

Faculty Senate Meeting

Monday, December 13, 2001

Library Rooms 209A&B

Dr. Fergeson called the meeting to order at 2:00 and rewarded attendees with candy canes. The following members were present:

Dr. Wendell Barbour	Dr. Chris Jones	Dr. David Shoenthal
Dr. Lee Bidwell	Dr. Linda Lau	Dr. Robin Smith
Dr. Gretchen Braun	Dr. Mark Lenker	Dr. Gena Southall
Dr. Theresa Clark	Ms. Sharon Menegoni	Dr. Bill Stuart
Dr. Alix Fink	Dr. Ken Perkins	Ms. Kathy Worster
Dr. Lily Goetz	Dr. Tim Pierson	Dr. Linda Wright
Dr. David Hardin	Dr. Charles Ross	
Dr. Ryan Hebert	Dr. Cathy Roy	

Dr. Bill Abrams, Dr. Jennifer Apperson, Dr. Paul Barrett, Mr. Keenan Crump, Ms. Kerri Cushman, Dr. Rodney Dunning, Dr. Deneese Jones, Dr. Anthony Koyzis, Dr. Gerald Montoya, and Dr. Pam Tracy were not present. Others attending were Dr. Chuck Blauvelt, Ms. Kathy Charleston, Ms. Jaime Hillman, Dr. Jeannine Perry, and Dr. Keith Rider.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as posted.

Dr. Fergeson called on Ms. Menegoni for the EPC report (posted on the web page). She moved the approval of a revised assessment statement for the catalog. After debate about the sanctions for non-compliance the motion passed.

Dr. Fergeson recognized Dr. Goetz who reported on the work of the Committee on Promotion and Tenure Policies and Procedures. Dr. Goetz explained two substantive changes the committee is considering: a hierarchical process for letters at the departmental level providing that the committee's letter would go to the chair before the chair completes a letter; a process for appeal in the case of a probationary faculty member who receives a terminating contract. That will entail separating the timelines for probationary faculty and lecturers. The committee is also recommending a date by which the President should respond to the petitioner about a decision.

Dr. Fergeson recognized Dr. Rider who reported for the Finance and Planning Committee. He said that at the last meeting of the University Budget Committee the Committee adopted a charter which will

guide its work. They are awaiting news about the potential cuts to the University budget that may be required by the Legislature.

Dr. Fergeson and Dr. Stuart reported on the recent meeting of the Board of Visitors. They explained the Board's request for information about tenure and the Board's concern about post tenure review. The Executive Committee will gather information about practices at other colleges in Virginia for the Board's next meeting. They also reported on the CRT Tanaka presentation which reflected their finding that Longwood's academic reputation was not moving in the direction it should be. There was some discussion about the survey methodology, and Dr. Fergeson indicated that it would be good to have the presenters come back and make the presentation to the Senate.

At the Saturday morning session Dr. Laura Fornash presented the recommendations of the Governor's Commission on Educational Reform which emphasizes STEM at the expense of the liberal arts. An initial response is due in 30 to 45 days, and President Finnegan is appointing two committees to work on Longwood's response, one comprised of Board members and faculty and one of just faculty. Dr. Fergeson said that the Executive Committee is considering inviting her to make that presentation to the whole faculty.

Dr. Fergeson called on Ms. Hillman from the bookstore who gave a description of what the nook reader can do to facilitate student study. She also explained the options for electronic books now available—both purchase and rental. Several Senators explained the need for students to keep books to review for comprehensive exams at the end of their major course of study or to use for reference later on. Ms. Hillman said that it would be helpful to her to know what the faculty position on such issues is so that she and her staff can give good answers to students.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10.

Susan May