

MINUTES
2013-2014 Faculty Senate Meeting
February 20, 2014
Heth Hall Room 014

Members present: Suzanne Ament, Kevin Ayers, Ian Barland, Roann Barris, Vickie Bierman, Brad Bizzell, Jayne Bucy, Jason Davis, Seife Dendir, Eric Du Plessis, Lori Elis, Mary Ferrari, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Nadine Hartig, Vince Hazleton, Rhett Herman, Christine Hermann, Rodrigo Hernandez, Bill Hrezo, Margaret Hrezo, Emmanuel John, Abhay Kaushik, Jerry Kopf, Mary LaLone, Elizabeth Lanter, Laura LaRue, Charles Manyara, James Newman, Laura Newsome, Mashooq Salehin, Rob Sanderl, Sandra Schneider, Susan Schoppelrey, Neil Sigmon, Kevin Smith, Andrea Stanaland, Carter Turner, Chuck Vehorn (for Prahlad Kasturi), Skip Watts, Jennifer Whicker

Members absent: Kimberly Cole, James Collier, Kurt Gingrich, Tommy Iafrate, Douglas Mitchell, Monica Pazmino, Julie Temple, Paul Thomas

Guests: Richard Alvarez, Vice President for Finance and Administration; Kenneth Cox, Dean, Waldron College of Health and Human Services; Kate Hawkins, Dean, College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences; Sam Minner, Provost; Lisa Ridpath, Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration; Orion Rogers, Dean, College of Science and Technology.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.
- II. The minutes of the February 6, 2014, meeting were approved as read.
- III. Dr. Minner gave his report.
 - a. Personnel.
 - Applications for dean of the CVPA have been winnowed from sixty to twenty, and Skype interviews will soon take place.
 - Applications for the third intern in the Provost Leadership Development Program are in, and a committee will be reviewing them and submitting recommendations.
 - b. Partnerships/Collaborations.
 - An agreement with the Language and Culture Institute (LCI) is in place. Dr. Minner stated that this would be efficient and low cost option for RU that may allow us to enroll international students who initially arrive on campus as a result of recruitment by LCI.
 - An anatomy and physiology lab in partnership with the Jefferson College of Health Sciences has been approved by the Jefferson board.
 - c. Programmatic.
 - The master's program in Data Analysis and Information Management is before SCHEV.
 - Plans for a certificate in bio-ethics are proceeding.
 - Feedback from SCHEV on the proposed EdD. is not encouraging. The response suggests that the program is judged to be insufficiently distinctive.
 - d. Admissions/Retention.

- With respect to most recent admissions data, RU is “holding [its] own” as paid deposits are up. However, RU is seeing the effects of a trough in the number of high school students.
 - As a retention move, RU is subscribing to NetTutor, an online service that will relieve some of the “tremendous pressure” on LARC. This service will focus on courses presenting difficulties to our students, such as college algebra and calculus.
- e. Miscellaneous Programs and Announcements
- Wintermester was successful, and RU is now working on instituting a Jump Start program that will offer our stronger incoming students the option of taking a course online prior to Fall Semester.
 - Recommendations for Career Services are being considered, and a Career Services Outcomes survey may be distributed to determine how our alumni are faring.
 - A pilot Greek Leadership Class was offered to Greek leaders and nascent leaders, and there is a plan to institutionalize it starting in Fall 2014.
 - Dr. Rhett Herman is again taking a class to conduct Arctic research, deploying a drone and other equipment.
 - The Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow, Stuart Diamond, will be on campus March 17-21, 2014. Faculty interested in inviting him to their classes should contact Tim Filbert.
- f. BOV Action and Program Development/Expansion.
- Dr. Minner reported that he had worked with the deans to identify areas that RU might wish to expand if it had the resources to do so.
 - Dr. Minner supports prioritizing according to three tiers: (1) maintaining RU’s undergraduate mission by strengthening current academic programs; (2) supporting “cross-cutting” or high-impact programs, such as Study Abroad, Honors, and the Scholar Citizen initiative; and (3) developing, as resources permit, new programs, such as graduate and professional programs.
 - The BOV passed a resolution directing the university to reallocate internal resources to programs in Criminal Justice, Nursing, and Chemistry.
 - Dr. Minner reported that the university would look initially at non-instructional costs in order to locate money for programs in these areas and that the university would not move forward at once but instead would phase in changes.
 - He reported that the chemistry initiative had been high in the budget he had submitted to the BOV; among its peers, RU’s chemistry program is the only one without national accreditation, but with the new building and new equipment, including an MRI, the program is in a position to seek such accreditation.
 - Dr. Minner reported that there had been discussion about expanding the nursing program in Roanoke; but because there are not enough clinical sites, that plan has been abandoned. Instead, a decision has been made to develop the online program that would allow RNs with associate degrees to earn the BSN.

