

MINUTES  
2015-2016 Faculty Senate  
December 3, 2015  
Heth 014

**Members present:** Suzanne Ament, Ian Barland, Brad Bizzell, Joy Caughron, Jeffrey Chase, Iain Clelland (for Steve Childers), James Collier, Jake Fox, Andrew Foy, Tim Fuhrer, Kim Gainer, Jim Gumaer, Brent Harper, Nicole Hendrix, Rhett Herman, Katie Hilden, Prahlad Kasturi, Abhay Kaushik, Youngmi Kim, Jerry Kopf, Mary LaLone, Elizabeth Lanter, Douglas Mitchell, Johnny Moore, Monica Pazmino, Mashooq Salehin, Sandra Schneider, Susan Schoppelrey, Neil Sigmon, Andrea Stanaland, Paige Tan, Julie Temple, Paul Thomas, Carter Turner, Amy VanKirk, Jimmy Ray Ward, Jennifer Whicker, Anja Whittington

**Members absent:** Roann Barris, Vicki Bierman, Eric Du Plessis, Skip Watts, Rodrigo Hernandez, Laura LaRue, Jennifer Mabry, Cheri Triplett

**Guests:** Dr. Joseph Scartelli, Acting Provost; Dr. Kate Hawkins, Dean, College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.
- II. The minutes for October 29, 2015, were approved.
- III. The Faculty Senate President gave his report.
  - a. Dr. Kopf reported that the cost-benefit analysis of selected programs had been presented to the BOV.
  - b. Dr. Kopf reported that the presidential search process was going well, with a good pool of highly qualified candidates, but he believed it unlikely that open forums would be held because the BOV may not feel that it can change the process at this point.
  - c. Dr. Kopf reported that the Virginia Retirement System is an independent board not intended to be subject to political process. He stated that UVA and certain other universities were not subject to the decision to shift retirement funds because those universities have more autonomy than Radford.
    - Dr. Kopf was asked whether previously-deposited funds would be left in current ORPs or be switched to ICMA-RC. Dr. Scartelli stated that on the basis of past experience he thinks the money previously-deposited funds will be left untouched.
    - Concern was expressed that faculty nearing retirement would not have enough money deposited in ICMA-RC to maintain a level of funds necessary to maintain eligibility for health insurance.

IV. New business

- a. A motion to suspend the rules to introduce and discuss a motion was made and seconded. The motion passed.
- b. A Motion *re* Choice of Optional Retirement Plans was moved and seconded.
- c. After discussion, the following motion was approved:

Given that TIAA-CREF and Fidelity are two of the largest and highest rated faculty retirement programs and that the vast majority of faculty in Virginia are enrolled in one or the other, and given that other universities are being allowed to continue to use current plans, Radford University faculty would like to retain the same option that other faculty in the state enjoy and strongly oppose being forced to use ICMA.

V. The Provost gave his report.

- a. Dr. Scartelli reported that a template had been developed to be applied to a cost-benefit analysis of all departments that would be completed by the May 2016 meeting of the BOV.
- b. Dr. Scartelli announced that the Radford Early Learning Center would be opened in February 2016 and that slots were being reserved for members of the Radford University community.
- c. Dr. Scartelli reported that a presidential transition team had been assembled.

VI. Committee reports

- a. Campus Environment: No report.
- b. Curriculum: Dr. Gainer reported that the committee would liaise with the Governance Committee regarding reforming and clarifying curriculum pathways in the IG Document. Dr. Gainer also reported that the committee would be referring proposals for two graduate certificates.
- c. Faculty Issues: No report.
- d. Governance: Dr. Hilden reported that the committee continues to work at reconciling the IG Document with the decision matrix, as well as at examining whether the IG Committees are up-to-date and functional.
- e. Resource Allocation: Dr. Kasturi reported that the committee is revising a motion on assessment.

VII. Old Business

- a. The following motions remain on the table:
  - The Motion to Approve the Academic Program Review Process and Template, referred by the FSEC on behalf of the Academic Program Review Committee, remains on the table pending changes in response to feedback received by the APRC.

- Motion to Recommend Assessment Plans and Programs for Administrative Units of Radford University, referred by the Resource Allocation Committee, was taken from the table, discussed, and returned to the table.
- Motion to Eliminate Quadrennial Evaluations of Department Chairs/School Directors, referred by the Governance Committee, was not taken from the table.

VIII. Announcements

- a. In response to a question, Dr. Kopf stated that program reviews were on a five-year cycle and only a certain number of programs were reviewed each year. Dr. Hawkins stated that the only programs that are up for review this year are those that are accredited.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.