

Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 8, 2009
Virginia Room

Dr. Amoss called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The following members were present: Dr. Jennifer Apperson, Dr. Wendell Barbour, Dr. Paul Barrett, Dr. Lee Bidwell, Dr. Gretchen Braun, Dr. Theresa Clark, Dr. Scott Cole, Dr. Roy Creasey, Ms. Kerri Cushman, Dr. Alix Fink, Dr. Mikie Flanigan, Dr. Jackie Hall, Dr. David Hardin, Dr. Jim Haug, Dr. Chene Heady, Dr. Chris Jones, Dr. Deneese Jones, Dr. Rená Koesler, Dr. Anthony Koyzis, Mr. Mark Lenker, Dr. Wayne McWee, Dr. Joe Montoya, Dr. Eric Moore, Dr. Tim Pierson, Dr. Keith Rider, Dr. Charles Ross, Dr. Cathy Roy, Dr. David Shoenthal, Dr. Gena Southall, Dr. Pam Tracy, Ms. Kathy Worster, and Mr. Keenan Crump.

The following members were absent: Dr. Ryan Hebert, Ms. Claire LaRoche, and Dr. Gene Muto.

Also present were Dr. Sarah Bingham, Dr. Lara Fergeson, Dr. Jeannine Perry, Dr. Bill Stuart, and Dr. Jennifer Abbassi.

The minutes for September 17, 2009, were approved with one correction: Dr. Braun noted in the next to last paragraph, last sentence, the correct name for the Center for Faculty Enhancement is the Center for Academic Faculty Enrichment (CAFÉ).

Dr. Lara Fergeson presented a summary of the results of the Faculty Senate Self-Assessment Survey (posted on Senate web site under Reports). Based on the feedback from the survey, Dr. Fergeson and Ms. Liz Kocevar-Weidinger will initiate a focus discussion board for faculty communication and discussion. Dr. Mikie Flanigan pointed out that the Senate web site needs to be updated to be more user friendly, and it was agreed that the site needs to be converted to RedDot. Dr. Chris Jones moved that an ad hoc committee be convened to consider the results of the self-assessment survey. Motion seconded by Dr. Teresa Clark. After discussion, motion was withdrawn, and the ad hoc self-assessment committee will be reformed to continue its analysis of the results for further recommendations.

Dr. Rená Koesler introduced Dr. Sarah Bingham who presented the resolution (posted on Senate web site under Reports) calling “upon the Virginia General Assembly to pass legislation codifying the basic human right of all public employees to be free from discrimination in the workplace based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, age marital status, disability, status as special disabled veteran or other veteran covered by the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974, as amended and sexual orientation, including gender identity.” On behalf of the Executive Committee, Dr. Koesler moved approval of the resolution and it passed on a voice vote.

Dr. Keith Rider reported that the Finance and Planning Committee plans to meet with President Cormier October 26 to make recommendations for how to close the \$1.5 M budget shortfall in FY2012. The committee plans to send out a survey to collect input and ideas on how the budget can be cut, ways to save money without cuts, and ways to increase revenue to offset the cuts.

Dr. Mc Amoss reported that the General Education Committee is evaluating Longwood's general education program with respect to the 1) coherence and integrity of the program; 2) guidelines from agencies such as the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools, State Council for Higher Education in Virginia, American Association of Colleges & Universities, and American Council of Trustees and Alumni report; and 3) general education requirements at other institutions.

Dr. Bill Stuart asked for the links to the general education guidelines, and Dr. Amoss requested that the links be provided in the minutes, as follows:

SACS Principles of Accreditation:

<http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/2008PrinciplesofAccreditation.pdf>

SCHEV competencies:

<http://research.schev.edu/>

American Association of Colleges & Universities survey:

summary: http://www.aacu.org/press_room/press_releases/2009/membersurvey092.cfm

full report: http://www.aacu.org/membership/documents/2009MemberSurvey_Part2.pdf

AAC&U list of "high-impact" educational practices:

http://www.aacu.org/LEAP/hip.cfm?utm_source=meetings&utm_medium=blast&utm_campaign=fr10cfp2

American Council of Trustees and Alumni report:

<https://www.goacta.org/publications/downloads/WhatWillTheyLearnFinal.pdf>

Through this evaluation process, the General Education Committee identified Goal 12 as a goal that overlaps with one of the nine criteria all general education courses meet and that may not be essential. The committee is seeking input from departments and will vote at its next meeting on October 19. Dr. Flanigan pointed out that Goal 12 was originally created by removing the humanities and social science courses from the additional degree requirements to create a general education program that met the Board of Visitors mandate to have at least 40 credits of general education requirements. Several senators expressed concern that eliminating Goal 12 would weaken the educational focus of the different degree programs.

Other areas of the General Education Committee's attention are refocusing Goal 14 and developing a recertification process for general education courses. The committee plans to produce a report of the strengths and weakness of the program by the end of the year.

Dr. Pam Tracy provided the following update on the Presidential Search: currently have 87 candidates with an October 15 shut-off date (but will consider additional applications after that date); from the

pool, each committee member will narrow their list of candidates to 8 – 12, and then the committee will work together to narrow the list to 6 – 10 candidates and will conduct off-site interviews with these candidates; after extensive references checks, the committee will narrow the list to 3 – 5 candidates with a goal of bringing them to campus for interviews in early February.

New Business – Dr. Jackie Hall asked why flu shots were being given on Tuesday of Fall Break when most of the faculty is away from campus. Ms. Kathy Worster explained that when CVS cancelled, Kroger agreed to provide the flu shot, and this was the day they were already scheduled to be in Farmville.

Speaking on behalf of the Student Government Association, Mr. Keenan Crump asked that faculty relax their attendance policy to accommodate students who are ill; students are currently hesitate to go to the Wellness Center for fear of being told to stay home and then being told by faculty who enforce a strict attendance policy that students cannot make up the missed work. He also noted the problem with faculty who fail to send in their book orders to the bookstore in time for the bookstore to buy back students' textbooks.

After discussing the possibility of student photos being provided as a part of the class roster, Dr. Scott Cole moved that the Senate ask the Board of Visitors to modify the definition of directory information for FERPA to include photos of students. Seconded by Dr. Hall, the motion passed.

Dr. Gretchen Braun reminded everyone that the Center for Academic Faculty Enrichment (CAFÉ) was hosting snacks immediately following the Senate meeting in the Prince Edward Room to gather ideas for faculty development at Longwood.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Melinda Fowlkes