- He reported that the Criminal Justice program is a large one with a strong reputation that could accommodate additional students. He observed that the program would be housed in a new physical facility and that there would be opportunities to form connections with forensics and with pre-law programs.
 - At appropriate points in Dr. Minner's report, by Deans Cox, Hawkins, and Rogers made remarks. Dr. Cox reported that the plan to develop a RN-to-BSN pipeline was feasible. Dr. Rogers stated that with a new building and additional resources, the Chemistry program would be positioned to seek national accreditation. Dr. Hawkins stated that the Criminal Justice program is poised to move to the next level; that, given the unique teaching and research facilities in the new building, no program west of Richmond can compete with it; and that the program shines in the area of rural law enforcement. She further stated that CRJU could bring in more out-of-state students, that it would be possible to expand internships, and that federal funds are available to support faculty projects. She also stated that if the CRJU program receives the additional resources proposed in the presentation to the BOV, it would be in a position to apply for certification. If certified, it would be one of only a small number of certified programs in the country, a fact that would make the program even more competitive regionally and nationally.
- g. The remarks by the Provost and by the Deans were followed by questions and discussion.
- A senator questioned whether current programs could be maintained in the face of indirect and recurring costs that would have to be met as a result of the BOV directive.
 - The Provost replied that it was hard to project how much money would be available and cited three unknowns: what will be provided by the state, what may be available from any tuition increase, and what next year's enrollment will be. He also stated that, regardless of how much money is available, it would be impossible to implement changes by Fall 2014.
 - Mr. Alvarez stated that tuition recommendations will be presented to the BOV for its approval in May. He also stated that there is pressure to not increase tuition.
 - A senator stated that a date of implementation was mentioned in the BOV minutes.
 - The Provost replied that the university was "going to have to wrestle that down" and stated that changes would be phased in.
 - A senator asked whether hires will be authorized as people retire. The senator also stated that to him salary adjustments were a priority.
 - The Provost replied that he did not see salary adjustments as in competition with the three programs. Budget requests would include additional compensation, and he would work with Mr. Alvarez and others to develop recommendations for raises.
 - A senator asked how priorities were determined leading to the identification of the three programs.
 - The Provost replied that Chemistry was "already on the radar," that RU was turning people away from Nursing, and that Criminal Justice was known as a

strong program and that the new building was a factor in deciding on additional support.

- Dean Hawkins stated that the Emergency Management Center, the moot court, and the forensic lab planned for the new building could position CRJU competitively.
- Regarding the Chemistry Program, a senator stated that the American Chemical Society (ACS) guidelines for accreditation specify a certain student-faculty ratio that would require new faculty lines.
- Dean Rogers stated that at least two people would be needed in certain areas because contact hours exceed ACS standards, which would be an impediment to ACS accreditation.
- A senator stated that other departments should have been involved in the discussion as to what programs would be strengthened because there are curricular implications and because other departments are going to be impacted.
- Dean Hawkins stated that RU has some flexibility in its budget for next year and that RU can respond as long as it has sufficient time. She also stated that she hopes RU has 3-5 years to make the changes.
- Mr. Alvarez reported that last year RU received approximately \$3 million in new funding and that the previous year received approximately the same amount in new funding.
- The Provost stated that the “fiscal needle is heading in the right direction” and reiterated the three tiers or priorities: excellence in undergraduate education, support for high impact practices, and development of new professional and professional programs.
- A senator asked whether any of the three programs could sustain themselves.
- Although Criminal Justice is generating a surplus, the Provost stated that return-on-investment was not a factor in evaluating other programs at RU.
- A senator asked if consideration was being given as to whether these programs could bring in grants.
- The Provost stated that he would not count on “soft money” in making budget decisions.

IV. Committee Reports.

- a. Campus Environment: No report.
- b. Curriculum Committee: Dr. Margaret Hrezo reported that the committee had two motions under Old Business, including a motion in support of a proposal to revise the B.A. requirements.
- c. Faculty Issues: No report.
- d. Governance: Dr. Schoppelrey reported that the committee was introducing three motions: a Motion *re* Revising the T & R Faculty Handbook to Change Composition of College Curriculum Committees, a Motion Providing for Posting of Faculty Appeals Committee Procedures on Faculty Senate Website, and a Motion Providing for Posting of Faculty Grievance Committee Procedures on Faculty Senate Website.

- e. Resource Allocation: No report.

V. Old Business.

- a. A Motion to Support Creation of CCST 110, referred by the Curriculum Committee, was taken off the table. After discussion, the motion passed.
- b. A Motion to Support Proposed Revision of the University B.A. Requirements, referred by the Curriculum Committee, was taken off the table.
 - A motion to amend (see appended) was made and seconded.
 - As 5 p.m. neared, a motion was made and seconded to extend the meeting until 5:10 p.m. The motion to extend the meeting failed.
 - A motion was made and seconded to table the proposed amendment. The motion passed.
 - A motion was made and seconded to table the B.A. proposal. The motion passed.

VI. New Business

- a. A Motion *re* Revising the T & R Faculty Handbook to Change Composition of College Curriculum Committees, referred by the Governance Committee, was introduced and tabled for later consideration.
- b. A Motion Providing for Posting of Faculty Appeals Committee Procedures on Faculty Senate Website, referred by the Governance Committee, was introduced and tabled for later consideration.
- c. A Motion Providing for Posting of Faculty Grievance Committee Procedures on Faculty Senate Website, referred by the Governance Committee, was introduced and tabled for later consideration.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Amendment to the Motion to Support Proposed Revision
of the University B.A. Requirements

Catalog Description – Proposed change to the University’s Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

Bachelor of Arts Degree (Proposed)

Credits for Core Curriculum	43-45
Credits for Major (minimum)	30
Credits for B.A. Degree	6-8

Option 1:

Completion of a minimum of two semesters of one language in a foreign/sign language program. Students will be placed in the appropriate level of their chosen language depending on their

previous foreign language experience and on the placement examination results. Students with three or more year equivalents of one foreign language in high school must, if fulfilling the requirement in that language, include at least one second year or higher level course in that language in the two semesters required. Courses used to meet Core Curriculum requirements may not be used to satisfy the B.A. requirements.

Eliminate Option 2: