A First Amendment policy is close to completion and is on track to be designated Green (highest ranking) from the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE).
- h. Enrollment
- Wintermester enrollment was significantly ahead of where it was last spring, with 480 students participating.
 - The university is planning some short terms experiences for August during three weeks when currently nothing is scheduled. The strongest incoming freshmen may be invited to take an online course, and one or more residential bridge programs may be offered to average or weak students.
 - Enrollment of continuing sophomores, juniors, and seniors was ahead of where it was last spring by 3%.
 - It is too early to predict re freshman class but at moment it looks promising.

- Enrollment currently is two dozen shy of 10,000, which is the university's ultimate goal.
- i. Affordability
 - The text of the CORE e-Handbook has been drafted and is now being edited and formatted. The book both will be a better Handbook than the current one and will represent significant savings to students, who will be charged between five and ten dollars for access to the resource.
- j. Retention
 - University is subscribing to Net Tutor, which will provide 24/7 online support to students in college algebra and calculus and feedback on written work within 48 hours. The provost reported that each year LARC has exhausted its resources.
- k. Accreditation
 - A decision by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education on the Doctorate in Physical Therapy is forthcoming. The provost stated that accreditation is not a given but that he believes the university has done everything possible to meet accreditation standards.
 - The university has received a letter from SACS that indicates that the university will not be monitored by Association.
- l. College-entrance examinations
 - A group is being formed to examine the possibility of allowing at least some students the option of forgoing the submission of ACT or SAT scores. The provost stated that the scores correlate with socioeconomic status and that some schools are reducing their reliance on these scores.
- m. New programs
 - A proposed Masters of Data Information and Management is before SCHEV.
 - Initial feedback from SCHEV on the Ed.D. was not positive.
 - The university is seeking approval for a Certificate in Bioethics.
- n. Woodrow Wilson Visiting Professor
 - Professor Stuart Diamond will be the next Woodrow Wilson Visiting Professor.
- o. Questions following Dr. Minner's report
 - A senator asks for additional information about the application for the position of Executive Leadership Intern. Dr. Minner stated that notice mentions in particular individuals who are unrepresented but that anyone should apply.
 - With regard to a question about the search for a Director of International Education, Dr. Minner said that both internal and external candidates would be considered and that a master's degree is required but a Ph.D. preferred.

VI. Committee Reports.

- a. Campus Environment: No report.

- b. Curriculum Committee: Dr. Gingrich thanked the committee for its hard work and observed that the senate had passed four motions referred by the committee and that three other motions had been referred and were awaiting senate action.
- c. Faculty Issues: Dr. Barris reported that responses to the survey on adding a fall break had been received and that the committee would prepare a report on those responses. She also announced that the committee was still looking at organizing groups to address online teaching issues.
- d. Governance: No report.
- e. Resource Allocation: Dr. Kasturi reported that the committee was discussing the comparability of pay raises at Radford with raises at other schools as well as increases in travel budgets.

VII. Old Business.

- a. The Motion re Faculty Workload Policy, referred by the Resource Allocation Committee, was taken off the table. During discussion the point was made that the language of the motion needed to be formatted for the T & R Handbook, with a section specified and indication of whether the language was to replace existing language. With the concurrence of the RAC, the following motion was introduced: The Faculty Senate moves that the proposed Faculty Workload Policy be referred to the Governance Committee for joint consideration with the Resource Allocation, with input to be sought from the Council of Chairs. The motion failed.

VIII. New Business

- a. A Motion to Approve the Course Numbering Proposal Submitted by the Math Department, referred by the Curriculum Committee, was introduced and tabled for later consideration.
- b. A Motion to Revise University Core A: Foundations, referred by the Curriculum Committee, was introduced and tabled for later consideration.
- c. A Motion to Establish Ad Hoc Committees for Goals 1-4 of the Core Curriculum, referred by the Curriculum Committee, was introduced and tabled for later consideration.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.