

President's Advisory Council Meeting

27 September 2017, 3:30 p.m.

Stallard Boardroom, Lancaster Building

Present: President Taylor Reveley, Rhonda Brock-Servais (recording), Adam Franssen, Kellyn Hall, Sarah Porter, Lissa Power-deFur, Bennie Waller

The Agenda was as follows:

1. Follow up from last year's discussion on faculty overnight accommodations (Lissa)
 2. University response to events in Charlottesville
 3. Budget Issues
 4. P & T Issues
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1. Lissa contacted Nancy Haga to see if she was interested in collating a list of in-town faculty willing to house folks overnight as an informal alternative to booking a hotel room. The this approach "fell flat." The University will have rooms at the Weyanoke available at cut rate for faculty and staff. As for the informal list, it was generally agreed this needs to be undertaken by an individual. Some suggestions were put forward, such as contacting the Avenues Association or using the weekly e-mail to advertise. President Reveley volunteered to catch the mayor and see if he had any ideas.
 2. In short, there is nothing more formal happening beyond what is already scheduled and has already happened (for instance, Alec Hosterman's talk). The President believes there is a great deal of informal discussion under way, for instance in classes and with Student Affairs people.
 3. At the outset of this discussion, Sarah Porter stated that many of the faculty would like a reconciliation between the President's opening talk that reported the University was in great financial shape and the cuts that followed from the shortfall in the Academic Affairs budget. Bennie volunteered that there is a perception of smoke and mirrors - that is, it seems someone knows something they don't want the faculty to know. All agreed the current cuts are of especial concern to young faculty who need to travel to do work to earn promotion and tenure.

This was a long discussion that can be summarized in brief. President Reveley repeatedly expressed frustration and "mystification" about the current

circumstances and said further that he's in the habit in allowing units to sort out their own problems rather than wading in and making decisions about day-to-day matters.

Lissa offered how informative the upcoming forum may be for faculty. President Reveley is uncertain whether he will be able to attend, but agrees that open discussion is for the best.

President Reveley reiterated that on the macro level Longwood's resources are really strong. Sarah asked if there is any movement on how things will be changed, and he promised that there will be differences next fiscal year.

4. Bennie moved the group to the final topic and began by saying that, frankly, there is a feeling among the faculty that they don't matter.

*As a reminder the BOV approved changes to the *FPPM* that differed from the ones approved by Senate.

This, too, was a long, discursive discussion that can be briefly summarized.

President Reveley says, he understands the faculty's frustration. He took blame on himself saying that there was some confusion about the role of the Attorney General's office in shaping policy. He does not think anyone approached this in bad faith, but understands how it might be perceived that way.

In the end, he readily supports having the current University Promotion & Tenure committee work with the AG's office and other stakeholders to construct a policy that feels right and fair: "We'll get this right." He further commented that "this fumble makes me very sad."

The meeting ended a bit after 5:00 p.m.

Faithfully reported by your most humble and obedient servant, Rhonda Brock-Servais